BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

STATE OF OKLAHOMA, ex rel. JOHN D.)		FILED
DOAK, Insurance Commissioner,)	.4	IIIA
Petitioner,)	U	UN 0 4 2012
VS.)	INSURA	NCE COMMISSIONER OKLAHOMA
)		OKI AHOMAISSIONER
GREGORY BATES, a licensed bail bondsman in)		AIVIOIVIA
the State of Oklahoma,)		
)	Case No. 12-	0514-DIS
AND)		
)		
LEXINGTON NATIONAL INSURANCE)		
CORPORATION, an admitted insurer in the State)		
of Oklahoma authorized to act as a bail surety)		
company,)		
Respondents.)		

CONDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER AND NOTICE OF RIGHT TO BE HEARD

COMES NOW the State of Oklahoma, ex rel. John D. Doak, Insurance Commissioner, by and through Assistant General Counsel, William G. Combs, and alleges and states as follows:

JURISDICTION

- 1. John D. Doak is the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Oklahoma and as such is charged with the duty of administering and enforcing all provisions of the Oklahoma Insurance Code, 36 O.S. §§ 101-7301, and the Oklahoma Bail Bond Act, 59 O. S. §§ 1301-1340.
- Respondent Gregory Bates ("Bates") is a licensed bail bondsman in the State of Oklahoma holding license number 199085.
- Respondent Lexington National Insurance Corporation ("Lexington") is an admitted insurer in the State of Oklahoma authorized to act as a bail surety company and holding NAIC Number 37940.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On or about January 3, 2012, three appearance bonds were executed as follows:

Defendant:

Allison Denise Birdsong

Case Number(s):

5601224; 5862180; 7078507

City/County:

Tulsa Municipal

Surety:

Lexington National Insurance Corporation

Bondsman:

Gregory Bates

Power Number(s):

2012-AA-061173; 2012-AA-061172;

2012-AA-061171

Bond Amount(s):

\$300; \$200; \$200

2. On February 3, 2012, the Defendant failed to appear, and the bonds were declared forfeited. An Order and Judgment of Forfeiture was issued by the court for each of the three forfeited bonds on February 13, 2012, and filed in the cases. A true and correct copy of the Order and Judgment of Forfeiture for each forfeited bond was mailed to Respondents with return receipt requested within thirty (30) days after the forfeiture.

- Bates received a copy of each Order and Judgment of Forfeiture on February 23,
 2012.
- Lexington received a copy of each Order and Judgment of Forfeiture on February 20,
 2012.
- 5. The ninety-first (91st) day after receipt of the Order and Judgment of Forfeiture by Respondents was Thursday, May 24, 2012. The Defendant was not returned to custody within ninety (90) days of receipt of the Order and Judgment of Forfeiture, nor was the face amount of the forfeited bonds deposited with the court clerk within ninety-one (91) days of receipt of the Order and Judgment of Forfeiture.
 - 6. As of the date of this Conditional Order, the forfeited bail bonds have not been paid

or otherwise set aside.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The allegations are found to be true and correct, and Respondents have violated 59 O.S. § 1332 by failing to return the Defendant within ninety (90) days or remit payment in the face amount of the bond forfeiture within ninety-one (91) days from receipt of the Order and Judgment of Forfeiture.
- 2. Under 59 O.S. § 1310(B), any person or entity violating a provision of the Bail Bond Act may be subject to a civil penalty ranging from \$250 to \$2,500.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Gregory Bates and Lexington National Insurance Corporation are <u>each</u> FINED Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order constitutes disciplinary action and may be used in any subsequent hearings by the Insurance Department. In the event other misconduct is reported to the Department, this Order may be used as evidence against Respondents to establish a pattern of behavior and for the purpose of proving additional acts of misconduct.

Respondents are notified that they may request a hearing within 30 days of the receipt of this Order concerning this action and upon such request the Oklahoma Insurance Department shall conduct a hearing before an independent hearing examiner. A request for hearing shall be made in writing to William G. "Buddy" Combs, Oklahoma Insurance Department, Legal Division, 3625 NW 56th Suite 100, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112 and **give an explanation of Respondent's actions described herein and any defenses thereto.**

If, within 30 days of receipt of this Order, Respondents fail to either (1) pay the outstanding

forfeitures and the fines ordered herein or (2) request a hearing, this Order shall become a **FINAL**ORDER on the 31st day following the receipt of the Order and Respondents' licenses shall be SUSPENDED.

WITNESS My Hand and Official Seal this 4th day of June, 2012.

CE COMMISSION OF OKAMINA

JOHN D. DOAK INSURANCE COMMISSIONER STATE OF OKLAHOMA

William G. "Buldy" Combs Assistant General Counsel 3625 NW 56th Street, Suite 100 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73112

Tel. (405) 521-2746 Fax (405) 521-0125

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing *Conditional Administrative Order and Notice of Right to Be Heard* was mailed certified, return receipt requested, on this ______ day of June, 2012, to:

Gregory Bates P.O. Box 27202 Tulsa, OK 74149-0202

Lexington National Insurance Corporation ATTN: Kim Marzullo P.O. Box 6098 Hunt Valley, MD 21094

William G. "Byddy" Combs



SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY
Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired. Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to Attach this card to the back of the mailplet of SURAL or on the front if space permits. 1. Article Addressed to: Lexington National Insurance Co Gal Division Attn: Kim Marzullo P.0: 6098	A. Signature Addressee B. Received by (Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery C. Date of Delivery D. Scape of Delivery address different from item 1? If YES, enter delivery address below: 2012
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	4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee)
2. Article Number 7001 03	20 0004 4250 2833
PS Form 3811, February 2004 Domestic Ref	turn Receipt 102595-02-M-1540



Oklahoma Insurance Department 5 Corporate Plaza 3625 NW 56th Street, Suite 100 Oklahoma City, OK 73112-4511

CERTIFIED MAIL



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Gregory Bates P.O. 27202 Tulsa, Ok 74149-0202



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Legal Division

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