

BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

VIOLATIONS:

WILLIAM NOVICK 847 Bristol Pike Bensalem, PA 19047 40 P.S. §§ 310.11(5), (6), (7) and (20)

and

WILLIAM NOVICK AGENCY LLC 6732 Torresdale Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19135

Respondents.

Docket No. CO18-11-015

CONSENT ORDER

AND NOW, this 28th day of December, 2018, 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. Respondents hereby admit and acknowledge that they have received proper notice of their rights to a formal administrative hearing pursuant to the Administrative Agency Law, 2 Pa.C.S. § 101, et seq., or other applicable law.
- 2. Respondents hereby waive all rights to a formal administrative hearing in this matter, and agree 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 William Novick, and maintains his address at 847 Bristol Pike, Bensalem, PA 19047.
 - (b) Respondent is, and at all times relevant hereto has been, a licensed resident producer.
 - (c) Co-Respondent is William Novick Agency LLC, and the entity maintains a business address at 6732 Torresdale Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19135.
 - (d) Co-Respondent is, and at all times relevant hereto has been, a licensed resident producer agency.
 - (e) Respondents telephonically contacted eight (8) potential customers between November 2015 June 2018 and offered to save them money by

issuing them automobile and/or homeowner's insurance policies. Those eight (8) customers agreed to receive his agency's proposed insurance policies in the mail for review and comparison with their current insurance policies.

- (f) Respondents submitted those proposed insurance policies to the insurer without first allowing the consumers to review and sign the applications thus acknowledging acceptance of those policies.
- (g) Respondents' actions caused the potential customers to receive notifications from collection agencies and vehicle registration suspension letters from PennDOT.
- (h) The insurer eventually canceled all the policies; however the customers invested significant time and effort to get those policies rescinded.

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) Respondents are subject to the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Insurance

 Department.
- (b) 40 P.S. § 310.11(5) prohibits a licensee or an applicant from intentionally misrepresenting the terms of an actual or proposed insurance contract or application for insurance.
- (c) Respondents' activities described above in paragraph 3(f) violate 40 P.S. § 310.11(5).
- (d) 40 P.S. § 310.11(6) prohibits a licensee or an applicant from committing any unfair insurance practice or fraud.
- (e) Respondents' activities described above in paragraph 3(f) violate 40 P.S. § 310.11(6).
- (f) 40 P.S. § 310.11(7) prohibits a licensee or an applicant from using fraudulent, coercive or dishonest practices or demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of doing business.
- (g) Respondents' activities described above in paragraph 3(f) violate 40 P.S. § 310.11(7).

- (h) 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.
- (i) Respondents' activities described above in paragraphs 3(f) through 3(g) violate 40 P.S. § 310.11(20).
- (j) Respondents' violations of 40 P.S. §§ 310.11(5), (6), (7) and (20) 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.

ORDER

5. In accord with the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Insurance Department orders and Respondents consent to the following:

- (a) Respondents shall cease and desist from engaging in the activities described herein in the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.
- (\$10,000.00) 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 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) Respondents' 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 Respondents 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 ten (10) years from the date of this Order.
- (d) Respondents specifically waive their 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 Respondents 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 Respondents' written request.

- (e) At the hearing referred to in paragraph 5(d) of this Order, Respondents shall have the burden of demonstrating that they are worthy of a license.
- (f) In the event Respondents' licenses are suspended pursuant to paragraph 5(c) above, and Respondents either fail to request a hearing within thirty (30) days or at the hearing fail to demonstrate that they are worthy of a license, Respondents' 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 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 provisions of law.
- 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, Respondents 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.
- Respondents hereby expressly waive 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.

BY:

WILLIAM NOVICK, individually

And on behalf of WILLIAM NOVICK AGENCY

LLC, Respondents

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

By: CHRISTOPHER R. MONAHAN

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

Jessica K. Altman
Insurance Commissioner

