## 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 ALICE WOODS

VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

**NOW COME**, Alice Woods (hereinafter "Ms. Woods") and the Bail Bond Regulatory Division of the N.C. Department of Insurance (hereinafter "BBRD"), and hereby voluntarily and knowingly enter into the following Voluntary Settlement Agreement (hereinafter "this Agreement"):

WHEREAS, the BBRD has the authority and responsibility for enforcement of insurance laws of this State, and for regulating and licensing bail bondsmen; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-71-80(a)(7), the Commissioner may deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew any license under Article 71 of Chapter 58 of the North Carolina General Statutes for failure to comply with or violation of the provisions of Article 71 of Chapter 58 of the North Carolina General Statutes or of any order, rule or regulation of the Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-71-40 (a) and (b) provide that no person shall act in the capacity of a surety bondsman unless qualified and licensed, and the Commissioner may propound any reasonable interrogatories about the applicant's qualifications and any other matters the Commissioner considers necessary to protect the public and ascertain the qualifications of the applicant and conduct a reasonable inquiry or investigation relative to the determination of the applicant's fitness to be licensed or to continue to be licenses; and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-71-80(a) (3) provides that the Commissioner may deny, place on probation, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew a license for a material misstatement, misrepresentation or fraud in obtaining the license; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Woods applied for a surety bail bond license on August 17, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Woods answered "No" to Question 3a) on the application: "Have you ever been convicted of a crime (Felony, Misdemeanor and Traffic conviction, whether or not adjudication was withheld (including Prayer for Judgment "PJC")?"; and

**WHEREAS**, on or about August 01,2003, Ms. Woods was found guilty of Misdemeanor Simple Worthless Check (Hertford County File #: 03CR050572); and

WHEREAS, on or about March 24,2005, 2004, Ms. Woods was found guilty of Misdemeanor Simple Worthless Check (Northampton County File # 05CR050404); and

- WHEREAS, on or about January 23,2006, Ms. Woods was found guilty of Misdemeanor Simple Worthless Check, (Hertford County File # 05CR051067); and
- WHEREAS, on or about February 09,2007, Ms. Woods was found guilty of Misdemeanor Simple Worthless Check Traffic, (Hertford County File # 04CR051084); and
- WHEREAS, on or about June 15,2009, Ms. Woods was found guilty of Misdemeanor Simple Worthless Check, (Hertford County File # 09CR050521); and
- WHEREAS, on or about June 25,2009, Ms. Woods was found guilty of Misdemeanor Simple Worthless Check Traffic, (Hertford County File # 08CR051402); and
- WHEREAS, on or about July 06,2009, Ms. Woods was found guilty of Misdemeanor Simple Worthless Check, (Hertford County File # 05CR051101); and
- WHEREAS, the Department denied Ms. Woods's application on or about March 21,2022 based on violations of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-71-80(a) (3), and Ms. Woods requested a review on March 23,2022 which was scheduled for and held on March 31,2022; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-2-70(g), the Commissioner of Insurance and the BBRD 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, in lieu of an administrative hearing on the matters stated herein, Ms. Woods has agreed to settle, compromise, and resolve the matters referenced in this Agreement, and the BBRD has agreed not to pursue additional civil ramifications; including penalties, sanctions, remedies, or restitution based on these matters against Ms. Woods; and
- WHEREAS, Ms. Woods agreed on April 28,2022 to execute a Voluntary Settlement Agreement and pay a fine in the amount of \$500.00 as a condition to being licensed as a surety bail bondsman; and
- **NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the promises and agreements set out herein, the Department and Ms. Woods hereby agree to the following:
  - Immediately upon her signing of this document, Ms. Woods shall pay a civil penalty of \$500.00 to the Department. The form of payment shall be in the form of a 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. Woods shall send the civil penalty by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the BBRD simultaneously with the return of this Agreement, signed by Ms. Woods. The civil penalty and the signed Agreement must be received by the Department no later than June 13,2022. 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 the public schools.
  - The Department has reconsidered its denial of Ms. Woods's application for licensure as a
    surety bail bondsman and will issue Ms. Woods a surety bondsman's license upon receipt
    of Ms. Woods's execution of this Voluntary Settlement Agreement and return to the

Department accompanied with payment of the civil penalty set forth above in the amount of \$500.00; and

- 3. Ms. Woods shall obey all laws and regulations applicable to all licenses issued to her.
- 4. Ms. Woods enters into this Agreement freely and voluntarily and with knowledge of her right to have an administrative hearing on this matter. Ms. Woods understands that she may consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Agreement.
- This Agreement does not in any way affect the Department's disciplinary power in any future follow-up examinations of Ms. Woods, or in any other cases or complaints involving Ms. Woods.
- 6. The parties to this Agreement agree that this Agreement shall have the full force and effect of an Order of the Commissioner. Ms. Woods understands that N. C. Gen. Stat. § 58-71-80(a)(7) provides that a surety bondsman's license may be revoked for violating an Order of the Commissioner.
- 7. This Voluntary Settlement Agreement, when finalized, will be a public record and is not confidential. All licenses issued by the Department to the licensee shall reflect that Regulatory Action has been taken against the licensee following the execution of this Agreement. The Department is free to disclose the contents of this Agreement to third parties upon request or pursuant to any law or policy providing for such disclosure.
- 8. This Settlement Agreement shall become effective when signed by Ms. Woods and the Department.

N.C. Department of Insurance Bail Bond Regulatory Division

By: Alice Woods Applicant		
	By: Marty Sumner Senior Deputy Commissioner	
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Date: 5/23/2022