

BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSURE OF KELLY S. THORNBURG LICENSE NO. 0014877651

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF WAKE

VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

NOW COME, Kelly S. Thornburg (hereinafter "Mr. Thornburg") 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, Mr. Thornburg currently holds a resident producer's license with authority for Life, Variable Life and Variable Annuity contracts, and Accident & Health or Sickness lines of insurance and a Medicare Supplement Long-Term Care Insurance license issued by the Department; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 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, for using fraudulent, coercive, or dishonest practices, or demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness, or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of business in this State or elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, information made available to the Department indicated that Mr. Thornburg submitted a form in connection with an application for an annuity contract that required the signature of the applicant on which Mr. Thornburg personally signed the applicant's name, violating his insurer's policy regarding altering client forms; and

WHEREAS, such action was reflective and in violation of the provisions of North Carolina General Statute § 58-33-46(a) (8)

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, Mr. Thornburg has agreed to settle, compromise, and resolve the matters referenced in this Agreement on behalf of himself, and the Department has agreed not to pursue additional penalties, sanctions, remedies, or restitution based on these matters against Mr. Thornburg; 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. Thornburg and the Department hereby agree to the following:

- 1. Immediately upon the signing of this Agreement, Mr. Thornburg 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." Mr. Thornburg 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 November 30, 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 public schools.
- 2. This Agreement does not in any way affect the Department's disciplinary power in any future examination of Mr. Thornburg or in any other complaints involving Mr. Thornburg.
- 3. Mr. Thornburg 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. Thornburg 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. Thornburg 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 Department. Following the execution of this Agreement, all licenses issued by the Department to Mr. Thornburg 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 Department routinely provides, upon request, 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 you, 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.

N. C. Department of Insurance

By: Kelly S. Thornburg License No 0014877651	By: Angela Hatchell Deputy Commissioner
Date: 11/27/2020	Date: 12/3/2020