N. C. DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE AGENT SERVICES DIVISION RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

JUL 28 2021

RECEIVED IN AGENT SERVICES A.S. – N.C.D.O.I.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF WAKE OF INSURANCE ECK NO. \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK AMT.

T. \_\_\_\_PROCESSOR

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSURE OF XERXES MULLAN LICENSE NO. 0011206915 VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

**NOW COME**, Xerxes Mullan (hereinafter "Mr. Mullan") 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 agencies and agents; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mullan currently holds a non-resident producer's license with authority for Life and Accident & Health or Sickness lines of insurance and a Variable Life and Annuity license issued by the Agent Services Division; and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-33-32(k) requires producers to report to the Commissioner any administrative action taken against the producer in another state or by another governmental agency in this State, including enforcement actions taken against the producer by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), within 30 days after the final disposition of the matter; and

WHEREAS, on September 22, 2020 FINRA, through a Letter of Acceptance, Waiver and Consent suspended Mr. Mullan for two (2) years from associating with any FINRA member in any capacity and was fined \$10,000.00 for participating in private securities transactions without his firm's knowledge or approval, a violation of FINRA Rules 3280 and 2010; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mullan did not report this administrative action to the Agent Services Division within 30 days after the final disposition of those matters as required by N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-33-32(k); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mullan admits to this violation of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-33-32(k); and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-33-26(e) requires an agent, in order to market variable life and variable annuity products, must satisfy the Commissioner that he or she has met the FINRA requirements of the Secretary of State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, such action by FINRA disqualified Mr. Mullan, among other things, from the sale of Variable Life insurance and Variable Annuity contracts; therefore, Mr. Mullan is directed to and agrees to surrender his Variable Life and Variable Annuity license as the action taken by FINRA constituted a two (2) year bar to Mr. Mullan's ability to market such contracts; 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. Mullan 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. Mullan; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in exchange for the consideration and promises and agreements set out herein, Mr. Mullan and the Agent Services Division hereby agree to the following:

- 1. Immediately upon the signing of this Agreement, Mr. Mullan shall pay a civil penalty of \$250.00 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. Mullan 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 <u>August 17, 2021</u>. 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. As set forth above in this Agreement, Mr. Mullan is directed to surrender his Variable Life and Annuity license and shall submit such surrender with his remittance of the imposed civil penalty and signed agreement.
- 3. This Agreement does not in any way affect the Agent Services Division's disciplinary power in any future examination of Mr. Mullan or in any other complaints involving Mr. Mullan.
- 4. Mr. Mullan 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. Mullan understands he may consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Agreement.
- 5. The parties to this Agreement agree that this Agreement shall have the full force and effect of an Order of the Commissioner. Mr. Mullan 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.
- 6. 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. Mullan shall reflect that Regulatory Action has been taken against him. The Agent Services Division 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 appointed the licensee.

- 7. The parties have read and understand this Agreement and agree to abide by the terms and conditions stated herein.
- 8. 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: Xerxes Mullan License No. 0011206915 By: Angela Hatchell

Deputy-Commissioner

Date: 7/22/2021.

Date: 7/29/2021