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INSURANCE DEPARTMENT
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HEARINGS OFFICE

BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE:	:	VIOLATIONS:
	:	
DENNIS LAWLER 908 Warren Street, Bldg. C-1 Pottstown, PA 19164	: : :	Sections 611-A(17) and (20) of Act 147 of 2002 (40 P.S. §§ 310.11)
	:	
Respondent.	:	Docket No. CO06-02-034

CONSENT ORDER

AND NOW, this 18th day of July, 2006, this Order is hereby issued by the Deputy Insurance Commissioner 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 Deputy Insurance Commissioner finds true and correct each of the following Findings of Fact:

(a) Respondent is Dennis Lawler and maintains his address at 908 Warren Street, Pottstown, Pennsylvania 19164.

(b) At all relevant times herein, Respondent has been a licensed insurance producer in Pennsylvania. License #402201, expires on May 26, 2006.

(c) On October 29, 2004, Respondent met with Frank & Joan Nevelik at Lake Ariel, PA and wrote two applications for long term care with Penn Treaty Network American Insurance Company ("PTNA") and was given a check for $7,990.00 payable to PTNA.

(d) In November 2004, the Neveliks contacted Respondent by telephone and expressed their preference that the long term care insurance coverage be placed with United Security Assurance Company of Pennsylvania ("USAC") instead of PTNA.

(e) Respondent failed to return to the Neveliks residence to complete the two USAC applications and/or to obtain the Neveliks signatures, and the Neveliks deny that Respondent was given permission to sign their names on the USAC applications.

(f) Respondent asserts that he had the permissions of the Neveliks to sign their signatures to the two USAC applications.

(g) Thereafter, Respondent returned to the Neveliks' residence to hand-deliver the USAC long term care insurance policies to them, at which time the Neveliks signed documents confirming receipt of the USAC policies.

(h) Respondent had indicated on both applications that Peg McMillan was the agent-of-record, when McMillan was not even present at the time Lawler sold the PTNA coverage.

(i) Respondent has admitted that he placed McMillan on the applications to make her eligible for a contest involving top sales.

(j) At the time of the application, Respondent collected a total of $7,990.00 and only remitted $7,672.00, retaining $318.00 for himself.

(k) On February 3, 2005, the Neveliks elected to cancel the USAC policies for reasons unrelated to Respondent's conduct, whereupon USAC refunded $7,672.00 to the Neveliks and on March 8, 2005, Respondent returned $318.00 to the Neveliks.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

4. In accord with the above Findings of Fact and applicable provisions of law, the Deputy Insurance Commissioner concludes and finds the following Conclusions of Law:

(a) Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department.

(b) Section 611-A(17) of Act 147 of 2002 prohibits a licensee from affixing another person's name on an application for insurance or on any document related to an insurance or financial service transaction without that person's authorization (40 P.S. § 310.11).

(c) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(k) violate Section 611-A(17) of Act 147 of 2002.

(d) 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).

(e) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(k) violate Section 611-A(20) of Act 147 of 2002.

(f) Respondent's violations of Sections 611-A(17) and (20) of Act 147 of 2002 are punishable by the following, under Section 691-A of Act 147 of 2002 (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 each 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 Deputy Insurance Commissioner 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 Two Thousand Dollars ($2,000.00) 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. Harbert, Administrative Assistant, 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) penalty payment has not been made, or (ii) any other terms of this Order have not been complied with, or (iii) 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 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.

(e) At the hearing referred to in paragraph 5(d) of this Order, Respondent shall have the burden of demonstrating that he is worthy of a license.

(f) In the event Respondent's certificates and 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 he is worthy of a license, Respondent's suspended certificates and licenses shall be revoked.

6. In the event the Deputy Insurance Commissioner 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 Deputy Commissioner finds that there has been a breach of any of the provisions of this Order, the Deputy Commissioner 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 Deputy Insurance Commissioner. Only the Insurance Commissioner or the duly authorized Deputy

Insurance Commissioner 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 Commissioner or the duly authorized Deputy Insurance Commissioner.

BY: _____
DENNIS LAWLER, Respondent

_____
RANDOLPH L. ROHRBAUGH
Deputy Insurance Commissioner
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania