STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND INSURANCE BUREAU OF FRAUD DETERRENCE

22C-015N



CONSENT ORDER NO. 20-53628-09

In the Matter of)	CONSENT ORDER
Ada	am N. Mhrez)	
900	01 Durham Ave., Apt. #1)	
No	rth Bergen, NJ 07047)	
and	d		
The	e People Call Center, LLC)	
310	0 65 th St., #2)	
We	est New York, NJ 07093)	
Respondents)	

THIS MATTER having been opened by the Bureau of Fraud Deterrence, Department of Banking and Insurance of the State of New Jersey, upon information indicating that Respondents, Adam N. Mhrez, and The People Call Center, LLC, both conducting business at 310 65th Street, #2, West New York, New Jersey, may have violated the provisions of N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4; and

WHEREAS, Respondents, Adam Mhrez, and The People Call Center, LLC, did knowingly provide materially false and misleading information to Progressive Insurance Company in pursuit of an auto property damage claim dated September 21, 2020. Specifically, Mr. Mhrez, and The People Call Center, LLC, fabricated the date and time of the

loss which occurred before the policy inception as well as the true driver of their insured vehicle at the time of loss; and

WHEREAS, the above conduct constitutes multiple violations of N.J.S.A. 17:33A-1 et seq., and any future violation of N.J.S.A. 17:33A-1 et seq., shall be considered to be a subsequent offense; and

WHEREAS, Respondents have been informed that they have a right to notice and to request a hearing, in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq.), on the violation alleged herein before a civil and administrative penalty is imposed; and

WHEREAS, Respondents understand these rights and have voluntarily waived the right to notice and to a formal legal proceeding in this matter; and

WHEREAS, Respondents consent to pay, jointly and severally, a civil administrative penalty in the amount of \$3,500.00, and surcharge in the amount of \$175.00 against Adam N. Mhrez, Individually, and surcharge in the amount of \$175.00 against The People Call Center, LLC, Individually, the total amount of \$3,850.00 being due immediately by certified check, bank check or money order made payable to the "Commissioner, Department of Banking and Insurance". This signed order and the payment shall be returned to Managing Investigator, Ronald Dellanno, Bureau of Fraud Deterrence, Department of Banking and Insurance, One Apollo Drive, Whippany, New Jersey 07981; and

WHEREAS, the penalties of this Consent Order are imposed pursuant to the police powers of the State of New Jersey for the enforcement of the law and the protection of the public health, safety and welfare, and are not intended to constitute debts which may be limited or discharged in a bankruptcy proceeding; and

IT FURTHER APPEARING that the matter is suitable for resolution upon the consent of the parties and that Respondents and the Bureau of Fraud Deterrence desire to terminate this matter without further hearing or litigation, and for further good cause appearing;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ON THIS 2 day of March, 2023, ORDERED AND AGREED as follows:

1. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5(c), civil administrative penalty of \$3,500.00 is imposed on Respondents, Adam N. Mhrez, and The People Call Center, LLC, jointly and severally.

- 2. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5.1, Respondents shall each pay to the Commissioner, Department of Banking and Insurance, a surcharge equal to five (5%) percent of the settlement amount, which is \$175.00 each, such amount to be in addition to the civil administrative penalty.
- 3. This Consent Order shall not be binding until it is signed by the Chief of Investigations, Bureau of Fraud Deterrence.
- Respondents consent to the entry of this final administrative order. Respondents understand that this final administrative order may be docketed with the Clerk of the Superior Court as provided in the Penalty Enforcement Law (N.J.S.A. 2A:58-10 et seq.).

MARLENE CARIDE COMMISSIONER DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND INSURANCE

RICHARD BESSER CHIEF OF INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU OF FRAUD DETERRENCE

CONSENTED TO AS TO FORM, CONTENT

AND/ENTRY OF/ORDER:

Mhrez, Respondent

The People Call Center, LLC, Respondent

Ádam N. Mhrez

 $\frac{3/2/23}{\text{Dated:}}$