STATE OF ARIZONA FILED

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STATE OF ARIZONA

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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In the Matter of:)
POMEROY, THOMAS ROBERT,) No. 12A- 005- INS
(dba) POMEROY & POMEROY (Arizona License Number 92091) (National Producer Number 578091)))
Respondent.) CONSENT ORDER
)

The State of Arizona Department of Insurance ("Department") has received evidence that **Thomas Robert Pomeroy dba Pomeroy & Pomeroy** violated provisions of Title 20, Arizona Revised Statutes. Respondent wishes to resolve this matter without the commencement of formal proceedings, and admits the following Findings of Fact are true and consents to entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Thomas Robert Pomeroy dba Pomeroy & Pomeroy ("Pomeroy", "P&P" or "Respondent") is, and was at all material times licensed as an Arizona resident accident/health and life insurance producer, Arizona license number 92091, which expires on September 30, 2015.
- 2. In or around March 2009, P&P negotiated excess medical indemnity insurance coverage (also known as employer stop loss coverage) for Dawson Employee Benefits, LLC ("Dawson") through Alternative Risk Solutions, LLC ("ARS"). Westport Insurance Corporation ("Westport") underwrote and issued the policy for a one year term with an effective date of April 1, 2009. David Lunt ("Lunt") is the Vice President / CFO and authorized representative of Dawson. ARS is a wholesale broker authorized to procure business on behalf of Westport.

- 3. ARS mailed an original Engagement Agreement to P&P to obtain Lunt's signature. The original Engagement Agreement contains the proposed coverage and premium rate information.
- 4. On or about March 26, 2009, P&P returned the original Engagement Agreement to ARS without Lunt's knowledge.
- 5. P&P presented an altered version of the original Engagement Agreement representing inflated premium rates to Lunt and provided him a copy of the executed altered Engagement Agreement for his records.
- 6. P&P has no authority to bind Westport to a contract of insurance other than to the terms prescribed in the original Engagement Agreement and Schedule of Insurance issued by Westport.
- 7. Upon issuance of the policy, Westport mailed an original Schedule of Insurance to P&P to forward to Dawson. P&P failed to provide a copy of the original Schedule of Insurance to Dawson but presented it with an altered version of the Schedule of Insurance reflecting the inflated premium rates.
- 8. Trident Plan Administrators ("Trident") is the third party administrator contracted with Dawson to process its self-funded medical and dental employee benefit plans.
- 9. P&P created and forwarded a rate sheet to Trident reflecting the higher rates to be billed to Dawson matching those as described on the altered Engagement Agreement and Schedule of Insurance.
- 10. As a result of P&P's actions, Dawson overpaid P&P \$41,379.00 in additional premium for the 2009-2010 policy year.

- 11. P&P repeated the same behavior for the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 renewal policies resulting in \$41,083.00 (2010-2011 policy year) and \$14,830.00 (2011-2012 policy year) in overcharges to Dawson..
 - 12. In or around August 2011, Dawson discovered the series of altered documents.
- 13. On August 30, 2011, P&P sent an e-mail to Dawson offering to lower their premium rates. P&P does not have any authority to reduce premium rates on behalf of Westport or ARS. P&P created and forwarded a revised rate sheet to Trident reflecting the correct rates to bill Dawson.
- 14. Pomeroy denies any knowledge of how the Dawson documents were altered and voluntarily refunded the \$97,292.00 of overcharges to Dawson.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Director has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 2. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes intentionally misrepresenting the terms of an actual or proposed insurance contract or application for insurance, within the meaning of A.R.S.§20-295(A)(5).
- 3. Respondent's conduct, as described above constitutes using fraudulent, coercive or dishonest practices, or 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).
- 4. Grounds exist for the Director to suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew Respondent's insurance license, impose a civil penalty and/or order restitution pursuant to A.R.S. §§20-295(A) and (F).

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ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Respondent's license is suspended for sixty (60) days effective immediately upon entry of this Order during which time Respondent may not sell, solicit, negotiate any new insurance business within the meaning of A.R.S.§§ 20-281(10), (14) and (15).
- 2. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$15,000.00 immediately upon entry of this Order for deposit into the State General Fund.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE this _____ day of January, 2012.

CHRISTINA URIAS Director of Insurance

CONSENT TO ORDER

- 1. Respondent has reviewed the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.
- Respondent admits the jurisdiction of the Director of Insurance, State of Arizona, and admits the foregoing Findings of Fact and consents to the entry of the foregoing Conclusions of Law and Order.
- 3. Respondent is aware of his right to notice and a hearing at which he may be represented by counsel, present evidence and examine witnesses. Respondent irrevocably waives his right to such notice and hearing and to any court appeals relating to this Consent Order.

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Respondent states that no promise of any kind or nature whatsoever, except as expressly contained in this Consent Order, was made to him to induce him to enter into this Consent Order and that he has entered into this Consent Order voluntarily.

- Respondent acknowledges that the acceptance of this Consent Order by the Director is solely to settle this matter against him and that a violation of this order is grounds for the Director to revoke his license and to institute criminal proceedings pursuant to A.R.S.
- Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Order is an administrative action that the Department will report to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) and that he will have to report this administrative action on any future licensing applications either to the Department or other states' Departments of Insurance.

Thomas Robert Pomeroy dba Pomeroy & Pomeroy, License No. 92091

COPIES of the foregoing mailed/delivered

J. Michael Low Low & Cohen, PLLC 2999 N. 44th Street, Suite 550 Phoenix, AZ 85018 (Attorney for Respondent)

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