

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND INSURANCE

IN THE MATTER OF:

Proceedings by the Commissioner of)	
Banking and Insurance, State of New)	
Jersey, to fine, suspend, and/or)	CONSENT ORDER
revoke the insurance license of)	
Jonas Knopf, Reference No. 8035664.)	

TO: Jonas Knopf
1411 Ardenwood Avenue
Lakewood, New Jersey 08701

THIS MATTER, having been opened by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance ("Commissioner"), State of New Jersey, upon information that Jonas Knopf ("Respondent"), may have violated various provisions of the insurance laws of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Respondent was formerly licensed as a resident individual insurance producer in the State of New Jersey, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-32(a), until June 30, 2022, when his license expired; 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 ("Producer Act"), the Producer Licensing regulations,

N.J.S.A. 11:17-1.1 to -2.17, and the regulations governing Insurance Producer Standards of Conduct, N.J.A.C. 11:17A-1.1 to 11:17D-2.8; 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)(6), an insurance producer shall not have been convicted of a felony or crime of the fourth degree or higher; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40(a)(18), an insurance producer shall notify the Commissioner within 30 days of his conviction of any crime, indictment or the filing of any formal criminal charges, or the suspension or revocation of any insurance license or authority by a state other than New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-47(b), an insurance producer shall, within 30 days of the initial pretrial hearing date, report to the Commissioner any criminal prosecution of the producer taken in any jurisdiction. The report shall include a copy of the initial complaint filed, the order resulting from the hearing and any other relevant legal documents; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40(d), the Commissioner shall retain the authority to enforce the provisions of and impose any penalty or remedy authorized by the Producer Act and Title 17

of the Revised Statutes or Title 17B of the New Jersey Statutes against any person who is under investigation for or charged with a violation of the Producer Act or Title 17 of the Revised Statutes of Title 17B of the New Jersey Statutes even if the person's license or registration has been surrendered or has lapsed by operation of law; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40(a), the Commissioner may place on probation, suspend, revoke or refuse to issue or renew an insurance producer's license for violating the Producer Act; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-45(c), any person violating the Producer Act is subject to a penalty not exceeding \$5,000.00 for the first offense and not exceeding \$10,000.00 for each subsequent offense; additionally, the Commissioner may order restitution of moneys owed any person and reimbursement of costs of the investigation and prosecution; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner issued Order to Show Cause E22-51 ("OTSC E22-51") on June 20, 2022, alleging violations of New Jersey insurance laws. Specifically, Count One alleged violations of N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40(a)(2), (5), (6), (7), (8), (16), and (17), Count Two alleged violations of N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40(a)(2), (6), (7), (8) and (18), and Count Three alleged violations of N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40(a)(2) and (8), and N.J.A.C. 11:17-2.8(a) and (c); and

WHEREAS, Respondent was given notice of the allegations in OTSC E22-51 and an opportunity to contest them at a hearing; and

WHEREAS, on or about September 23, 2022, Respondent filed a Request for Hearing, and this matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law as a contested matter; and

WHEREAS, Respondent admits and takes responsibility for:

(1) violating N.J.S.A. 17:22-40(a)(2) and (6), as alleged in Count I of OTSC E22-51, to the extent that on November 16, 2021, the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey accepted Respondent's conditional guilty plea to an Information filed by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey on April 19, 2021, charging Respondent with violating 18 U.S.C. § 1035; and

(2) violating N.J.S.A. 17:22(a)(2) and (18), as alleged in Count II of OTSC E22-51, to the extent that, on or before January 16, 2019, Respondent did not notify the Commissioner of the unsealing of a criminal complaint against him in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey on December 17, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Respondent denies the remaining allegations in OTSC E22-51, except as specifically admitted above;

WHEREAS, good cause exists to enter into this Consent Order, to revoke Respondent's producer license under N.J.S.A. 17A:40(a), and to impose a civil penalty under N.J.S.A. 17A:45(c); and

WHEREAS, this matter is being resolved upon the consent of the parties without resort to a formal hearing;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS on this 14th day of November, 2024,

IT IS ORDERED AND AGREED, that Respondent shall pay the sum of \$15,000.00 in civil penalties to the Department of Banking and Insurance for violating the Producer Act, under N.J.S.A. 17:22A-45(c); and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED, that any future violation of the Act shall be considered a subsequent violation; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED, that Respondent voluntarily agrees that his producer license is REVOKED; and

IT IS ORDERED AND AGREED, that Respondent shall pay the sum of \$1,712.50 in investigative costs to the Department of Banking and Insurance, under N.J.S.A. 17:22A-45(c); and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED, that the \$16,712.50 total shall be paid by wire transfer, certified check, cashier's check or money order made payable to the "**Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance**" and the full amount shall be paid immediately upon execution of this Consent Order by Respondent; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED, that this signed Consent Order, together with the payment of \$16,712.50, shall be remitted to:

Nicholas Kant, Deputy Attorney General
State of New Jersey, Division of Law
R.J. Hughes Justice Complex
25 Market Street
P.O. Box 117
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED, that Respondent shall cease and desist engaging in the conduct that gave rise to this Consent Order and from any future violation of the Producer Act; and

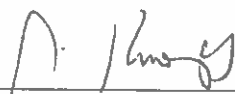
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED, that the provisions of this Consent Order represent a final agency decision and constitute final resolution of the violations contained herein.



Justin Zimmerman
Commissioner

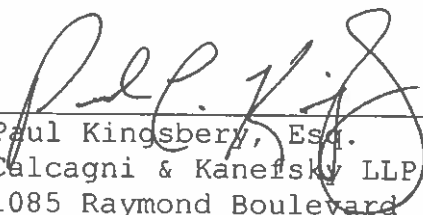
Consented to as to
Form, Content and
Entry:

Date: OCTOBER 24, 2024



Jonas Knopf
Respondent

Date: November 1, 2024



Paul Kingsbery, Esq.
Calcagni & Kanefsky LLP
1085 Raymond Boulevard
14th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102
Counsel for Respondent

MATTHEW J. PLATKIN
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY
Attorney for Petitioner

11/4/2024
Date: _____

/s/ Nicholas Kant

Nicholas Kant
Deputy Attorney General