# STATE OF ARIZONA Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions **FILED** February 9, 2021 by AS

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### STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

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In the Matter of:

No. 21A- 015 -INS

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LAWRENCE, ASHLEY NICHOLE (National Producer No. 16772382)

CONSENT ORDER

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Respondent

The Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions ("Department") has received evidence that Ashley Nichole Lawrence ("Lawrence" or "Respondent") violated provisions of Title 20, Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S"). Respondent wishes to resolve this matter without the commencement of formal proceedings, and admit the following Finding of Fact are true, and consent to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- Lawrence is, and was at all material times, licensed as an Arizona resident 1. insurance producer with two lines of authority: casualty, and property insurance. Her license, number 16772382, was last renewed on December 1, 2019, and is scheduled to expire on November 30, 2023.
- 2. Lawrence's business address of record with the Department is 10639 North 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85029-3944 and the mailing address of record is 27035 North 35th Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85083-8651. Lawrence's business e-mail address of record with the Department is ashley@csivegas.insure.

## **Consumer Complaint**

- 3. On or about September 24, 2020, a consumer submitted a written complaint to the Department alleging she paid Lawrence \$690.20 in premium for a liability coverage policy. The consumer alleged that Lawrence failed to forward the premium to the insurer and no policy was placed in force.
- 4. On or about October 2, 2020, the consumer notified the Department that she received a refund check in the amount of \$691.00 from Lawrence.
- 5. The Department's investigation revealed on or about April 7, 2020, Lawrence obtained a liability policy quote for the consumer, received \$690.20 premium from the consumer, and placed these funds into a bank account which was not associated with her employer. Lawrence subsequently failed to forward the premium to the quoting insurer which resulted in the liability policy never going into force.
- 6. On or about December 16, 2020, the Department conducted a virtual conference with Lawrence. During this conference, the Department's investigator reviewed Lawrence's bank records. Lawrence acknowledged that she made a mistake by not forwarding the consumer's premium to the insurer.
- 7. Lawrence further acknowledged that she failed to update her business address of record with the Department upon separation from her previous employer.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Director of the Department ("Director") has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 2. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes a violation of Title 20 or any rule, subpoena or order of the Director, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(2).

- Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes improperly withholding 3. any monies or properties received in the course of doing insurance business, in violation of A.R.S. § 20-295.(A)(4).
- 4. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of business in this state or elsewhere, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(8).
- 5. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes failing to inform the director in writing within thirty days of any change in the licensee's residential, business or email address, in violation of A.R.S. § 20-286(C)(1).
- 6. Grounds exist for the Director to suspend for not more than twelve months or revoke Respondent's insurance producer license, pursuant to A.R.S. § 20-295(A).
- 7. Grounds exist, in addition to or instead of any suspension or revocation, for the Director to impose a civil penalty of not more than \$250.00 for each unintentional failure or violation up to an aggregate civil penalty of \$2,500.00, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-295(F).

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1 **ORDER** IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT: 3 1. The insurance producer license of Ashley Nichole Lawrence, is suspended for 4 90 calendar days, effective February 15, 2021 through May 16, 2021. 2. 5 Ashley Nichole Lawrence shall immediately pay a civil penalty of five 6 hundred dollars (\$500.00). Effective this 9th day of February , 2021. 7 8 Evan of Damis 9 Evan G. Daniels Director 10 Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions 11 CONSENT TO ORDER 12 13 1. Respondent has reviewed the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order. 14 2. Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Director of the Arizona 15 16 Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions and admits the foregoing Findings of Fact and consents to the entry of the foregoing Conclusions of Law and Order. 17 3. Respondent is aware of her right to notice and to a hearing, at which she may 18 be represented by counsel, present evidence and examine witnesses. 19 4. 20 Respondent irrevocably waives her right to such notice and hearing and to any court appeals relating to this Consent Order. 21

- 5. Respondent states that no promise of any kind or nature whatsoever, except as expressly contained in this Consent Order, was made to induce her to enter into this Consent Order and that she has entered into this Consent Order voluntarily.
- 6. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that the acceptance of this Consent Order by the Director is solely to settle this matter and does not preclude the Department from instituting other proceedings as may be appropriate now or in the future. Furthermore, and notwithstanding any language in this Consent Order, this Consent Order does not preclude in any way any other state agency or officer or political subdivision of this state from instituting proceedings, investigating claims, or taking legal action as may be appropriate now or in the future relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent, including but not limited to violations of Arizona's Consumer Fraud Act. Respondent acknowledges that, other than with respect to the Department, this Consent Order makes no representations, implied or otherwise, about the views or intended actions of any other state agency or officer or political subdivision of the state relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent.
- 7. Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Order is an administrative action that the Department will report to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC). Respondent further acknowledges that she must report this administrative action to any and all states in which she holds an insurance license and must disclose this administrative action on any license application.

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1	8. Respondent waives all rights to seek an administrative or judicial review or
2	otherwise to challenge or contest the validity of this Consent Order and its accompanying
3	parts before any court of competent jurisdiction.
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5	Date    Date   Ashley Nighole Lawrence   Ashley Nighole   Ashley Nighol
6	(NPN License No. 16772382)
7	COPY of the foregoing delivered by E-mail
8	this 10th ay of Februar 921, to:
9	David R. Seidman, Esq. 1221 E Osborne Rd, Suite 102A
10	Phoenix, AZ 85014  drs@hassettlawfirm.com
11	Attorney for Respondent
12	Ashley Nichole Lawrence 27035 N 35 <sup>th</sup> Ave
13	Phoenix, AZ 85083-8651 ashley@csivegas.insure
14	ashley@csiforyou.com Respondent
15	COPY of the foregoing delivered/emailed same date, to:
16	Deian Ousounov, Regulatory Legal Affairs Officer
17	Ana Starcevic, Paralegal Project Specialist Catherine M. O'Neil, Consumer Legal Affairs Office
18	Steven Fromholtz, Division Manager, Licensing Division
	Aqueelah Currie, Licensing Supervisor  Jeff Eavenson, Investigator
19	Linda Lutz, Legal Assistant, Licensing Division Arizona Department of Insurance
20	100 North 15th Avenue, Suite 261 Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2630
21	
22	Francine Juarez Francine Juarez