

# 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 JUSTIN JOSEPH VEDDER LICENSE NO. 0016183488

#### VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

**NOW COME**, Justin Joseph Vedder (hereinafter "Mr. Vedder") and the Agents Services Division of the N.C. Department of Insurance (hereinafter "Agents Services Division"), and hereby voluntarily and knowingly enter into the following Voluntary Settlement Agreement (hereinafter "this Agreement").

WHEREAS, the Agents 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. Vedder currently holds a non-resident producer's license with authority for Property and Casualty lines of insurance and a non-resident Surplus Lines license issued by the Department; 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, the Louisiana Department of Insurance effective April 01, 2021 imposed a fine in the amount of \$250.00 in an administrative proceeding against Mr. Vedder for failure to report two (2) administrative actions taken against his producer's license by the Kentucky Department of Insurance effective February 20, 2020 and September 24, 2020, respectively; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vedder did not report this administrative action to the Agents Services Division within 30 days after the final disposition of the matter as required by North Carolina General Statute § 58-33-32(k); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vedder 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, 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

WHEREAS, Mr. Vedder 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. Peebles; and

WHEREAS, the parties to this Agreement mutually wish to resolve this matter by consent 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. Vedder and the Department hereby agree to the following:

- Immediately upon the signing of this Agreement, Mr. Vedder shall pay a civil penalty of \$250.00 to the Agents 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. Vedder shall remit the civil penalty by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Agents Services Division along with a copy of this signed Agreement. The civil penalty and the signed Agreement must be received by the Department no later than <u>September</u> <u>20, 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. This Agreement does not in any way affect the Agents Services Division's disciplinary power in any future examination of Mr. Vedder or in any other complaints involving Mr. Vedder.
- 3. Mr. Vedder 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. Vedder 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. Vedder 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 Agents Services Division. Following the execution of this Agreement, all licenses issued by the Agents Services Division to Mr. Vedder shall reflect that Regulatory Action has been taken against him. The Agents 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 Agents Services Division, upon request, routinely will provide a copy of the voluntary settlement agreement to 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 Agents Services Division has issued an occupational or professional license to you, that regulator may require you to report this administrative action to it. The Agents Services Division cannot give you legal advice as to the specific reporting requirements of other state or federal regulators.

N. C. Department of Insurance Agents Services Division

By: Justin Joseph Vedder License No. 0016183488

By: Angela Hatchell Deputy Commissioner

Date: 8/30/202/

Date: 09-16.2021