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INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

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BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

ADMIN HEARINGS OFFICE

IN RE:	:	VIOLATIONS:
	:	
ALLIED ADJUSTMENT GROUP, INC.	:	63 P.S. §§ 1606(a)(5), (10)
117 E. Maple Ave.	:	and (13)
Langhorne, PA 19047	:	
	:	
Respondent.	:	Docket No. CO13-08-022

CONSENT ORDER

AND NOW, this *14th* day of *NOVEMBER, 2013*, 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 it has received proper notice of its rights to a formal administrative hearing pursuant to the Administrative Agency Law, 2 Pa.C.S.A. §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 Allied Adjustment Group, Inc., and maintains its address at 117 E. Maple Ave., Langhorne, PA 19047.
- (b) At all relevant times herein, Respondent has held a resident public adjuster agency license to act as an adjuster of insurance claims in Pennsylvania.
- (c) On or around February 1, 2013, Respondent received an insurance settlement check from Mutual Benefit Insurance Company, but failed to remit funds to the insured in a timely manner.

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) 63 P.S. § 1606(a)(5) states that a public adjuster or public adjuster solicitor who misappropriates or convert to their own use or improperly withholds moneys held on behalf of another party to the contract, may be fined or face suspension or revocation of their public adjuster license.
- (c) Respondents' activities in paragraph 3(c) violate 63 P.S. § 1606(a)(5), by improperly withholding moneys held on behalf of another party to the contract.
- (d) 63 P.S. § 1606(a)(10) states that public adjusters or public adjuster solicitors who violate any provision of this act or any rule or regulation promulgated, published and adopted thereunder, shall be grounds for fine, suspension or revocation of their public adjuster license.
- (e) Respondent's activities in paragraph 3(c) violate 63 P.S. § Section 1606(a)(10).
- (f) 63 P.S. § 1606(a)(13) states that public adjusters or public adjuster solicitors who demonstrate incompetency or untrustworthiness to transact the business of a public adjuster may face fine, suspension or revocation of their public adjuster license.
- (g) Respondents' activities in paragraph 3(c) violate 63 P.S. § 1606(a)(13).

- (h) Respondent's violations of Sections 1606(a)(5), (10) and (a)(13) are punishable by a fine, suspension and revocation of licenses under Section 1606(a)(5) and the following, under 63 P.S. § 1606(b): The Insurance Commissioner may impose a penalty of not more than \$1,000 for every violation of this Act under 63 P.S. §1606(b).

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) Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Payment of this penalty shall be made by certified check or money order, payable to the PA Insurance Department, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Payment should be directed to April Phelps, Bureau of Licensing and Enforcement, 1227 Strawberry Square, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120. Payment may be enclosed with the Consent Order, but must be paid in any event no later than thirty (30) days after the date of the Consent Order.

- (c) Respondent's 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 five (5) years from the date of this Order.
- (d) Respondent specifically waives its 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 it is worthy of a 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 it 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, it may, in its discretion, pursue any and all legal remedies available, including but not limited to the following: The Insurance Department may enforce the provisions of this Order in the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania or in any other court of law or equity having jurisdiction; or 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.

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, supra, 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 the duly authorized delegee is authorized to bind the Insurance Department with respect to the settlement of the alleged violation of law contained herein, and this Consent Order is not effective until executed by the Insurance Department or a duly authorized delegee.

BY:


ALLIED ADJUSTMENT GROUP, INC.
Respondent


By: RONALD A. GALLAGHER, JR.
Deputy Insurance Commissioner
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

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 27th day of April, 2011, 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.


Michael F. Consedine
Insurance Commissioner

