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 CHRISTINA EVETTE KNIGHT LICENSE NO. 0019646436 VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

NOW COME, Christina Evette Knight (hereinafter "Ms. Knight") 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 insurance laws of this State, and for regulating and licensing bail bondsmen; 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 North Carolina General Statutes or of any order, rule or regulation of the Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-71-40 (a) and (b) provide that no person shall act in the capacity of a surety bondsman unless qualified and licensed, and the Commissioner may propound any reasonable interrogatories about the applicant's qualifications and any other matters the Commissioner considers necessary to protect the public and ascertain the qualifications of the applicant and conduct a reasonable inquiry or investigation relative to the determination of the applicant's fitness to be licensed or to continue to be licensed; and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-71-80(a) (3) provides that the Commissioner may deny, place on probation, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew a license for a material misstatement, misrepresentation or fraud in obtaining the license; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Knight applied for a surety bail bond license on August 18, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Knight answered "No" to Question 3 a) on the application: "Have you ever been convicted of a crime (Felony, Misdemeanor and Traffic convictions), whether or not adjudication was withheld (including any Prayer for Judgments "PJC")?; and

WHEREAS, on or about July 09, 2001, Ms. Knight was convicted or the traffic charge of License not in Possession, Edgecombe Co., NC (01CR7119); and

WHEREAS, on or about November 05, 2003, Ms. Knight was convicted of Misdemeanor Worthless Check, Edgecombe Co., NC (03CR52244); and

WHEREAS, Ms. Knight's violation of N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 58-71-80(a)(3) demonstrates a failure to comply with and/or a violation of the provisions of Article 71 of Chapter 58 of the North Carolina General Statutes for which Ms. Knight's surety bondsman license could be revoked, suspended or not renewed pursuant to N.C. Gen Stat. § 58-71-80(a)(7); and

WHEREAS, Ms. Knight admits to the violation set out herein; and

WHEREAS, in lieu of an administrative hearing on the matters stated herein, Ms. Knight 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 Ms. Knight; 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 Ms. Knight hereby agree to the following:

- Immediately upon her signing of this document, Ms. Knight shall pay a **civil penalty 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." Ms. Knight shall send the civil penalty by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Department simultaneously with the return of this Agreement, signed by Ms. Knight. The civil penalty and the signed Agreement must be received by the Department no later than **December 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. Ms. Knight shall obey all laws and regulations applicable to all licenses issued to her.
- 3. Ms. Knight enters into this Agreement freely and voluntarily and with knowledge of her right to have an administrative hearing on this matter. Ms. Knight understands that she 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 Ms. Knight, or in any other cases or complaints involving Ms. Knight.
- 5. The parties to this Agreement agree that this Agreement shall have the full force and effect of an Order of the Commissioner. Ms. Knight understands that N. C. Gen. Stat. § 58-71-80(a)(7) provides that a surety 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 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 Ms. Knight and the Department.

N.C. Department of Insurance

By: Christina Evette Knight License No. 0019646436

By: Marty Summer Senior Deputy Commissioner

Date: 10/19/20

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