STATE OF ARIZONA FILED

JUN 6 2013

### STATE OF ARIZONA

#### DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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In the Matter of:

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Docket No. 13A-066-INS

AMERICAN SUMMIT INSURANCE COMPANY,

NAIC # 19623.

**CONSENT ORDER** 

| NAIC # 18025,

Respondent.

Examiners for the Department of Insurance (the "Department") conducted a target market conduct examination of American Summit Insurance Company ("ASIC"). In the Report of Target Market Conduct Examination of the Market Conduct Affairs of American Summit Insurance Company, the examiners allege that ASIC violated A.R.S. §\$20-220, 20-462, 20-466.03, 20-2106, 20-2110 and A.A.C. R20-6-801, as well as Consent Order, Docket No. 02A-158-INS dated September 10, 2002.

American Summit Insurance Company wishes to resolve this matter without formal proceedings, admits that the following Findings of Fact are true, and consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. American Summit Insurance Company is authorized to transact property and casualty insurance pursuant to a Certificate of Authority issued by the Director.
- 2. The Director authorized the examiners to conduct a target market conduct examination of American Summit Insurance Company. The examination covered the time period from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 and concluded on September 14, 2012. Based on their findings, the examiners prepared the "Report of Target Market Conduct Examination of American Summit Insurance Company" dated December 31, 2011.

- 3. The examiners reviewed 50 of 437 non-renewals and 78 of 78 cancellations, either non-renewed or cancelled due to an adverse underwriting decision during the time frame of the examination and found that ASIC failed to provide a compliant Summary of Rights to all 128 policyholders.
- 4. The examiners found one claim authorization disclosure form, the Authorization to Obtain Information, used during the time frame of the examination that failed to specify that the authorization remains valid for no longer than the duration of the claim and advise the individual or a person authorized to act on behalf of the individual that they are entitled to receive a copy of the authorization form.
- 5. The examiners found 3 claim forms used by the Company during the time frame of the examination that failed to contain a compliant fraud warning notice in at least 12-point type. (see Exhibit A)
- 6. The examiners reviewed 13 of 13 property claims involving deductible recovery settled during the time frame of the examination and found that ASIC failed to return the proportionate deductible amount to 7 insureds and failed to promptly reimburse the full deductible amount to another 2 insureds after full or partial recovery from the at-fault parties.
- 7. The examiners reviewed 50 of 4,336 first party claim settlements processed by the company during the time frame of the examination and found that ASIC failed to disclose all pertinent benefits, coverages or other provisions to 15 first party claimants.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. ASIC violated A.R.S. §20-2110 by failing to send a compliant Summary of Rights to policyholders cancelled or non-renewed due to an adverse underwriting

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24 25 authorization form that failed to contain a compliant Authorization for the Release of Information.

ASIC violated A.R.S. §20-2106(8)(b) and (9) by using a claim

- 3. ASIC violated A.R.S. §20-466.03 by using claim forms that failed to contain a compliant fraud warning notice.
- 4. ASIC violated A.R.S §20-220(A)(2) and A.R.S §20-462 by failing to completely and/or promptly reimburse the proportionate amount of the deductible after full or partial recovery.
- 5. ASIC violated A.A.C. R20-6-801(D)(1) by failing to fully disclose all benefits, coverages or other provisions to first party claimants.
- 6. Grounds exist for the entry of the following Order in accordance with A.R.S. §§20-220 and 20-456 and 20-2117.

