

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF WAKE BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSURE OF JAMES ARNOLD

NPN: 19745913

VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

NOW COME, James Arnold (hereinafter "Mr. Arnold) and the North Carolina Department of Insurance Agent Services Division (hereinafter "Agent Services Division"), and hereby voluntarily and knowingly enter into the following Voluntary Settlement Agreement (hereinafter "this Agreement").

WHEREAS, the Agent Services Division has the authority and responsibility for enforcement of the insurance laws of this State, and for regulating and licensing insurance agents, brokers, limited representatives, adjusters, and motor vehicle damage appraisers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Arnold currently holds a Resident Adjuster license issued by the Department; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 58-33-46(a) (1) provides that the Commissioner may place on probation, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew any license issued under Article 33 of Chapter 58 of the General Statutes of NC, for providing materially incorrect, misleading, incomplete, or materially untrue information in the license application; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Arnold failed to report administrative actions taken against his adjuster's license by California (09/27/21), Louisiana (08/15/22), and Delaware (02/01/23) on his February 14,2022 and February 28,2023 applications for licensure, violations of North Carolina General Statute § 58-33-46(a) (1); and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 58-33-46(a)(2) provides that the Commissioner may place on probation, suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue or renew any license issued under Article 58 of the General Statutes of North Carolina for violating any insurance law of this or any other state, violating any administrative rule, subpoena, or order of the Commissioner or of another state's regulator; and

WHEREAS, N. C. Gen. Stat. § 58-2-70 provides that whenever the Commissioner has reason to believe that any person has violated any law that would subject the license or

certification of that person to suspension or revocation, the Commissioner is authorized, in lieu of a hearing, to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement as to the status of the person's license or certificate or to any civil penalty or restitution; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Arnold has agreed to settle, compromise, and resolve the matters referenced in this Agreement on behalf of himself, and the Agent Services Division has agreed not to pursue additional civil ramifications, including penalties, sanctions, remedies, or restitution based on these matters against Mr. Arnold; and

WHEREAS, the parties to this Agreement mutually wish to resolve this matter by consent before the Department initiates an administrative hearing and have reached a mutually agreeable resolution of this matter as set out in this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in exchange for the consideration and promises and agreements set out herein, Mr. Arnold and the Department hereby agree to the following:

- 1. Immediately upon the signing of this Agreement, Mr. Arnold shall pay a civil penalty of \$250.00 to the Department. The form of payment shall be by certified check, cashier's check, or money order. The check or money order for the payment of this civil penalty shall be payable to the "North Carolina Department of Insurance." Mr. Arnold shall remit the civil penalty by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Department along with a copy of this signed Agreement. The civil penalty and the signed Agreement must be received by the Department no later than May13,2024. The civil penalty shall be subject to disbursement in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, Section 7 of the North Carolina Constitution for the benefit of public schools.
- 2. This Agreement does not in any way affect the Department's disciplinary power in any future examination of Mr. Arnold or in any other complaints involving Mr. Arnold.
- 3. Mr. Arnold enters into this Agreement, on behalf of himself, freely and voluntarily and with the knowledge of his right to have an administrative hearing on this matter. Mr. Arnold understands he may consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Agreement.
- 4. The parties to this Agreement agree that this Agreement shall have the full force and effect of an Order of the Commissioner. Mr. Arnold understands that N.C.G.S. § 58-33-46(a)(2) provides that a producer's license may be revoked for violating an Order of the Commissioner.
- 5. This Agreement, when finalized, will be a public record and will <u>not</u> be held confidential by the Department. Following the execution of this Agreement, all licenses issued by the Department to Mr. Arnold shall reflect that Regulatory Action has been taken against

him. The Department is free to disclose the contents of this Agreement with third parties upon request or pursuant to any law or policy providing for such disclosure. The Department, upon request, routinely will provide a copy of the voluntary settlement agreement to all companies that have appointed the licensee.

- 6. The parties have read and understand this Agreement and agree to abide by the terms and conditions stated herein.
- 7. Be aware that if a state or federal regulator other than the N. C. Department of Insurance has issued an occupational or professional license to you, that regulator may require you to report this administrative action to it. The N.C. Department of Insurance cannot give you legal advice as to the specific reporting requirements of other state or federal regulators.

N.C. Department of Insurance **Agent Services Division**

By: James Arnold NPN: 19745913

By: Jee Wall Deputy Commissioner

Date: 5-8-202 -