

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF WAKE

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSURE OF TOTAL DOLLAR MANAGEMENT EFFORT, LTD. LICENSE NO. 1000002947

VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT

NOW COMES, Total Dollar Management Effort, Ltd. (hereinafter "TDME") 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 business entities that sell, solicit, or negotiate insurance pursuant to Article 33 of Chapter 58 of the North Carolina General Statutes; and,

WHEREAS, TDME currently holds a license with the Department as a nonresident corporation (business entity); and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute §58-33-32(k) requires that within 30 days after the final disposition, any administrative action taken against the business entity in another state or by another governmental agency in this State be reported to the Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, TDME was involved in an administrative action brought against it by the Insurance Commissioner of the state of Washington, which administrative action was resolved by Consent Order on November 2, 2015 resulting in an administrative penalty of \$500 payable by TDME; and

WHEREAS, TDME did not report this action to the Department within 30 days after the final disposition of the matter as required by North Carolina General Statute §58-33-32(k), and, therefore, was in violation thereof; and

## WHEREAS, TDME admits to this violation; 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 33 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, TDME has agreed to settle, compromise, and resolve the matters referenced in this Agreement on behalf of the corporation, and the Department has agreed not to pursue additional penalties, sanctions, remedies, or restitution based on these matters against TDME; 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, TDME and the Department hereby agree on the following:

- 1. Immediately upon the signing of this Agreement, TDME shall pay a civil penalty of \$250.00 to the Department. The form of payment shall be 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". TDME 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 no later than March 31, 2016. 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 TDME or in any other complaints involving TDME.
- 3. TDME enters into this Agreement, on behalf of the corporation, freely and voluntarily and with the knowledge of its right to have an administrative hearing on this matter. TDME 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. TDME understands that N.C.G.S. §58-33-46(a)(2) provides that TDME'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, any and all licenses issued by the Department to TDME 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 routinely provides copies of voluntary settlement agreements to all companies that have appointed the licensee.
- 6. The parties have read and understand that this Agreement and agree to abide by the terms and conditions stated herein.

This the day of March, 2016.

Arthur H. Buhr

President

Total Dollar Management Effort, LTD.

License No: 1000002947

3-10-2016

Date

Angela Ford

Senior Deputy Commissioner

North Carolina Dept. of Insurance

March 21, 2016

