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J-001445-21

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SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
LAW DIVISION - PASSAIC COUNTY
DOCKET NO. PAS-L-001516-20

MARLENE CARIDE,)
COMMISSIONER OF THE)
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF)
BANKING AND INSURANCE,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
v.)
)
COHEN EASTON,)
)
Defendant.)

Civil Action

**ORDER OF FINAL JUDGMENT
BY DEFAULT**

THIS MATTER HAVING BEEN opened to the Court on the application of Gurbir S. Grewal, Attorney General of New Jersey, (by Brian R. Fitzgerald, Deputy Attorney General, appearing), attorney for Plaintiff, Marlene Caride, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance on a motion for judgment by default; and

Defendant, Cohen Easton ("Defendant"), having been duly served with a copy of the Summons and Complaint in the above-

captioned action, and default having been entered for Defendant's failure to appear, answer, or otherwise defend;

This Court now finds that Defendant (a) made written statements in support of a claim for payment pursuant to an insurance policy knowing that the statements contained false or misleading information concerning material facts, and (b) made an oral statement that was intended to be presented to an insurance company in support of a claim for payment pursuant to an insurance policy knowing that the statement contained false information concerning material facts, both in violation of the New Jersey Insurance Fraud Prevention Act, N.J.S.A. 17:33A-1 to -30 ("Fraud Act").

Specifically, Defendant (a) reported to two insurance companies in support of a personal injury protection ("PIP") claim that he was injured in a motor vehicle accident while a passenger in the vehicle, when in fact he had not been in the vehicle, in violation of N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4(a)(1), and (b) told a police officer at the scene of the accident that he had been a passenger in the vehicle at the time of the accident when in fact he had not been in the vehicle, in violation of N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4(a)(2).

FINAL JUDGMENT is on this **8th** day of **January** **2021**,
~~2020~~,
entered in the amount of \$14,389.00 against Defendant and in favor of Plaintiff, Marlene Caride, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance. This amount consists of

\$10,000.00 in civil penalties for two (2) violations of the Fraud Act pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5(b); attorneys' fees of \$3,324.00 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5(b); cost of service in the amount of \$65.00 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5; and a statutory fraud surcharge of \$1,000.00 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5.1.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:6A-15, Defendant's driving privileges shall be suspended for a period of one (1) year from the date of this judgment.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that a copy of this Order be served upon all parties within 7 days of the date of receipt.

/s/ Vicki A. Citrino

HON. VICKI A. CITRINO , J.S.C.

This motion was:

_____ Opposed
 _____ Unopposed