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BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

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IN RE:

VIOLATIONS:

QUALISHA KEION BENSON 4017 Fairlane Avenue Fort Worth, TX 76119

40 P.S. §§ 310.11(1), (2), (8), (14), (15), (20) and 310.78(a)

Respondent.

Docket No. CO22-05-006

CONSENT ORDER

AND NOW, this <u>9</u>th day of <u>September</u>, this Order is

hereby issued by the Insurance Department of 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, <u>supra</u>, 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 Qualisha Keion Benson and maintains a record of her address with the Pennsylvania Insurance Department as 4017 Fairlane Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas 76119
- (b) Respondent, since December 12, 2017, has been a licensed Non-Resident Producer.
- (c) Respondent, on July 15, 1999, was charged by the Fort Worth PoliceDepartment (Tarrant, TX) with one (1) count of Theft By Check, aMisdemeanor.
- (d) Respondent, on September 24, 1999, was found guilty in the Criminal Court of Tarrant County of one (1) count of Theft By Check, a Misdemeanor, as a result of the charge identified in finding 3(c).
- (e) Respondent, on July 5, 2007, was charged by the Fort Worth PoliceDepartment (Tarrant, TX) with one (1) count of Possession of aControlled Substance, a Felony.

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- (f) Respondent, on February 20, 2009, pleaded guilty in the Criminal Court of Tarrant County to one (1) count of Possession of a Controlled Substance, a Felony, as a result of the charge identified in finding 3(e).
- (g) Respondent, on December 12, 2017, submitted an initial application for licensure and incorrectly answered "No" to the question that asks,
 "[h]ave you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor, had a judgment withheld or deferred, or are you currently charged with committing a misdemeanor?". Respondent also incorrectly answered "No" to the question that asks, "[h]ave you ever been convicted of a felony, had a judgment withheld or deferred, or are you currently charged with committing a felony?"
- (h) Respondent, on July 9, 2020, submitted a license renewal application and incorrectly answered "No" to the question that asks, "[h]ave you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor, had a judgment withheld or deferred, or are you currently charged with committing a misdemeanor?".
 Respondent also incorrectly answered "No" to the question that asks, "[h]ave you ever been convicted of a felony, had a judgment withheld or deferred, or deferred, or are you currently charged with committing a felony?"
- (i) Respondent, on December 14, 2021, was denied a license by the Kansas
 Insurance Department for failure to provide documentation concerning
 her criminal convictions identified in findings 3(d) and 3(f).

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(j) Respondent failed to notify the Department of the administrative action identified in finding 3(i) within 30 days.

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 P.S. § 310.11(1) prohibits a licensee or an applicant for a license from providing incorrect, misleading, incomplete or false information to the Department in a license application.
- (c) Respondent's activities described in paragraphs 3(g) and 3(h) violate 40P.S. § 310.11(1).
- (d) 40 P.S. § 310.11(2) prohibits a licensee or an applicant from violating the insurance laws or regulations of this Commonwealth or a subpoena or order of the commissioner or of another state's insurance commissioner.
- (e) Respondent's activities described above in paragraphs 3(g) through 3(j) violate 40 P.S. § 310.11(2).

- (f) 40 P.S. § 310.11(8) prohibits a licensee or an applicant from having a producer license or other financial services license denied, suspended or revoked by a governmental entity.
- (g) Respondent's activities described in paragraph 3(i) violate 40 P.S. § 310.11(8).
- (h) 40 P.S. § 310.11(14) prohibits a licensee or an applicant from committing a felony or its equivalent.
- (i) Respondent's activities described in paragraph 3(f) violate 40 P.S. § 310.11(14).
- (j) 40 P.S. § 310.11(15) prohibits a licensee or an applicant from committing a misdemeanor that involves the misuse or theft of money or property belonging to another person.
- (k) Respondent's activities described in paragraph 3(d) violate 40 P.S. § 310.11(15).
- 40 P.S. § 310.11(20) prohibits a licensee or an applicant from demonstrating a lack of general fitness, competence or reliability sufficient to satisfy the Department that the licensee is worthy of licensure.

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- (m) Respondent's activities described in paragraphs 3(c) through 3(j) violate
 40 P.S. § 310.11(20).
- (n) 40 P.S. § 310.78(a) requires a licensee to report any administrative action taken in another jurisdiction or by another governmental agency within 30 days of the final disposition, to include a copy of the order, consent order or other relevant legal documents.
- Respondent's activities described in paragraph 3(j) violate 40 P.S. § 310.78(a).
- (p) Respondent's violations of 40 P.S. §§ 310.11(1), (2), (8), (14), (15), (20)
 and 310.78(a) are punishable by the following, under 40 P.S. § 310.91:
 - (i) suspension, revocation or refusal to issue the 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.

<u>ORDER</u>

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 hundred dollars (\$500.00) 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 the Pennsylvania
 Insurance Department, 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 fourteen (14) 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 confirmed 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 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 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 she 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, 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, <u>supra</u>, or other relevant provisions 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 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 duly authorized delegee.

An Keinen Kynson EION BENSON, Respondent BY:

Commonwealth of pennsylvania

By: DAVID J. BUONO 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 __31st __ day of __March____, 2022, David J. Buono, Jr., 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 Humphreys

Acting Insurance Commissioner

