## BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

2008 SEP 19

**ADMIN HEARINGS OFFICE** 

IN RE:

VIOLATIONS:

DONALD E. SMALLWOOD, JR.

40 Purdons Statutes, Sections

1141 Woodhill Drive

310.11(4), (17) and (20)

Gibsonia, PA 15044

Respondent.

Docket No. CO08-08-018

## CONSENT ORDER

AND NOW, this 19th day of september, 2008, 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 he has received proper notice of his rights to a formal administrative hearing pursuant to the Administrative Agency Law, 2 Pa.C.S. § 101, et seq., or other applicable law.
- 2. 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, supra, 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 Donald E. Smallwood, Jr., and maintains his address at 1141 Woodhill Drive, Gibsonia, Pennsylvania 15044.
  - (b) At all relevant times herein, Respondent has been a licensed insurance producer in Pennsylvania.
  - (c) During December, 2006, a policyholder from Oakmont, Pennsylvania, paid \$53,000.00 in two payments (\$40,000.00 and \$13,000.00) to Respondent for an annuity.
  - (d) In early May, 2008, the policyholder contacted Aviva USA to inquire about the annuity he purchased through Respondent, and learned that no policy existed with Aviva.
  - (e) Subsequent to the policyholder's complaint, Aviva USA affirmed the policy never existed and it attempted to contact Respondent for an explanation.

- (f) Respondent declined to cooperate with Aviva USA's investigation or provide an explanation.
- (g) On July 8, 2008, Aviva USA terminated Respondent's appointment pertinent to its investigation.
- (h) On July 11, 2008, Aviva USA made restitution of the \$53,000.00 to the policyholder.
- (i) On May 15, 2008, Respondent was interviewed at the Pennsylvania Insurance Department and acknowledged the above information, adding that he created annuity #12656 from another policyholder's form and used the policyholder's premiums for his personal expenses.
- (j) Respondent confirmed that he had not made restitution.

## **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 Purdons Statutes, Section 310.11(4) prohibits a licensee from improperly withholding, misappropriating or converting money or property received in the course of doing business.
- (c) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(i) violate 40 Purdons Statutes, Section 310.11(4).
- (d) 40 Purdons Statutes, Section 310.11(17) prohibits a licensee from committing fraud, forgery, dishonest acts or an act involving a breach of fiduciary duty.
- (e) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(i) violate 40 Purdons Statutes, Section 310.11(17).
- (f) 40 Purdons Statutes, Section 310.11(20) prohibits a licensee from demonstrating a lack of general fitness, competence or reliability sufficient to satisfy the Department that the licensee is worthy of licensure.
- (g) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(i) violate 40 Purdons Statutes, Section 310.11(20).

- (h) Respondent's violations of Sections 310.11(4), (17) and (20) are punishable by the following, under 40 Purdons Statutes, Section 310.91:
  - (i) suspension, revocation or refusal to issue the certificate of qualification or 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.

#### 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/certificates of Respondent to do insurance business are hereby revoked.

- (c) Respondent shall make restitution, or enter into a restitution payment agreement, with Aviva USA in the amount of \$53,000.00, within thirty (30) days from the date of this Order. Respondent shall make restitution to persons other than Aviva USA if the Deputy Commissioner identifies such persons and determines that restitution is owed to them by Respondent. Proof of restitution payment shall be provided to the Insurance Department by Respondent.
- (d) If Respondent should ever become licensed in the future, his certificates and 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 (ii) above is limited to a period of five (5) years from the date of issuance of such certificates and licenses.
- (e) Respondent specifically waives his 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.

- (f) At the hearing referred to in paragraph (e) of this Order, Respondent shall have the burden of demonstrating that he is worthy of an insurance certificate and license.
- (g) In the event Respondent's certificates and licenses are suspended pursuant to paragraph 5(d) above, and Respondent either fails to request a hearing within thirty (30) days or at the hearing fails to demonstrate that he is worthy of a certificate and license, Respondent's suspended certificates and 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 provision 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 that 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 a duly authorized delegee.

BY:

DONALD E. SMALLWOOD, R., Responden

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

By: Ronald A. Gallagher, Jr. 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

AND NOW, this 22 to day of Quly, 2008, Ronald A.

Gallagher, Deputy Insurance Commissioner, is hereby designated as the Commissioner's duly authorized representative for purposes of entering in and executing Consent Orders.

This delegation of authority shall continue in effect until otherwise terminated by a later Order of the Insurance Commissioner.

Joel S. Ario

Insurance Commissioner

