

BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

RECEIVED  
INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

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ADMIN HEARINGS OFFICE

IN RE: : VIOLATIONS:  
: :  
VALERIE S. WESTRUM : Sections 611-A(1), (3) and (20) of  
1807 South Main Street, Apt. 1 : Act 147 of 2002 (40 P.S. §§ 310.11)  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105 : :  
Respondent. : Docket No. CO07-05-015

CONSENT ORDER

AND NOW, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of July, 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 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.

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 Valerie S. Westrum, and maintains her address at 1807 South Main Street, Apartment 1, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57105.
- (b) Respondent has been licensed as a non-resident producer since 2006, and her license expires on December 14, 2008.
- (c) On June 5, 1972, Respondent was convicted of a felony in the United States district Court, Minnesota Second District, for embezzling \$500.00 from the Fairmont National Bank, Fairmont, Minnesota. She was sentenced to two years probation and restitution, which she paid.
- (d) On July 21, 2002, Respondent was convicted of a felony offense in the United States District Court for the District of South Dakota, Southern Division, for larceny in excess of \$1,000.00, and false and fictitious records regarding her Postal Service duties. She was placed on 5 years probation and made restitution of \$10,826.25.

- (e) When Respondent initiated her application for a Pennsylvania non-resident insurance license in December, 2006, she failed to disclose her two felony convictions.

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(1) of Act 147 of 2002 (40 P.S. § 310.11(1)) prohibits a licensee or applicant from providing incorrect, misleading, incomplete or false information to the Department in a license application.
- (c) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(e) violate Section 611-A(1) of Act 147 of 2002 (40 P.S. § 310.11(1)).
- (d) Section 611-A(3) of Act 147 of 2002 (40 P.S. § 310.11(3)) prohibits a licensee or applicant from obtaining or attempting to obtain a license through misrepresentation or fraud.

- (e) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(e) violate Section 611-A(3) of Act 147 of 2002 (40 P.S. § 310.11(3)).
  
- (f) Section 611-A(20) of Act 147 of 2002 (40 P.S. § 310.11(20)) prohibits a licensee or applicant 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(e) violate Section 611-A(20) of Act 147 of 2002 (40 P.S. § 310.11(20)).
  
- (h) Respondent's violations of Sections 611-A(1), (3) 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 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) If Respondent should ever become licensed in the future, her 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.
- (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 certificate and 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 she 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, 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: Valerie S. Westrum  
VALERIE S. WESTRUM, Respondent

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