

BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

STATE of OKLAHOMA, ex rel. JOHN D.
DOAK, Insurance Commissioner,

Petitioner,

v.

Case No. 15-0607-DIS

FILED

JUL 29 2015

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
OKLAHOMA

CONNIE MANUEL, a licensed Bail Bondsman in
the State of Oklahoma,

Respondents.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

On July 22, 2015, the above captioned case came on for hearing at the Oklahoma Insurance Department, 3625 N.W. 56th Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112 and was concluded on the same day. The Insurance Commissioner appointed the undersigned independent hearing examiner to preside at the hearing as a quasi-judicial officer. The hearing was recorded electronically by employees of the Oklahoma Insurance Department. Petitioner was represented by Assistant General Counsel Matt McKinnon. Respondent Connie Manuel ("Manuel") appeared in person and without counsel. Exhibits were received and arguments heard. The hearing examiner finds as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Insurance Commissioner has full power and authority to administer the provisions of the Oklahoma Bail Bond Code, 59 O.S. §§1301-1340. Manuel is a licensed bondsman in the State of Oklahoma holding license number 199425, and former license number 800902.
2. On or about August 2, 2013, Respondent posted a bond in Payne County District Court, case number CM-13-982, State v. William Bohannon. The amount of the bond was Five

Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$5,000.00). This bond was written by Respondent on Roche Surety & Casualty Corporation power of attorney, number AA13-096352.

2. On or about August 2, 2013, Respondent accepted Five Hundred and No/100 Dollars (\$500.00) from Sandra Bohannon as payment in full for the premium for writing the bond in Payne County District Court case number CM-13-982.

3. On or about December 4, 2014, the Defendant failed to appear. The bond was ordered forfeited in Payne County District Court case number CM-13-982.

4. On or about January 7, 2013, Respondent contacted Sandra Bohannon regarding payment of the bond forfeiture in Payne County District Court case number CM-13-982. Sandra Bohannon faxed an acknowledgment that the payment for case number CM-13-982 was non-refundable. Later that day, Respondent accepted Five Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$5,000.00) for payment of the forfeited bond from Sandra Bohannon. On the receipt provided it stated "Non-refundable."

5. On or about January 7, 2014, Respondent paid the bond forfeiture in the amount of Five Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$5,000.00) to the Payne County District Court.

6. On or about January 8, 2014, Respondent accepted Six Hundred and No/100 Dollars (\$600.00) from Sandra Bohannon. The receipt reflects Bail 0.

7. On or about January 9, 2014, the Defendant was returned to custody. The warrant was recalled and a new bond was set for the Defendant.

8. On or about January 9, 2014, Respondent wrote a second bond for Respondent in the amount of Five Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$5,000.00) in Payne County case number CM-2013-982.

9. On or about January 9, 2014, Respondent posted a bond in Payne County District Court, case number CM-13-718, State v. William Bohannon. The amount of the bond was One Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$1,000.00).

10. On or about January 22, 2014, Respondent filed a Motion and Order for Remittance. This Order was signed by the Judge on January 22, 2014. A refund of Five Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$5,000.00) was granted to Defendant.

11. On or about June 4, 2014, the Defendant failed to appear in both Payne County District Court case numbers CM-2013-718 and CM-13-982.

12. On or about July 10, 2014, Sandra Bohannon submitted a cashier's check, number 161096, in the amount of Six Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$6,000.00) to the Respondent.

13. On or about July 3, 2014, Respondent filed a document reflecting the Defendant was placed on the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) database.

14. On or about July 29, 2014, Respondent filed a hold request with the Payne County District Court.

15. On or about October 8, 2014, the Defendant appeared in Court.

16. On or about January 30, 2015, the Oklahoma Insurance Department received a complaint from Sandra Bohannon regarding the bonds posted by Connie Manuel for William Bohannon, Case Numbers CM-13-718 and CM-13-982. Said complaint alleges Respondent failed to return the Five Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$5,000.00) and the Six Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$6,000.00) to Sandra Bohannon.

