BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

STATE OF OKLAHOMA, ex rel. JOHN D. DOAK, Insurance Commissioner,) }
Petitioner, vs.)) CASE NO. 18-0137-DIS
KARLA STEPHENS, a licensed bail bondsman in the State of Oklahoma,	
Respondent.	FILED
	APR 1 3 2018
	MSURANCE COMMISSIONER OKLAHOMA

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 counsel, Sandra G. LaVenue and alleges and states as follows:

JURISDICTION AND AUTHORITY

- 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 et seq., as well as the Oklahoma Bail Bond Act, 59 O. S. §§ 1301-1341.
- 2. Karka Stephens ("Respondent") is a licensed surety bondsman in the State of Oklahoma holding license number 40102869.
- 3. The Insurance Commissioner has jurisdiction over the subject matter raised in this dispute and may issue penalties pursuant to 59 O.S. § 1310.
 - 4. Pursuant to 59 O.S. § 1310(B), in addition to any potential denial, censure,

suspension, or revocation, any person violating any provision of the Oklahoma Bail Bond Act may be subject to a civil penalty of not less than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) nor more than Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) for each occurrence.

- 5. If Respondent requests a hearing in writing in this matter, pursuant to OAC 365:1-7-1, the Insurance Commissioner, pursuant to 36 O.S. § 319, will appoint an independent hearing examiner who shall sit as a quasi-judicial officer and preside over the hearing requested by Respondent.
- 6. The Insurance Commissioner, pursuant to *OAC 365:1-7-5*, upon written request reasonably made by a person affected by the hearing and at such person's expense, shall cause a full stenographic record of the proceedings to be made by a competent court reporter.

ALLEGATIONS OF FACTS

- 7. Respondent's bail bond license was due to expire on October 31, 2017, pursuant to the provisions set forth in 59 O.S. § 1304 and OAC 365:25-5-35.
- 8. Although not required by statute, the Oklahoma Insurance Department sent an email to Respondent's email address of record approximately 45 days prior notifying her that her license was due to expire on October 31, 2017.
- 9. Respondent's bail bond license expired on October 31, 2017, because Respondent failed to submit a renewal application and further failed to submit the renewal fee as required by 59 O.S. § 1309.
- 10. Respondent submitted a renewal application and renewal fee on December 1, 2017, at which time her license was reinstated.

- 11. From November 1, 2017, through December 1, 2017, Respondent executed three (3) bail bonds amounting to \$4,325.00 in bonds without an active bail bond license in the State of Oklahoma.
- 12. Pursuant to 59 O.S. § 1303(A), no person shall act in the capacity of a bail bondsman or perform any of the functions, duties or powers under the provisions of 59 O.S. § 1301 et seq. of this title, unless that person shall be qualified and licensed as provided in 59 O.S. § 1301 et seq. of this title or as authorized pursuant to the Bail Enforcement and Licensing Act.

ALLEGED CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

13. Respondent violated 59 O.S. § 1310(A)(2) by failing to maintain an active bail bond license while continuing to execute bail bonds in violation of 59 O.S. § 1303.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Insurance Commissioner, subject to the following paragraph, that Respondent violated the provisions of 59 O.S. §§ 1310(A)(2) and 1303 and is hereby FINED in the amount of Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$250.00). The fine is to be paid within thirty (30) days of service of this order and remitted to the Oklahoma Insurance Department and mailed to ATTN: Sandra LaVenue, Legal Division, 3625 NW 56th St., Suite 100, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Insurance Commissioner that this Order is a Conditional Order. Unless Respondent requests a hearing with respect to the Allegations of Fact set forth above within thirty (30) days of mailing of this Order, this Order and the penalties set forth above shall become a Final

Order on the thirty-first day following the mailing of this Order. Such request for hearing, if desired, shall be in writing, addressed to Sandra LaVenue, Oklahoma Insurance Department, Legal Division, 3625 NW 56th St., Suite 100, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112, and shall state the basis for requesting the hearing. The request shall be served on the Oklahoma Insurance Department within the thirty (30) days allotted. The proceedings on such requested hearing will be conducted in accordance with the Oklahoma Insurance Code, 36 O.S. §§ 101 et seq., and the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act, 75 O.S. §§ 250 through 403. If Respondent serves a timely request for hearing on the Oklahoma Insurance Department, this Conditional Order shall act as a notice of the matters to be reviewed at the hearing and the Allegations of Fact, Alleged Violations of Law, and penalties imposed in this Conditional Order shall be considered withdrawn, pending final resolution at the hearing.

WITNESS My Hand and Official Seal this day of April, 2018.

JOHN D. DOAK

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

Sandra LaVenue OBA# 13372

Oklahoma Insurance Department 3625 NW 56th Street, Suite 100

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112

(405) 521-2746

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 by certified mail, with postage prepaid and return receipt requested on this day of April 2018 to:

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 9214 8902 0982 7500 0073 97

Karla Stephens 102 N. Central Idabel, OK 74745

> Sandra G. LaVenue Senior Counsel



Date: May 11, 2018

Sherry Standerfer:

The following is in response to your May 11, 2018 request for delivery information on your Certified Mail™/RRE item number 9214890209827500007397. The delivery record shows that this item was delivered on May 7, 2018 at 11:21 am in IDABEL, OK 74745. The scanned image of the recipient information is provided below.

Signature of Recipient:

Address of Recipient :

102 N. Central

Kala Steph

Thank you for selecting the Postal Service for your mailing needs.

If you require additional assistance, please contact your local Post Office or postal representative.

Sincerely, United States Postal Service