BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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STATE OF OKLAHOMA, ex rel. JOHN D. DOAK, Insurance Commissioner,) INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OKLAHOMA
Petitioner,)
vs. THOMAS ALLEN HALE , a licensed bail bondsman in the State of Oklahoma,) CASE NO. 17-0661-DIS)
Respondent.))

STIPULATION AND AGREED ORDER

COMES NOW Sandra LaVenue, Senior Counsel for the Oklahoma Insurance (OID), and Thomas Allen Hale, who stipulate and agree to the following findings of fact and conclusions of law.

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. §§ 101-7401, and the Oklahoma Bail Bond Act, 59 O. S. §§ 1301-1341.
- 2. Thomas Allen Hale ("Respondent") is a licensed bail bondsman in the State of Oklahoma holding license number 100164056.
- 3. The Insurance Commissioner has jurisdiction over the subject matter raised in this dispute and may issue penalties pursuant to 59 O.S. §§ 1310 and 1332.

AGREED FINDINGS OF FACT

- 4. On or about August 15, 2017, Margarito Ramos ("Ramos") retained Respondent to write a bail bond for Ramos' daughter who was retained in the Texas County Jail on a \$250,000.00 bail.
- 5. Ramos paid Respondent \$6,000.00 in cash and wrote a personal check in the amount of \$6,000.00 for premium on the bond. Ramos additionally signed a Promissory Note for the remainder or the premium. Respondent agreed to hold the payment on the check until such time as the bond was written.
- 6. On August 16, 2017, a bail hearing was conducted in Texas County regarding Ramos' daughter's bail, which was subsequently denied.
- 7. Although the \$6,000.00 check was never cashed, Ramos made several attempts to contact Respondent to obtain a refund of the \$6,000.00 cash premium paid.
- 8. OID received a complaint from Mr. Ramos on or about August 25, 2017, explaining what had transpired and that he had not received a refund of the \$6,000.00 premium for the bond that was subsequently denied after the agreement was made. Respondent's response letter to OID confirmed that as of August 22, 2017, Respondent had not paid any of the \$6,000.00 premium back to Ramos. Respondent also stated that Ramos was obligated by agreement to repay the expenses he incurred in preparing to write the \$250.000.00 bond.
- 9. Respondent obtained a cashier's check on or about September 15, 2017, in the amount of \$1,000.00 in partial repayment of the retained \$6,000.00 premium.

- 10. In conversations with OID, Ramos confirmed that he received the \$1,000.00 cashier's check and confirmed that although Respondent should be reimbursed for some of his expenses, he felt that his expenses should be around \$1,000.00.
- 11. After filing the above cited Administrative action on December 15, 2017, Respondent obtained another cashier's check in the amount of \$2,000.00 in partial repayment of the \$6,000.00 premium.
- 12. On or about January 3, 2018, Respondent obtained another cashier's check in the amount of \$2,000.00 in partial payment of the \$6,000.00 premium.
- 13. Respondent provided copies of the cashier's checks showing that refund payments were made.
- 14. OID received confirmation on January 30, 2018, that Ramos received \$5,000.00 in repayment of the premium and that he agreed that Respondent was due \$1,000.00 in reimbursement of expenses incurred.
- 15. Respondent voluntarily submits to the jurisdiction of OID without a hearing and enters into this Stipulation and Agreed Order.
- 16. Respondent acknowledges the above stipulations of fact and the agreed conclusions of law and agrees to pay an administrative fine in the amount of **Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$250.00)** in settlement of the matters alleged herein.

AGREED CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

17. Respondent has violated 59 O.S. § 1310(A)(4) by failing to timely return money received as premium for a bond upon subsequently learning that the

bond was denied.

18. Pursuant to 59 O.S. § 1310(B), any bondsman violating a provision of the Bail Bond Act, 59 O.S. §§ 1301-1341, may be subject to a fine of not less than Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) but not more than Two Thousand and Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) per violation.

AGREED ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Insurance Commissioner, and **CONSENTED TO** by Respondent, that:

- 19. Respondent has violated 59 O.S. §§ 1310(A)(4) and is subject to a penalty for that conduct.
- 20. Respondent is fined in the amount of Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$250.00), which is due upon entry of this Agreed Order.

WITNESS My Hand and Official Seal this

APPROVÉD AS TO FORM

Sandra Lavenue OBA# 13372

Senior Counsel

3625 NW 56th Street, Suite 100 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73112

Tel. (405) 521-2746 Fax (405) 522-0125

Thomas Allen Hale

Respondent

STEPHAN MATHIS OBA # 19169 Independent Hearing Examiner Oklahoma Insurance Department

Jeff Eulberg

Eulberg Law Office, PLLC Attorney for Respondent

925 NW 6th St.

Oklahoma City, OK 73106

(405) 232-3450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Stipulation and Agreed Order was mailed by regular mail and by certified mail, with postage prepaid and return receipt requested, on this day of February 2018, to:

Jeff Eulberg Eulberg Law Office, PLLC Attorney for Respondent 925 NW 6th St. Oklahoma City, OK 73106 Tel. (405) 232-3450

Certified Mail Number 9214 8902 0982 7500 0056 07

Thomas Allen Hale 3634 NW 39th St. Oklahoma City, OK 73112-6367

Certified Mail Number 9214 8902 0982 7500 0055 91

CERTIFIED MAIL NO.

and a copy was delivered to:

Lewis Garrison Bail Bonds Division

Sandra LaVenue
Senior Counsel



Date Produced: 03/05/2018

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