

**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 NATIONAL LINK LP
DBA NATLINK LP
LICENSE NO. 0008246044**

**VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT**

NOW COME, NATIONAL LINK LP, dba NATLINK LP) (hereinafter "NATIONAL LINK") 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 insurance agents; and

WHEREAS, NATIONAL LINK currently holds a non-resident Partnership Business Entity License with the Department; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 58-33-31(b)(2) requires business entities to designate a licensed producer (DRLP), who is a natural person, responsible for the business entity's compliance with the insurance laws and administrative rules of this State and orders of the Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 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, NATIONAL LINK entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Commonwealth of Virginia State Corporation Commission, Bureau of Insurance, effective April 16, 2020, wherein it tendered to the Treasurer of Virginia the amount of \$2,500 and waived its right to a hearing for violations of Section 38.2-1801(A) of the Code of Virginia by issuing policies submitted by a licensed agent who was not appointed with NATIONAL LINK'S

underwriter and 14 VAC 5-395-75(7) of the Commissioner's Rules Governing Settlement Agents, 14 VAC 5-395-10 *et seq.* ("Rules"), by failing, prior to March 8, 2019, to have a designated licensed producer appointed by National Link LP's title insurance company; and

WHEREAS, NATIONAL LINK failed to report this administrative action within 30 days after the final disposition of the matter as required by North Carolina insurance law; and

WHEREAS, NATIONAL LINK admits to this violation of North Carolina General Statute § 58-33-32(k); 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, NATIONAL LINK has agreed to settle, compromise, and resolve the matter referenced in this Agreement on behalf of itself, and the Department has agreed not to pursue additional penalties, sanctions, remedies, or restitution based on these matters against NATIONAL LINK; 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, NATIONAL LINK and the Department hereby agree to the following:

1. Immediately upon the signing of this Agreement, NATIONAL LINK 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." NATIONAL LINK 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 **April 30, 2021**. 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 NATIONAL LINK or in any other complaints involving NATIONAL LINK.

3. NATIONAL LINK enters into this Agreement, on behalf of itself, freely and voluntarily and with the knowledge of its right to have an administrative hearing on this matter. NATIONAL LINK understands it 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. NATIONAL LINK 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 **not** be held confidential by the Department. Following the execution of this Agreement, all licenses issued by the Department to NATIONAL LINK shall reflect that Regulatory Action has been taken against it. 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 provides 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 your business entity, 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.

**NATIONAL LINK LP
dba NATLINK LP
LICENSE NO. 0008246044**

NC. Department of Insurance


By: **Kathleen A. Krol**
President


By: **Angela Hatchell**
Deputy Commissioner

Date: _____

4-20-2021

Date: _____

4/27/2021