## <u>ORDER</u>

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- American Summit Insurance Company shall:
- a. provide policyholders a compliant Summary of Rights if their policy is cancelled or non-renewed as the result of an adverse underwriting decision.
- b. use claim authorization disclosure forms that contain a compliant Authorization for the Release of Information.
  - c. use claim forms that contain a compliant fraud warning notice.
- d. correctly calculate and pay the Transaction Privilege Tax on manufactured home, residential dwelling and homeowner claim settlements.
  - e. promptly reimburse the insureds full deductible after subrogation

- f. fully disclose all pertinent benefits, coverages or other provisions to first party claimants.
- 2. Within 90 days of the filed date of this Order, American Summit Insurance Company shall submit to the Arizona Department of Insurance, for approval, evidence that ASIC implemented corrections and communicated these corrections to the appropriate personnel, regarding the issues outlined in Paragraph 1 of the Order section of this Consent Order. Evidence of corrective action and communication thereof includes, but is not limited to, memos, bulletins, E-mails, correspondence, procedures manuals, print screens, and training materials.
- 3. The Department shall, through authorized representatives, verify that ASIC has complied with all provisions of this Order.
- 4. American Summit Insurance Company shall pay a civil penalty of \$25,000.00 to the Director for remission to the State Treasurer for deposit in the State General Fund in accordance with A.R.S. §20-220(B). ASIC shall submit the civil penalty to the Market Oversight Division of the Department prior to the filing of this Order.
- 5. The Report of Target Market Conduct Examination of American Summit Insurance Company of December 31, 2011, including the letter with their objections to the Report of Examination, shall be filed with the Department upon the filing of this Order.

DATED at Arizona this \_\_\_\_\_ day of\_\_\_

day of June

2013.

f. Marky

Germaine L. Marks Director of Insurance

### CONSENT TO ORDER

- 1. American Summit Insurance Company has reviewed the foregoing Order.
- 2. American Summit Insurance Company admits the jurisdiction of the Director of Insurance, State of Arizona, admits the foregoing Findings of Fact, and consents to the entry of the Conclusions of Law and Order.
- 3. American Summit Insurance Company is aware of the right to a hearing, at which it may be represented by counsel, present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. American Summit Insurance Company irrevocably waives the right to such notice and hearing and to any court appeals related to this Order.
- 4. American Summit Insurance Company states that no promise of any kind or nature whatsoever was made to it to induce it to enter into this Consent Order and that it has entered into this Consent Order voluntarily.
- 5. American Summit Insurance Company acknowledges that the acceptance of this Order by the Director of the Arizona Department of Insurance is solely for the purpose of settling this matter and does not preclude any other agency or officer of this state or its subdivisions or any other person from instituting proceedings, whether civil, criminal, or administrative, as may be appropriate now or in the future.

6. <u>Narren Yarmente</u>, who holds the office of <u>President and COO</u> of American Summit Insurance Company, is authorized to enter into this Order for them and on their behalf.

## AMERICAN SUMMIT INSURANCE COMPANY

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1	'	this cut day of - 2013 to:
1	2	this 6th day of June, 2013, to:
	3	Germaine L. Marks
	4	Director of Insurance Mary Butterfield
	5	Assistant Director Consumer Affairs Division
	6	Helene I. Tomme  Market Examinations Supervisor
	7	Market Oversight Division Dean Ehler
	8	Assistant Director
	9	Property and Casualty Division Kurt Regner
	10	Assistant Director Financial Affairs Division
	11	David Lee Chief Financial Examiner
	12	Alexandra Shafer Assistant Director
)	13	Life and Health Division Chuck Gregory
)	14	Special Agent Supervisor Investigations Division
	15	Investigations Division
	16	DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
	17	2910 North 44th Street, Suite 210 Phoenix, AZ 85018
	18	
	19	
	20	Charles R. Cohen American Summit Insurance Company
	21	c/o Low & Cohen, PLLC 2999 North 44 <sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 550
	22	Phoenix, Arizona 85018
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# **EXHIBIT A**

**Fraud Warning Statement** – The Company failed to provide a fraud warning statement in at least 12-point type on three (3) claim forms. These represent three (3) violations of A.R.S. § 20-466.03.

The following table lists the claim forms which fail to include a compliant fraud warning statement:

	Specimen Form / Letter Description	Form #
1	Cause of Loss Questionnaire and Affidavit	None
2	Schedule of Contents	None
3	Burglary/Theft Loss Statement	None