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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation
DIVISION OF INSURANCE

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COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

December 10, 2015

Charles Max Ams
Finn & Stone, Inc.
377 Center Hill
P.O. Box 1210
Manchester Center, VT 05255

RE: Finn & Stone, Inc. - SIU Investigation Case No. 9159

Dear Mr. Ams:

I represent the Massachusetts Division of Insurance (“Division”) with regard to the above-captioned investigation. The Division has cause to believe that Finn & Stone, Inc. (“F&S”) violated the Massachusetts insurance laws as set forth below.

According to Division licensing records, F&S allowed its Massachusetts business entity insurance producer license to lapse on March 3, 2015 and sold insurance in Massachusetts from that time until a new business entity insurance producer license was processed on August 25, 2015. The Division alleges that F&S wrote or renewed nine Massachusetts insurance policies during the unlicensed period, resulting in premiums of \$9611.00 and commissions of \$1549.25. F&S informed the Division that its license lapsed due to an oversight.

The Division alleges that F&S committed at least nine violations of M.G.L. c.175, § 175. The penalty for each violation is a fine of not less than ten nor more than one hundred dollars. The Division also alleges that each violation of M.G.L. c. 175, § 175 is a violation of M.G.L. c. 175, §162R(a)(2). The penalty for each violation of M.G.L. c. 175, § 162R(a)(2) is a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 pursuant to M.G.L. c. 176D, § 7 and having the Agency’s Massachusetts business entity insurance producer license placed on probation, suspended or revoked.

The Division is authorized to issue an order requiring F&S to show cause why it should not be made to cease and desist from the above-alleged conduct. If, after a public hearing, the Commissioner of Insurance finds that F&S did commit the alleged violations, F&S may be liable for fines up to the amounts listed above and having its Massachusetts business entity insurance producer license placed on probation, suspended or revoked.

The Division proposes to resolve this matter through a settlement if F&S agrees to waive the right to a public hearing, agrees to cease and desist from the above-alleged conduct, and to pay a fine of **\$450.00**. If F&S chooses to accept the Division's offer, please have an authorized individual sign this settlement letter where indicated below, and return it to my attention along with a check made payable to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on or before **January 4, 2016**

The Division considers the acceptance of this settlement to constitute a reportable administrative event which should be included on F&S's next Massachusetts license renewal application. This event may also need to be reported to any other state in which F&S is licensed. This Agreement shall be construed under and governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

If this matter is not resolved by **January 4, 2016**, the Division will file its Order to Show Cause and will notify F&S of the hearing date in accordance with applicable statutory notice requirements and procedures.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact me at (617) 521-7364.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Thompson
Counsel to the Commissioner
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Insurance
1000 Washington Street, Suite 810
Boston, Massachusetts 02118

Signed: Authorized Representative of:
Finn & Stone, Inc.

By: Mary Ellen Thompson
Counsel to the Commissioner

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____