

# BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

VIOLATIONS:

CARRIE E. RAGAN 1502 Old Carlisle Road Aspers, PA 17304 40 P.S. §§ 310.11(4), (6), (7), (17) (20), 310.42, 310.78(b) and 910.24.2

:

Respondent.

Docket No. CO18-12-013

#### CONSENT ORDER

AND NOW, this 28th day of December, 2018, this Order is hereby issued by the Insurance Department of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania pursuant to the statutes cited above and in disposition of the matter captioned above.

- 1. Respondent hereby admits and acknowledges that she has received proper notice of her rights to a formal administrative hearing pursuant to the Administrative Agency Law, 2 Pa.C.S. § 101, et seq., or other applicable law.
- Respondent hereby waives all rights to a formal administrative hearing in this matter, and agrees that this Consent Order, and the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein, shall have the full force and effect of an Order

duly entered in accordance with the adjudicatory procedures set forth in the Administrative Agency Law, <u>supra</u>, or other applicable law.

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 3. The Insurance Department finds true and correct each of the following Findings of Fact:
  - (a) Respondent is Carrie E. Ragan, and maintains her address at 1502 OldCarlisle Road, Aspers, PA 17304.
  - (b) Respondent is, and at all times relevant hereto has been, a licensed title agent.
  - (c) Respondent was arrested on December 20, 2017 by the Springettsbury

    Township Police Department and charged with one (1) felony count of

    Theft by Unlawful Taking or Disposition and one (1) felony count of

    Theft by Deception-False Impression.
  - (d) Respondent failed to notify the Department that she had been charged with criminal conduct within 30 days.

- (e) Respondent's charges were held for court on January 31, 2018.
- (f) Respondent was interviewed on December 18, 2018 and admitted that between January December 2015, she stole approximately \$20,000.00 by making numerous withdrawals from her employer's escrow account, and altered company records to conceal those withdrawals.
- (g) Respondent's York County Court of Common Pleas case has been continued until June 2019.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 4. In accord with the above Findings of Fact and applicable provisions of law, the Insurance Department concludes and finds the following Conclusions of Law:
  - (a) Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Insurance

    Department.
  - (b) 40 P.S. § 310.11(4) prohibits producers from improperly withholding, misappropriating, or converting money or property received in the course of doing business.

- (c) Respondent's activities described above in paragraph 3(f) constitute improperly withholding, misappropriating, or converting money or property received in the course of doing business, in violation of 40 P.S. § 310.11(4).
- (d) 40 P.S. § 310.11(6) prohibits a licensee or an applicant from committing any unfair insurance practice or fraud.
- (e) Respondent's activities described above in paragraph 3(f) violate 40 P.S. § 310.11(6).
- (f) 40 P.S. § 310.11(17) prohibits a licensee or an applicant from committing fraud, forgery, dishonest acts or an act involving a breach of fiduciary duty.
- (g) Respondent's activities described above in paragraph 3(f) violate 40 P.S. § 310.11(17).
- (h) 40 P.S. § 310.11(20) prohibits a licensee or an applicant from demonstrating a lack of general fitness, competence or reliability sufficient to satisfy the Department that the licensee is worthy of licensure.

- (i) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(g) violate 40 P.S. § 310.11(20).
- (j) 40 P.S. § 310.42 prohibits any producer from fraudulently appropriating, taking, disposing of, withholding, lending, investing or otherwise using any money received in the capacity of an insurance producer without the consent of the insurer.
  - (k) Respondent's activities described above in paragraph 3(f) constitute theft, in violation of 40 P.S. § 310.42.
  - (l) 40 P.S. § 310.78(b) requires that within 30 days of being charged with criminal conduct, a licensee shall report the charges to the Department.

    Additionally, the licensee shall provide the Department with the following within 30 days of their availability to the licensee:
    - (1) a copy of the criminal complaint, information or indictment.
    - (2) a copy of the order resulting from any pretrial hearing.
    - (3) a report of the final disposition of the charges.
  - (m) Respondent's activities described above in paragraph 3(d) violate 40 P.S. § 310.78(b).

