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BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

ADMIN HEARINGS OFFICE

IN RE:	:	VIOLATIONS:
	:	
FIRST COMMONWEALTH	:	Section 611-A(20) of 147 of 2002
INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.	:	(40 P.S. § 310.11)
654 Philadelphia Street	:	
Indiana, PA 15701	:	Sections 1612(d), 1615, 1620 and
	:	1621(c) of the Surplus Lines Act,
	:	Act of May 17, 1921, P.L. 682,
	:	<u>added by</u> the Act of December 18,
	:	1992, P.L. 1519 (40 P.S. § 991.1612,
	:	1615, 1620 and 1621)
	:	
Respondent.	:	Docket No. CO07-03-026

CONSENT ORDER

AND NOW, this 27th day of June, 2007, 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. § 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 First Commonwealth Insurance Agency, Inc., and maintains its address at 654 Philadelphia Street, Indiana, Pennsylvania 15701.
- (b) Respondent, at all relevant times hereto has been, a licensed insurance producer but possessed no Pennsylvania surplus lines license.
- (c) Between 2002 and 2006, Respondent procured eight surplus lines policies, six new and two renewal policies, from American International Group and Continental Casualty Company for First Commonwealth Financial Corporation, but failed to ensure its actions were in compliance with Pennsylvania insurance laws and regulations.

- (d) Between 2002 and 2004, inclusive, Respondent procured the surplus lines insurance policies for First Commonwealth Financial Corporation from American International Group and Continental Casualty Company, although it possessed no Pennsylvania surplus lines license.
- (e) Respondent failed to submit surplus lines filings to the Pennsylvania Insurance Department for any of the eight policies procured for First Commonwealth Financial Corporation.
- (f) Respondent failed to submit surplus lines taxes to the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue for eight of the surplus lines policies for years 2002 through 2005, totaling \$40,223.28.
- (g) Respondent failed to disclose to First Commonwealth Financial Corporation that the surplus lines insurance was not protected by the Pennsylvania guaranty associations.
- (h) On February 28, 2007, Respondent remitted the aforementioned surplus lines taxes to the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue.

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) Section 611-A(20) of Act 147 of 2002 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 (40 P.S. § 310.11).
- (c) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(g) violate Section 611-A(20) of Act 147 of 2003 (40 P.S. § 310.11).
- (d) Respondent's violations of Section 611-A(20) of Act 147 are punishable by the following, under Section 691-A of Act 147 of 2003 (40 P.S. § 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.

- (e) Section 1612(d) of the Surplus Lines Act (40 P.S. § 991.1612(d)) requires that all surplus lines insurance issued shall state “The insurer which has issued this insurance is not licensed by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department and is subject to limited regulation. This insurance is NOT covered by the Pennsylvania Insurance Guaranty Association.”

- (f) Respondent’s activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(g) constitute issuing contracts of surplus lines insurance absent the notification that the insurance was not covered by the Pennsylvania Insurance Guaranty Association, in violation of Section 1612(d) of the Surplus Lines Act.

- (g) Section 1615 of the Surplus Lines Act (40 P.S. § 991.1615) prohibits any agent or broker licensed by the Department to transact surplus lines insurance unless such agent or broker is licensed as a surplus lines agent.

- (h) Respondent’s activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(g) constitute transacting surplus lines insurance without being properly licensed.

- (i) Section 1620 of the Surplus Lines Act (40 P.S. § 991.1620) requires surplus lines licensees to file with the Department within 30 days following the end of each month, a verified report in duplicate of all surplus lines insurance transacted during the preceeding month.
- (j) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(g) constitute failure to file required reports with the Department.
- (k) Section 1621(c) of the Surplus Lines Act (40 P.S. § 991.1621) requires a tax of three percent to be levied against insureds on all premiums charged, and for that tax to be collected by the licensee and remitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue.
- (l) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(g) constitute failure to collect and remit the required three percent surplus lines premium tax, and violate Section 1621 of the Surplus Lines Act.
- (m) Respondent's violations of Sections 1612, 1615, 1620 and 1621 of the Surplus Lines Act are punishable by the following, under Section 1625(b) of the Insurance Company Law:
 - (i) imposition of a penalty not exceeding \$1,000 for the first offense and \$2,000 for each succeeding offense.

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 Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Payment of this penalty shall be made by certified check or money order, payable to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Payment should be directed to Sharon L. Fraser, Office Manager, Bureau of 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 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 this section is limited to a period of three (3) 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(c) of this Order, Respondent shall have the burden of demonstrating that it is worthy of a license.

(f) 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 it is worthy of a 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, 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.

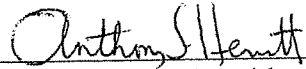
9. Respondent hereby expressly waives any relevant statute of limitations and application of the doctrine of laches for purposes of any enforcement of this Order.

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 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.

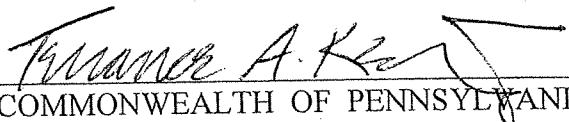
BY: FIRST COMMONWEALTH INSURANCE
AGENCY, INC., Respondent



President / Vice President



Secretary / ~~Treasurer~~



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
By: Terrance A. Keating
Deputy Chief Counsel