# BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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| STATE OF OKLAHOMA, ex rel. GLEN  |  |
| MULREADY, Insurance Commissioner,  | APR 1 1 2019                           |
| Petitioner,  | APR 1 1 2019  (INSURANCE COMMISSIONER* |
| VS.  | )                                      |
| CECIL JAMES KNIGHT JR, a licensed bail bondsman in the State of Oklahoma,          | )<br>) CASE NO. 19-0206-DIS            |
| AND  | )<br>)                                 |
| LEXINGTON NATIONAL INSURANCE   | )                                      |
| CORPORATION, an insurance company licensed to act as a bail surety in the state of |  |
| Oklahoma,  | )                                      |
| D  | )                                      |
| Respondents.   | )                                      |

## **CONSENT ORDER**

COMES NOW the State of Oklahoma, ex rel. Glen Mulready, Insurance Commissioner, by and through counsel, Teresa L. Green, and the Respondents, Cecil James Knight Jr. and Lexington National Insurance Corporation, and enters into this Consent Order:

#### **JURISDICTION**

- 1. Glen Mulready 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. §§ 1301-1340.
- 2. Respondent Cecil James Knight Jr. ("Respondent Knight") is a licensed bail bondsman in the State of Oklahoma holding license number 199583. Respondent Knight's mailing address of record is 417 N. Classen, Oklahoma City, OK 73106.
  - 3. Respondent Lexington National Insurance Corporation ("Respondent Lexington")

is an insurance company licensed to act as a bail surety in the state of Oklahoma holding license number 37940. Respondent Lexington's mailing address of record is P.O. Box 6098, Lutherville, MD 21094.

- 4. 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.
- 5. 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 \$250.00 nor more than \$2,500.00 for each occurrence.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 6. Prior to the events below, Respondent Lexington alleges it requested Respondent Knight post the below bond because of an out-of-state agent (a transfer bond).
  - 7. On or about November 2, 2018, an appearance bond was executed as follows:

Defendant:

Anthony Walker

Case Number(s):

CF-2018-5371

City/County:

Oklahoma County

Surety:

Lexington National Insurance Corporation

Bondsman:
Power Number(s):

CJ Knight 2018-EE-003745

Bond Amount(s):

\$5,000.00

8. On or about December 5, 2018, the Defendant failed to appear and the bond was declared forfeited. An Order and Judgment of Forfeiture was issued on or about December 10, 2018, by the Oklahoma County District Court. A true and correct copy of the Order and Judgment of Forfeiture was mailed to Respondent Knight and Respondent Lexington with return receipt requested within thirty (30) days after the Order's filing.

- 9. Respondent Knight received a copy of the Order and Judgment of Forfeiture on or about December 12, 2018.
- 10. Respondent Lexington received a copy of the Order and Judgment of Forfeiture on or about December 17, 2018.
- 11. Respondent Lexington alleges that it came to an agreement with the out-of-state agent to have the forfeiture timely paid by the same agent and not Respondent Knight.
- 12. The ninety-first (91st) day after receipt of the Order and Judgment of Forfeiture was March 13, 2019.
- 13. On or about March 28, 2019, Respondent Lexington paid the forfeiture because it alleges the out-of-state agent failed to pay the same.
- 14. The forfeiture was untimely paid, and the defendant was not timely returned to custody.

# **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

15. Respondents have violated 59 O.S. § 1310(A)(2) and (28), by failing to return the Defendant to custody 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 in accordance with the provisions of 59 O.S. § 1332 and OAC 365:25-5-40 and 365:25-5-41.

#### **ORDER**

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Insurance Commissioner and CONSENTED to by the Respondents that Respondent Lexington is hereby FINED in the amount of \$500.00 and Respondent Knight is hereby CENSURED. The fine is to be paid within thirty (30) days of the date of this Consent Order and made payable to the Oklahoma Insurance Department. Payment

may be made by either cashier's check or money order.

WITNESS My Hand and Official Seal this <u>///</u> day of April, 2019.



Tyler Laughlin
First Deputy Commissioner
Oklahoma Insurance Department
3625 NW 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73112

APPROVED:

Teresa L. Green Assistant General Counsel

Cecil James Knight Jr Respondent

Jeff Eulberg

Attorney for Respondent

Lexington National Insurance Corporation