- (n) Respondent's violations of §§ 310.11(4), (6), (17), (20), 310.42 and 310.78(b) are punishable by the following, under 40 P.S. § 310.91:
  - (i) suspension, revocation or refusal to issue the license;
  - (ii) imposition of a civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) for every violation of the Act;
  - (iii) an order to cease and desist; and
  - (iv) any other conditions as the Commissioner deems appropriate.
- (o) 40 P.S. § 910-24.2 requires that title agents shall assume financial responsibility for all of the acts which the agent was appointed to perform by the title insurance company.
- (p) Respondent's activities described above in paragraph 3(f) violate40 P.S. § 910-24.2.
- (q) Respondent's violations of 40 P.S. § 910-24.2 are punishable under § 910-48: imposition a penalty of not more than \$500 for each violation, or a penalty or not more than \$5,000 for each willful violation, in addition to any other penalty provided by law.

#### **ORDER**

- 5. In accord with the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Insurance Department orders and Respondent consents to the following:
  - (a) Respondent shall cease and desist from engaging in the activities described herein in the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.
  - (b) All licenses of Respondent to do the business of insurance are hereby revoked.
  - (c) If Respondent should ever become licensed in the future, her licenses may be immediately suspended by the Department following its investigation and determination that (i) any terms of this Order have not been complied with, or (ii) any complaint against Respondent is accurate and a statute or regulation has been violated. The Department's right to act under this section is limited to a period of ten (10) years from the date of issuance of such licenses.
  - (d) Respondent specifically waives her right to prior notice of said suspension, but will be entitled to a hearing upon written request received by the Department no later than thirty (30) days after the date the Department mailed to Respondent by certified mail, return receipt

requested, notification of said suspension, which hearing shall be scheduled for a date within sixty (60) days of the Department's receipt of Respondent's written request.

- (e) At the hearing referred to in paragraph 5(d) of this Order, Respondent shall have the burden of demonstrating that she is worthy of an insurance license.
- (f) In the event Respondent's licenses are suspended pursuant to paragraph 5(c) above, and Respondent either fails to request a hearing within thirty (30) days or at the hearing fails to demonstrate that she is worthy of a license, Respondent's suspended licenses shall be revoked.
- 6. In the event the Insurance Department finds that there has been a breach of any of the provisions of this Order, based upon the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein, the Department may pursue any and all legal remedies available, including but not limited to the following: The Department may enforce the provisions of this Order in an administrative action pursuant to the Administrative Agency Law, supra, or other relevant provisions of law; or, if applicable, the Department may enforce the provisions of this Order in any other court of law or equity having jurisdiction.

- 7. Alternatively, in the event the Insurance Department finds there has been a breach of any of the provisions of this Order, the Department may declare this Order to be null and void and, thereupon, reopen the entire matter for appropriate action pursuant to the Administrative Agency Law, <u>supra</u>, or other relevant provision of law.
- 8. In any such enforcement proceeding, Respondent may contest whether a breach of the provisions of this Order has occurred but may not contest the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein.
- 9. Respondent hereby expressly waives any relevant statute of limitations and application of the doctrine of laches for purposes of any enforcement of this Order.
- 10. This Order constitutes the entire agreement of the parties with respect to the matters referred to herein, and it may not be amended or modified except by an amended order signed by all the parties hereto.
- 11. This Order shall be final upon execution by the Insurance Department.

  Only the Insurance Commissioner or a duly authorized delegee is authorized to bind the Insurance Department with respect to the settlement of the alleged violations of

law contained herein, and this Consent Order is not effective until executed by the Insurance Commissioner or duly authorized delegee.

BY:

CARRIE E. RAGAN, Respondent

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

By: CHRISTOPHER R. MONAHAN

Deputy Insurance Commissioner

# BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE:

The Act of April 9, 1929, P.L. 177, No. 175, known as The

Administrative Code of 1929

Jessica K. Altman
Insurance Commissioner

