

246-1485

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND INSURANCE
BUREAU OF FRAUD DETERRENCE**



CONSENT ORDER NO. 24-51267-04

In the Matter of)	CONSENT ORDER
Melissa Blount)	
2282 Coronado Avenue)	
Vineland, NJ 08360)	
Respondent.)	

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 Respondent, Melissa Blount, currently residing at 2282 Coronado Avenue, Vineland, New Jersey 08360, may have violated the provisions of N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4; and

WHEREAS, Respondent, Melissa Blount, did knowingly provide materially false information on an automobile insurance claim dated January 30, 2024, and in a subsequent conversation on February 1, 2024, with Progressive Group of Insurance Companies, by falsely claiming her vehicle was damaged on January 30, 2024, after coverage was added to her policy, when, in fact, the loss occurred prior to the addition of glass coverage; and

WHEREAS, the above conduct constitutes a violation 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 second offense; and

WHEREAS, Respondent has been informed that she has 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, Respondent understands these rights and has voluntarily waived the right to notice and to a formal legal proceeding in this matter; and

WHEREAS, Respondent consents to pay a civil administrative penalty in the amount of \$1,500.00, and surcharge in the amount of \$75.00, the total amount of \$1,575.00 being due immediately by certified check, bank check or money order made payable to the "Acting Commissioner, Department of Banking and Insurance". This signed order and the payment shall

be returned to Managing Investigator, Michelle Moffett, Bureau of Fraud Deterrence, Department of Banking and Insurance, Five Executive Campus, Suite 205, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002; 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 Respondent 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 23rd day of July, 2024,

ORDERED AND AGREED as follows:

1. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5(c), civil administrative penalty of \$1,500.00 is imposed on Respondent, Melissa Blount.
2. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5.1, Respondent shall pay to the Acting Commissioner, Department of Banking and Insurance, a surcharge equal to five (5%) percent of the settlement amount, which is \$75.00, 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 Assistant Commissioner, Bureau of Fraud Deterrence.
4. Respondent consents to the entry of this final administrative order. Respondent understands 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:58-1 et seq.).

JUSTIN ZIMMERMAN
ACTING COMMISSIONER
DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND INSURANCE

By: Richard Better
RICHARD BESSER
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
BUREAU OF FRAUD DETERRENCE

CONSENTED TO AS TO FORM, CONTENT
AND ENTRY OF ORDER:

Melissa Blount
Melissa Blount, Respondent

Dated: 7/13/2024