

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF WAKE BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSURE OF BEVERLY J. WHITAKER LICENSE NO. 0009361168 VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

NOW COME, Beverly J. Whitaker (hereinafter "Ms. Whitaker") 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, Ms. Whitaker currently holds a non-resident producer's license with authority for Life insurance 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, Ms. Whitaker was involved in an administrative action before the Massachusetts Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation, Division of Insurance wherein a monetary penalty in the amount of \$100.00 effective March 13, 2017 was imposed for Ms. Whitaker's failure to report other state action taken against her insurance agent's license as required by Massachusetts insurance law; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Whitaker did not report the March 13, 2017 administrative action taken by the Massachusetts Division of Insurance 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, Ms. Whitaker 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, Ms. Whitaker has agreed to settle, compromise, and resolve the matter referenced in this Agreement on behalf of herself, and the Department has agreed not to pursue additional penalties, sanctions, remedies, or restitution based on these matters against Ms. Whitaker; 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, Ms. Whitaker and the Department hereby agree to the following:

- 1. Immediately upon the signing of this Agreement, Ms. Whitaker 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." Ms. Whitaker 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 <u>September 18, 2017</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 Department's disciplinary power in any future examination of Ms. Whitaker or in any other complaints involving Ms. Whitaker.
- 3. Ms. Whitaker enters into this Agreement, on behalf of herself, freely and voluntarily and with the knowledge of her right to have an administrative hearing on this matter. Ms. Whitaker understands she 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. Ms. Whitaker 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, any and all licenses issued by the Department to Ms. Whitaker shall reflect that Regulatory Action has been taken against her. 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 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.

This the 5th day of Octobe, 2017.

N. C. Department of Insurance

By: Beverly J. Whitaker License No. 0009361168

By: Hasije P Harris
Senior Deputy Commissioner
PFP Group