NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE A.S. – N.C.D.O.I.
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

FEB 2 5 2022

RECEIVED IN AGENT SERVICES

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF WAKE BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCENO.

CHECK AMT. 1000,00 PROCESSOR

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSURE OF GARRY GOBLE LICENSE NO. 0002399080

VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

NOW COME, Garry Goble (hereinafter "Mr. Goble") and the Agent Services Division of the N.C. Department of Insurance (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 and agencies; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Goble currently holds a resident producer's license with authority for Property, Casualty, Life and Accident & Health or Sickness lines of insurance and a Medicare Supplement Long-Term Care insurance license issued by the Department; and

WHEREAS, Agent Services Division investigators conducted an agency review of the Garry Goble Insurance Agency in Taylorsville, NC, owned by Mr. Goble, on November 8th and 9th, 2021; the review was modified to a target examination due to violations observed during the review; and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat: § 58-3-150 (f) provides: It is unlawful for any person to knowingly prepare, issue, request, or require a certificate of insurance that meets any of the following criteria: (1) Has not been filed with and approved by the Commissioner. (2) Contains any false or misleading information concerning the policy of insurance to which the certificate of insurance makes reference. (3) Purports to alter, amend, or extend the coverage provided by the policy of insurance to which the certificate of insurance makes reference; and

WHEREAS, the agency issued certificates of insurance with incorrect names, and effective and expiration dates, violations of N.C. Gen. Stat: § 58-3-150 (f), which certificates were corrected prior to the conclusion of the review; and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-33-46(a)(4) 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 improperly withholding, misappropriating, or converting any monies or properties received in the course of doing insurance business; and

WHEREAS, investigators reviewed the financial records of the agency from 2015 through 2019 and observed monthly transfers from the operating account. A former agent, no longer employed at the agency, was the only employee authorized to handle the financials. When it was determined that all of the cash received by the agency was not deposited, an audit was performed at the agency, and it was determined that that all of the funds received by the agency were not deposited. Although the employee did not admit responsibility, a family member replaced \$28,571.18 in missing funds, which also included unauthorized credit card charges initiated by employee; and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat.§ 58-2-163. Report to Commissioner provides: Whenever any insurance company, or employee or representative of such company, or any other person licensed or registered under Articles 1 through 67 of this Chapter knows or has reasonable cause to believe that any other person has violated G.S. 58-2-161, 58-2-162, 58-2-164, 58-2-180, 58-8-1, 58-24-180(e), or whenever any insurance company, or employee or representative of such company, or any other person licensed or registered under Articles 1 through 67 of this Chapter knows or has reasonable cause to believe that any entity licensed by the Commissioner is financially impaired, it is the duty of such person, upon acquiring such knowledge, to notify the Commissioner and provide the Commissioner with a complete statement of all of the relevant facts and circumstances. Such report is a privileged communication, and when made without actual malice does not subject the person making the same to any liability whatsoever. The Commissioner may suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew the license of any licensee who willfully fails to comply with this section; and

WHEREAS, as owner of the agency, Mr. Goble did not monitor the actions of the employee and did not report the incident and employee to the Department of Insurance, he violated the provisions of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-33-46(a)(4) and N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-2-163; and

WHEREAS, 11 NCAC 04.0121 provides; All premium payment receipts and copies issued by an agent, broker or limited representative, shall be dated and contain the printed or stamped name and address of the agency or agent, broker, or limited representative, and the name of the insurer. Receipts shall be signed by the person accepting payment; and

WHEREAS, the investigators reviewed the receipts issued to insureds and found that such were not properly signed in that the agents used initials instead of using their full signatures, a violation of 11 NCAC 04.0121; and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-2-185 provides: All companies, agents, or brokers doing any kind of insurance business in this State must make and keep a full and correct record of the business done by them, showing the number, date, term, amount insured, premiums, and the persons to whom issued, of every policy or certificate or renewal. Information from these records must be furnished to the Commissioner on demand, and the original books of records shall be open to the inspection of the Commissioner when demanded; and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-2-195(b) provides: Every insurance agency transacting insurance business in this State shall at all times have appointed some person employed or associated with such agency who shall have the responsibility of seeing that such records and reports as are required pursuant to the provisions of this section are kept and maintained; and

WHEREAS, 11 NCAC 19 .0104 POLICY RECORDS provides: Each insurer or its agents shall maintain or cause to be maintained a record of each policy that specifies the policy period, basis for rating, and if terminated, documentation supporting policy termination by the insurer or policyholder, and accounting records indicating return premium amounts. These records shall be retained for at least five years after the termination of the policy or, for domestic companies until the Commissioner has adopted a final report of a general examination that contains a review of these records for that calendar year, whichever is later.

WHEREAS, 11 NCAC 19 .0102 MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS provides; (a) Every insurer licensed to do business in this State shall maintain for at least five years all records, books, documents, and other business records that are required by this Section and by Chapter 58 of the North Carolina General Statutes.(b) Every agency, agent, broker, or producer of record shall maintain a file for each policy sold. The file shall contain all work papers and written communications in his or her possession pertaining to that policy. These records shall be retained for at least five years after the final disposition or, for domestic companies, until the Commissioner has adopted a final report of a general examination that contains a review of these records for that calendar year, whichever is later; and

WHEREAS, the investigators noted that the agency was unable to produce the daily remittance information, including receipts and deposit tickets from the time when the former agent was employed by the agency, violations of N.C. Gen. Stats. §§ 58-2-185 and 58-2-195(b) and 11 NCAC 19.0102 and 11 NCAC 19.0104; and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-33-46(a)(8) 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, among other things, for demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness, or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of business in this State or elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, N. C. Gen. Stat. § 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. Goble 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. Goble; 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. Goble and the Agent Services Division hereby agree to the following:

- 1. Immediately upon the signing of this Agreement, Mr. Goble shall pay a civil penalty of \$1,000.00 to the Agent Services Division. 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. Goble shall remit the civil penalty by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Agent Services Division along with a copy of this signed Agreement. The civil penalty and the signed Agreement must be received by the Agent Services Division no later than March 18, 2022. 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 Agent Services Division's disciplinary power in any future examination of Mr. Goble, or in any complaints involving Mr. Goble.
- 3. Mr. Goble 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. Goble 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. Goble 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 Agent Services Division. Following the execution of this Agreement, all licenses issued by the Agent Services Division to Mr. Goble 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 Agent Services Division, upon request, routinely provides a copy of the voluntary settlement agreement to all companies that have licensed the producer.

- 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 Agent Services Division has issued an occupational or professional license to you, that regulator may require you to report this administrative action to it. The Agent Services Division 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: Gafry Goble	Ry: Angela Hatchell
by. Garry Gobie	By: Angela Hatchell

License No. 0002399080 Deputy Commissioner

Date: 2-15-22 Date: 2/25/2022