17. On or about February 12, 2015, Respondent was interviewed by Department staff regarding the complaint. Respondent stated she used the majority of the money to pay for bounty

hunters. When Department staff requested to look at her file regarding the Bohannon bond, Respondent complied. She was asked why no receipts were found in the file. She stated that bounty hunters did not give her receipts. When asked why a copy of the bounty hunter check was not in the file, she stated she paid them in cash.

18. On or about May 27, 2015, Department staff interviewed bounty hunters Todd Knight and David Simpson. Both confirmed that their services were retained to assist in the apprehension of the Defendant. When questioned regarding the amount charged for locating and assisting in the apprehension the Defendant, both stated it was ten percent (10 %) of the bond. In this case it was Six Hundred and No/100 Dollars (\$600.00). Respondent paid an additional One Hundred and No/100 Dollars (\$100.00) for an expedited fee. Both stated the total amount received from Respondent was Seven Hundred and No/100 Dollars (\$700.00).

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Commissioner has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 59 O.S. § 1302. The proceedings were commenced and conducted in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act 75 O.S. §§ 250-323, and the Oklahoma Bail Bond Code 59 O.S. §§ 1301-1340. Respondent was afforded an opportunity for hearing after reasonable notice, sufficiently advised of the allegations, the statutes and rules involved, and the time and place of hearing.

2. That testimony and evidence presented find that Respondent has violated 59 O.S. § 1310(A)(2), (4), (6) and (9).

3. In addition, Respondent has violated 59 O.S. § 1314(C) by failing to keep usual and customary records pertaining to the Bohannon bonds.

ORDER

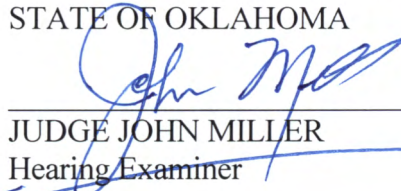
IT IS ORDERED that Respondent Connie Manuel's bail bond license in the State of Oklahoma is hereby **REVOKED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Manuel is assessed costs of the hearing in the amount of Two Hundred Thirty-seven Dollars and 50/100 (\$237.50). Costs are to be paid within thirty (30) days of receipt of the Order.

WITNESS My Hand and Official Seal this 27th day of July 2010



JOHN D. DOAK
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
STATE OF OKLAHOMA



JUDGE JOHN MILLER
Hearing Examiner

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Administrative Order was mailed postage prepaid with return receipt requested on this 29th day of July, 2015, to:

Connie Manuel
116 W. 7th Ave., Suite 310
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074-4001

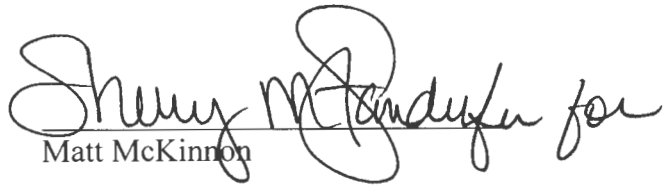
Certified Mail No.
7015 0640 0004 4933 8101

and a copy was sent to:

Payne County District Court

Anna Denman, Manager
Oklahoma Insurance Department
Bail Bond Division

Carol Ryan, Supervisor
Oklahoma Insurance Department
Bail Bond Division


Matt McKinnon



Insurance Commissioner
 Oklahoma Insurance Department
 5 Corporate Plaza
 3625 N.W. 56th St., Ste. #100
 Oklahoma City, OK 73112-4511

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 116 W. 7th Ave., Suite 310
 Stillwater, OK 74074-4001
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Connie Manuel
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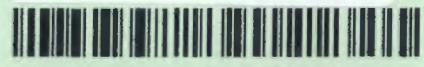
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2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)

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PS Form 3811, April 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9053

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