STATE OF ARIZONA

Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions **FILED** August 30, 2022 by AS

STATE OF ARIZONA

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

In the Matter of:

JOSEPH CARDONA

No. 22A-017-INS-RES ORDER

(National Producer License No. 19502042)

Respondent

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On August 24, 2022, the Office of Administrative Hearings, through Administrative Law Judge Velva Moses-Thompson, issued an Administrative Law Judge Decision ("Recommended Decision"). The Director of the Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions ("Director") received the Recommended Decision on the same date, a copy of which is attached and incorporated by reference. The Director has reviewed the Recommended Decision and enters the following:

- 1. The Director ADOPTS the Recommended Findings of Fact, except to correct the following:
 - a) Page 1, line 25, should read, "Respondent's license expires on July 31, 2024."
 - b) Page 2, line 7, should read, "requesting records related to the complaint by November 19, 2021."
- 2. The Director ADOPTS the Recommended Conclusions of Law.
- 3. The Director ADOPTS the Recommended Order and ORDERS:

Joseph Cardona's Arizona resident insurance producer license, number 19502042, is revoked effective immediately.

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S.") § 41-1092.09, Respondent may request a rehearing or review with respect to this Order by filing a written motion with the

Order; 22A-017-INS-RES Continued

Director within 30 days after the date of this Order, setting forth the basis for relief under Arizona Administrative Code R20-6-114(B). Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.09, it is not necessary to request a rehearing before filing an appeal to the Superior Court.

Respondent may appeal the final decision of the Director to the Superior Court of

Respondent may appeal the final decision of the Director to the Superior Court of Maricopa County for judicial review, pursuant to A.R.S. § 20-166. A party filing an appeal must notify the Office of Administrative Hearings of the appeal within ten days after filing the complaint commencing the appeal, pursuant A.R.S. § 12-904(B).

DATED and EFFECTIVE this 25th day of August, 2022.

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Evan G. Daniels, Director Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions

1	COPY of the foregoing electronically transmitted this 30th day of August, 2022, to:
2	Valva Masas Thompson, Administrativa Law Indea
3	Velva Moses-Thompson, Administrative Law Judge Office of Administrative Hearings
4	https://portal.azoah.com/submission
5	COPY of the foregoing mailed by U.S. Certified Mail,
6	Electronic Receipt Requested, same date to:
7	Joseph Cardona
8	5401 E. Van Buren St., #1082 Phoenix, AZ 85008
120	Respondent 9489 0090 0027 6384 9748 58
9	COPY of the foregoing electronically delivered same date to:
10	of the folegoing electrometry derivered same date to.
11	Deian Ousounov, Assistant Director Gio Espinosa, Regulatory Legal Affairs Officer
12	Catherine O'Neil, Consumer Legal Affairs Officer
13	Ana Starcevic, Paralegal Project Specialist
	Steven Fromholtz, Division Manager Aqueelah Currie, Licensing Supervisor
14	Wendy Greenwood, Investigations Supervisor
15	Linda Lutz, Legal Assistant
16	Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions 100 North 15th Avenue, Suite 261
17	Phoenix, AZ 85007
18	COPY sent same date via electronic mail to:
19	Joseph Cardona
20	jvtrevolution@gmail.com Respondent
21	
22	James Rolstead, Assistant Attorney General <u>James.Rolstead@azag.gov</u>
23	AdminLaw@azag.gov
24	Attorney for the Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions
25	Ana Starcevic
26	

IN THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

In the Matter of:

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Joseph Cardona (National Producer License No. 19502042) No. 22A-017-INS-RES

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

Respondent.

HEARING: August 4, 2022

<u>APPEARANCES</u>: Respondent Joseph Cardona failed to appear. Assistant Attorney General James Rolstead appeared on behalf of the Arizona Department of Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions - Insurance.

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Velva Moses-Thompson

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On June 15, 2022, the Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions (Department) issued a Notice of Hearing and Complaint setting the above-captioned matter for hearing at 1:00 p.m. on August 4, 2022, at the Office of Administrative Hearings in Phoenix, Arizona.¹
- 2. Respondent did not appear at the scheduled time and the matter was convened in his absence at about 1:15 p.m. on August 4, 2022.
- 3. The Department presented the testimony of Department Investigations Supervisor, Wendy Greenwood, and submitted exhibits 1 through 6.
- 4. Respondent Joseph Cardona was at all material times, licensed as an Arizona resident insurance producer with lines of authority in accident and health or sickness insurance, and life insurance, National Producer Number 19502042.²
 - 5. Respondent's license expires on March 18, 2021.3

¹ The hearing was continued to February 1, 2021.

² See Exhibit 1.

³ See Exhibit 1.

- 7. On October 26, 2021, the Department received a complaint alleging that Mr. Cardona had misrepresented the terms of the consumer's limited benefit policy.
- 8. On November 3, 2021, the Department sent an email to Mr. Cardona requesting records related to the complaint by November 18, 2021.
 - 9. Mr. Cardona failed to respond to the November 3, 2021 email.
- 10. On November 24, 2021, the Department sent a second email to Mr. Cardona requesting a written response and all records pertaining to Complainant.
 - 11. Mr. Cardona failed to respond to the second email.

- 12. On January 6, 2022, the Department left a voice message with Mr. Cardona and sent a third email request for records with a due date of January 13, 2022.

 Mr. Cardona did not respond to the voice message or third email.
- 13. On February 18, 2022, the Department issued a subpoena Duces Tecum, pursuant to ARIZ. REV. STAT. § 20-160(A), which ordered Mr. Cardona to appear and produce documents at the Department for an Examination Under Oath scheduled March 8, 2022.
 - 14. Mr. Cardona failed to appear and failed to produce records on March 8, 2022.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Department bears the burden of persuasion. ARIZ. REV. STAT. § 41-1092.07(G)(2).
- 2. The standard of proof on all issues is that of a preponderance of the evidence. Ariz. Admin. Code § R2-19-119.
 - 3. A preponderance of the evidence is:

The greater weight of the evidence, not necessarily established by the greater number of witnesses testifying to a fact but by evidence that has the most convincing force; superior evidentiary weight that, though not sufficient to free the mind wholly from all reasonable doubt, is still sufficient to incline a fair and impartial mind to one side of the issue rather than the other. Black's Law Dictionary 1373 (10th ed. 2014).

- 4. The preponderance of the evidence shows that Mr. Cardona's conduct constitutes a violation of ARIZ. REV. STAT. Title 20, or any rule, subpoena or order of the Director, within the meaning of ARIZ. REV. STAT. § 20-295(A)(2).
- 5. Therefore, the Administrative Law Judge concludes that grounds exist for the Director to revoke Respondent's license. See ARIZ. REV. STAT. § 20-295(A) and (F).

RECOMMENDED ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that Respondent Joseph Cardona's License No. 19502042 is revoked.

In the event of certification of the Administrative Law Judge Decision by the Director of the Office of Administrative Hearings, the effective date of the Order is five days after the date of that certification.

Done this day, August 24, 2022.

/s/ Velva Moses-Thompson Administrative Law Judge

Transmitted electronically to:

Evan G. Daniels, Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions - Insurance

By Miranda Alvarez Legal Secretary