# WSURANCE COMMISSIONER STATE OF OKLAHOMA STATE OF OKLAHOMA, ex rel. GLEN MULREADY, Insurance Commissioner, ) Petitioner. VS. PEOPLEASE, LLC, a registered professional ) employer organization in the State of Oklahoma, **CASE NO. 21-0274-DIS** Respondent.

BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE

## CONDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER AND NOTICE OF RIGHT TO BE HEARD

COMES NOW the State of Oklahoma, ex rel. Glen Mulready, Insurance Commissioner, by and through counsel, Antuanya "Bo" DeBose, and alleges and states as follows:

### **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 Professional Employer Organization Recognition and Registration Act, 40 O.S. §§ 600.1-600.9.
- 2. Respondent Peoplease, LLC ("Respondent") is registered in the State of Oklahoma under the Oklahoma Professional Employer Organization Recognition and Registration Act and holds company number 44199298. Respondent's address of record is 210 Wingo Way, Ste. 400, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464-1805.
- 3. The Insurance Commissioner has jurisdiction over the subject matter raised in this dispute and may issue penalties pursuant to 40 O.S. §600.9.

- 4. Pursuant to 40 O.S. §600.9, the Insurance Commissioner may, after notice and opportunity for hearing, refuse to register any person, suspend or revoke the registration of any professional employer organization, or impose administrative fines as provided for in the Oklahoma Professional Employer Organization Recognition and Registration Act.
- 5. If Respondent requests a hearing in writing in this matter, pursuant to *OAC 365:1-7-1*, the Insurance Commissioner, will appoint an independent hearing examiner who shall sit as a quasijudicial 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.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 7. Pursuant to 40 O.S. §600.4(A), no person shall, unless the person is registered as a PEO or PEO group under the Oklahoma Professional Employer Organization Recognition and Registration Act, provide, advertise, or otherwise hold itself out as providing professional employer services in this state.
- 8. Pursuant to 40 O.S. §600.4(D), a registration expires one (1) year following the registration unless it is renewed.
- 9. Respondent's professional employer organization ("PEO") registration expired on September 30, 2017.
- 10. Respondent filed an application for renewal with the Oklahoma Insurance Department ("OID") on or about November 19, 2018, however OID rejected this renewal application due to incorrect and missing items. Respondent was informed by email that its registration had expired

and that a new initial application fee and additional documents would need to be submitted through OPTins on or about November 20, 2018. Respondent did not follow up and complete its registration.

- 11. Respondent filed another application on or about March 11, 2019. Respondent was informed by email of the items missing from its application on April 15, 2019. Respondent never addressed the missing items and OID rejected this application.
- 12. Since the expiration of its registration on September 30, 2017, Respondent has been continuously operating as a PEO in the state of Oklahoma without being registered pursuant to 40 O.S. §600.4(A).

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Respondent has violated 40 O.S. §600.4(A) and (D), by operating as a professional employer organization while not being properly registered.

#### **ORDER**

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Respondent is <u>CENSURED</u> and <u>FINED</u> One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00). The fine shall be paid within 30 days of the date of this Conditional Administrative Order and made payable to the Oklahoma Insurance Department located at 400 NE 50<sup>th</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112. Failure to comply with a proper order of the Commissioner will result in further administrative action.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Insurance Commissioner that this Order is a Conditional Order. Unless the Respondent requests a hearing with respect to the Findings of Fact set forth above within 30 days of the date of this Conditional

Order, the penalties set forth above will become a Final Order on the 31<sup>st</sup> day following the date of mailing this Order. A request for hearing should be in writing and addressed to Antuanya "Bo" DeBose, Oklahoma Insurance Department, Legal Division, 400 NE 50<sup>th</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112. The request for hearing must state the grounds for the request to set aside or modify the Order and must be served on the Oklahoma Insurance Department within the 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 324. If the Respondent serves a request for hearing on the Oklahoma Insurance Department, this Conditional Order will act as a notice of the matters to be reviewed at the hearing and the Findings of Fact, Conclusions 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 July, 2021.

GLEN MULREADY INSURANCE COMMISSIONER STATE OF OKLAHOMA

Antuanya "Bo" DeBose Assistant General Counsel Oklahoma Insurance Department

400 NE 50<sup>th</sup> Street

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73112

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

# **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 by regular mail and by certified mail, with postage prepaid and return receipt requested, on this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of July, 2021, to:

Peoplelease, LLC 210 Wingo Way, Suite 400 Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

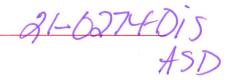
CERTIFIED MAIL NO: 9214 8902 0982 7500 0385 37

and a copy was delivered to:

**RIS Division** 

Antuanya "Bo" DeBose Assistant General Counsel





Date Produced: 08/02/2021

#### OKLAHOMA INSURANCE DEPARTMENT:

The following is the delivery information for Certified Mail™/RRE item number 9214 8902 0982 7500 0385 37. Our records indicate that this item was delivered on 07/30/2021 at 12:18 p.m. in CHARLESTON, SC 29401. The scanned image of the recipient information is provided below.

Signature of Recipient:

Address of Recipient:

Thank you for selecting the Postal Service for your mailing needs. If you require additional assistance, please contact your local post office or Postal Service representative.

Sincerely, United States Postal Service

The customer reference number shown below is not validated or endorsed by the United States Postal Service. It is solely for customer use.

This USPS proof of delivery is linked to the customers mail piece information on file as shown below:

PEOPLELEASE LLC STE 400 210 WINGO WAY MT PLEASANT SC 29464-1819

Customer Reference Number:

C2804932.16137008