## STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND INSURANCE

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## IN THE MATTER OF:

Proceedings by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance, State of New Jersey, to fine the insurance license of, Dennise A. Rodriguez, Reference No. 1594065

CONSENT ORDER

To: Dennise A. Rodriguez 220 Park Ave APT 5D Hammonton, NJ 08037-1456

This matter, having been opened by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance ("Commissioner"), State of New Jersey, upon information that Dennise A. Rodriguez ("Respondent"), currently licensed as a resident insurance producer, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-32(a), may have violated various provisions of the insurance laws of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Respondent is subject to the provisions of the New Jersey Insurance Producer Licensing Act of 2001, N.J.S.A. 17:22A-26 to -48 (the "Producer Act"), the regulations governing Insurance Producer Standards of Conduct, N.J.A.C. 11:17A-1.1 to 11:17D-2.8, and the New Jersey Insurance Fraud Prevention Act, N.J.S.A. 17:33A-1 to -30 (the "Fraud Act"); and WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40(a), the Commissioner may place on probation, suspend, revoke or refuse to renew an insurance producer's license, and may levy a civil penalty for a violation of the Producer Act; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40(a)(2), an insurance producer shall not violate any insurance law, regulation, subpoena or order of the Commissioner or of another state's insurance regulator; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40(a)(5), an insurance producer shall not intentionally misrepresent the terms of an actual or proposed insurance contract, policy or application for insurance; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40(a)(7), an insurance producer shall not have admitted or been found to have committed any insurance unfair trade practice or fraud; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40(a)(8), an insurance producer shall not use fraudulent, coercive or dishonest practices, or demonstrate incompetence, untrustworthiness or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of insurance business in this State or elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40(a)(16), an insurance producer shall not commit any fraudulent act; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4(a)(4)(b), no person shall prepare or make any written or oral statement, intended to be presented to any insurance company or producer for the purpose of obtaining an insurance policy, knowing that the statement contains any false or misleading information concerning any fact or thing material to an insurance application or contract; and

WHEREAS, the Respondent has been licensed as a resident insurance producer since September 28, 2015; and WHEREAS on December 9, 2015, Respondent submitted an application for personal auto insurance to GEICO Indemnity Company (GEICO) without disclosing all resident drivers, in violation of N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40(a) (2), (5), (7), (8) and (16); and

WHEREAS on November 9, 2020, Respondent did provide false and misleading information to Progressive Insurance Company when she failed to disclose a household member and operator of an insured policy vehicle on her application for insurance, in violation of N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40(a)(2), (5), (7), (8) and (16) and N.J.S.A 17:33A-4(a)(4)(b); and

WHEREAS, Respondent:

1) Has admitted responsibility for the aforementioned violations;

 Has cooperated with the investigation conducted by the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance ("Department"); and

WHEREAS, cause does exist under N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40 and N.J.S.A. 17:22A-45(c) and N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5(c) to impose a civil penalty; and

WHEREAS, Respondent has waived the right to a hearing on the aforementioned violations and consented to the payment of a fine in the amount of twelve thousand five hundred dollars (\$12,500.00) for violations of the Producer Act and a payment of a fine in the amount of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) and a surcharge of one hundred twenty five dollars (\$125) for violations of the Fraud Act; and

WHEREAS, this matter should be resolved upon the consent of the Parties without resort to a formal hearing;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS on this 13th day of June , 2023 ORDERED AND AGREED, that the Respondent will pay a fine totaling \$15,125.00 to the Department; and IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED, that said fine shall be paid by certified check, cashier's check or money order made payable to the "State of New Jersey, General Treasury," which shall be paid upon execution of this Consent Order by Respondent; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED that the signed Consent Order, together with the fine payment of \$15,125.00, shall be remitted to:

New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance Attention: Virgil Dowtin - Chief of Investigations 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Consumer Protection Services, Enforcement P. O. Box 329 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-329

and;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED, that in the event full payment of the civil penalty is not made in accordance with this Order, the Commissioner may exercise any and all remedies available by law, including but not limited to, recovery of any unpaid penalties in summary proceedings, in accordance with the penalty enforcement law, N.J.S.A. 2A:58-10 to 12; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED, that the provisions of this Consent Order represent a final agency decision and constitute a final resolution of the violations contained herein; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED, that the Respondent shall cease and desist engaging in the conduct that gave rise to this Consent Order.

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Marlene Caride Commissioner

Consented to as to Form, Entry and Content: IN By: Dennise Rødriguez 25 23

Date: