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 AARON BLAKE HILL LICENSE NO. 0016724952 VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

NOW COME, Aaron Blake Hill (hereinafter "Mr. Hill") and the North Carolina Department of Insurance (hereinafter "Department"), and hereby voluntarily and knowingly enter into the following Voluntary Settlement Agreement (hereinafter "this Agreement"):

WHEREAS, the Department has the authority and responsibility for enforcement of the insurance laws of this State, and for regulating and licensing bail bondsmen; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hill is currently licensed by the Department as a surety bail bondsman and bail bond runner; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-71-80(a)(7), the Commissioner may deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew any license under Article 71 of Chapter 58 of the North Carolina General Statutes for failure to comply with or violation of the provisions of Article 71 of Chapter 58 of the N.C. General Statutes or of any order, rule or regulation of the Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-71-80(a)(3), the Commissioner may deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew any license under Article 71 of Chapter 58 of the North Carolina General Statutes for material misstatement, misrepresentation or fraud in obtaining the license; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hill, on his August 26, 2020 license renewal application answered "No" to Question 1(b) thereon; "Are you currently charged with committing a crime (Felony, Misdemeanor and Traffic Charges) which has not been previously reported to the NCDOI?": and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hill was charged in Anson County, NC on February 10, 2020 of

Misdemeanor Engage in Taxidermy Involving Wildlife F 113-273 and Misdemeanor Fail to Keep Accurate Records for Each W 113-272; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hill's violation of N.C. Gen. Stat. § § 58-71-80 (a) (3) demonstrate a failure to comply with and/or violations of the provisions of Article 71 of Chapter 58 of the North Carolina General Statutes for which Mr. Hill's surety bail bondsman's license could be suspended or revoked; and

WHEREAS, in lieu of an administrative hearing on the matters stated herein, Mr. Hill has agreed to settle, compromise, and resolve the matters referenced in this Agreement, and the Department has agreed not to pursue additional penalties, sanctions, remedies, or restitution based on these matters against Mr. Hill; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-2-70(g), the Commissioner of Insurance and the Department have the express authority to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement with any person as to the status of the person's license or certificate or as to any civil penalty or restitution; and

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

- 1. As set forth above, Mr. Hill shall remit a civil penalty in the amount of \$500.00 to the Department. The form of payment shall be in the form of a 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. Hill shall send the civil penalty by certified mail, return receipt requested or delivered in person, to the Department simultaneously with the return of this Agreement, signed by Mr. Hill. The civil penalty and the signed Agreement must be received by the Department no later than November 23, 2020. 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 the public schools.
- 2. Mr. Hill shall obey all laws and regulations applicable to all licenses issued to him.
- 3. Mr. Hill enters into this Agreement freely and voluntarily and with knowledge of his right to have an administrative hearing on this matter. Mr. Hill understands that he may consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Agreement.
- 4. This Agreement does not in any way affect the Department's disciplinary power in any future follow-up examinations of Mr. Hill, or in any other cases or complaints involving Mr. Hill.

- 5. The parties to this Agreement agree that this Agreement shall have the full force and effect of an Order of the Commissioner. Mr. Hill understands that N. C. Gen. Stat. § 58-71-80(a)(7) provides that a surety bail bondsman's license may be revoked for violating an Order of the Commissioner.
- 6. This Voluntary Settlement Agreement, when finalized, will be a public record and is not confidential. All licenses issued by the Department to the licensee shall reflect that Regulatory Action has been taken against the licensee following the execution of this Agreement.
- The Department is free to disclose the contents of this Agreement to third parties upon request or pursuant to any law or policy providing for such disclosure. The Department, upon request, routinely provides copies of voluntary settlement agreements to all companies that have appointed the licensee.
- 7. This Settlement Agreement shall become effective when signed by Mr. Hill and the Department.

N.C. Department of Insurance

| By: Aaron Blake Hill License No. 0016724952 | By: Marty Sumner Senior Deputy Commissioner |
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| Date: 11/20/2020 | Date: Dec 3, 2020 |