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STATE OF ARIZONA
Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions
FILED September 2, 2022 by AS

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STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of:

ACEDO, GREG PAUL

(National Producer No. 7943531)

Respondent.

No. 22A-045-INS

CONSENT ORDER

The Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions ("Department") has received evidence that **Greg Paul Acedo** ("**Respondent**") violated provisions of Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S.") Title 20. Respondent wishes to resolve this matter without the commencement of formal proceedings, and admits the following Findings of Fact are true, and consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent was at all material times licensed as an Arizona resident insurance producer, National Producer Number 7943531, with lines of authority in accident and health or sickness, casualty, life, property, and variable life and variable annuity insurance. The Department first licensed Respondent on December 1, 2003. Respondent's license is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2025.
- 2. Respondent's business and mailing address of record with the Department is 8888 E Raintree Dr., Ste. 300, Scottsdale, Arizona 85260-3968. Respondent's business email addresses of record with the Department are greg.acedeo.pkjh@statefarm.com, and gagacedo@gmail.com.

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- 3. On or about September 3, 2021, the Department received a case referral from State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company ("State Farm") alleging misappropriation of consumers' premium payments by Respondent.
 - 4. The Department commenced an investigation into this matter.
- 5. State Farm's investigation, in part, compared policyholder premiums' total amounts to the amounts Respondent collected and deposited in his Premium Fund Account ("PFA") according to the monthly bank statement(s). A review of the bank statement(s) revealed several negative balances carried over each month during the time frame March 2017 through January 2018. State Farm found that the negative balances appeared to be a result of multiple overdraft fees primarily due to late deposits of the consumers' premium payments received by Respondent. Some of the premium payments were deposited 8 and 14 days after the receipt. Respondent ultimately covered the negative balances by fully reimbursing the PFA. During an interview with State Farm's investigator, Respondent admitted that he used policyholders' premium payments for reasons other than to pay customers' premiums. Respondent further admitted that the delay between receiving the funds and when the actual deposits were made allowed Respondent to use the cash premiums as a short-term loan for personal benefit.
- 6. The Department requested Respondent's statement in regards to State Farm's investigation. On February 24, 2022, Respondent, by email, respondent to the Department's request and denied that any misappropriation ever occurred and that no money was ever used for his personal benefit.
 - 7. On July 20, 2022, Respondent appeared for an Examination Under Oath

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("EUO") with the Department Investigator. During the EUO Respondent affirmed his prior statement to the Department and indicated that the funds were used for overhead office expenses but were thereafter promptly deposited in PFA. Respondent stated that the regrets his actions and has not since had any similar incidents.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 8. The Director has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 9. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes a violation of Title 20 or any rule, subpoena or order of the Director. A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(2).
- 10. Improperly withholding, misappropriating or converting any monies or properties received in the course of doing insurance business. A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(4).
- 11. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes using fraudulent, coercive or dishonest practice, or demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of business in this state or elsewhere. A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(8).
- 12. Grounds exist for the Director to suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew Respondent's insurance license pursuant to A.R.S. § 20-295(A).
- 13. In addition to or instead of any suspension, revocation or refusal to renew a license pursuant to the A.R.S. § 20-295 section, after a hearing, the director may impose a civil penalty of not more than two hundred fifty dollars for each unintentional failure or violation, up to an aggregate civil penalty of two thousand five hundred dollars: A.R.S. § 20-295(F)(1).

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

Greg Acedo shall pay immediately pay the civil money penalty in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

Effective this 2nd day of September , 2022.

Evan G. Daniels, Director

Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions

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CONSENT TO ORDER

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- 1. Respondent acknowledges that it has been served with a copy of the foregoing Consent Order in the above-referenced matter, has read it, is aware of its right to an administrative hearing in this matter and has knowingly and voluntarily waived that right.
- 2. Respondent accepts the personal and subject matter jurisdiction of the Department over it in this matter.
- 3. Respondent acknowledges that no promise of any kind or nature has been made to induce it to sign the Consent to Order and it has done so knowingly and voluntarily.
- Respondent acknowledges and agrees that the acceptance of this Consent to Order by the Director is solely to settle this matter and does not preclude the Department from instituting other proceedings as may be appropriate now or in the future. Furthermore, and notwithstanding any language in this Consent Order, this Consent Order does not preclude in any way any other state agency or officer or political subdivision of this state from instituting proceedings, investigating claims, or taking legal action as may be appropriate now or in the future relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent, including but not limited to violations of Arizona's Consumer Fraud Act. Respondent acknowledges that, other than with respect to the Department, this Consent Order makes no representations, implied or otherwise, about the views or intended actions of any other state agency or officer or political subdivision of the state relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent.
- 5. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that failure to correct the violations set forth above in this Consent Order, or any repeat findings of the above violations in the

future, can result in disciplinary action which may include a greater civil money penalty and suspension or revocation of its license.

- 6. Respondent waives all rights to seek an administrative or judicial review or otherwise to challenge or contest the validity of this Consent Order and its accompanying parts before any court of competent jurisdiction.
- 7. Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Order is an administrative action that the Department will report to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC). Respondent further acknowledges that it must report this administrative action to any and all states in which Respondent holds an insurance license and must disclose this administrative action on any license application.

8/18/2022 DATE

GREG ACEDO

(NATIONAL PRODUCER NO. 7943531)

Ins acedo

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