

Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation DIVISION OF INSURANCE 1000 Washington Street • Suite 810 • Boston, MA 02118-6200

1000 Washington Street • Suite 810 • Boston, MA 02118-6200 (617) 521-7794 • FAX (617) 521-7475 http://www.mass.gov/doi

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

KARYN E. POLITO

JAY ASH SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

> JOHN C. CHAPMAN UNDERSECRETARY

GARY D. ANDERSON ACTING COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

May 31, 2017

Desiree Wendell 40771 Fenian Way North Branch, MN 55056

RE:

Desiree Wendell - Massachusetts License No. 1980097

SIU Investigation No. 9358

VIA E-MAIL (Desludwig@hotmail.com)

Dear Ms. Wendell:

I represent the Massachusetts Division of Insurance ("Division") with regard to the above-captioned investigation. Pursuant to an investigation conducted by the Division's Special Investigations Unit, the Division has cause to believe that you violated the Massachusetts insurance laws set forth below by the conduct detailed in this settlement letter.

This case was opened on November 25, 2016, after the Division learned that you were the subject of an administrative action initiated by the State of Minnesota Commissioner of Commerce. On or about October 20, 2010, you entered into a Consent Agreement to resolve the matter. On or about May 5, 2015, you submitted an application for licensure to the Division, which asked whether you had ever been involved in . . . an administrative proceeding. You answered 'No' in response to this question.

The conduct described above is evidence of the following violations:

M.G.L. c. 175, \S 162R (a)(1) . . . [t]he commissioner may place on probation, suspend, revoke or refuse to issue or renew an insurance producer's license or may levy a civil penalty for . . . providing incorrect, misleading, incomplete or materially untrue information in the license application. Additionally, a violation is punishable by a fine up to one thousand dollars. M.G.L. c. 176D, \S 7.

M.G.L. c. 175, § 162R (a)(3) . . . [t]he commissioner may place on probation, suspend, revoke or refuse to issue or renew an insurance producer's license or may levy a civil penalty for . . . obtaining or attempting to obtain a license through misrepresentation or fraud. Additionally, a violation is punishable by a fine up to one thousand dollars. M.G.L. c. 176D, § 7.

M.G.L. c. 175, § 162R (a)(8) . . . [t]he commissioner may place on probation, suspend, revoke or refuse to issue or renew an insurance producer's license or may levy a civil penalty for . . . using fraudulent, coercive

or dishonest practices in the conduct of business. Additionally, a violation is punishable by a fine up to one thousand dollars. M.G.L. c. 176D, § 7.

The Division is authorized to issue an order requiring you to show cause as to why you should not be made to cease and desist from the above alleged conduct. If, after a public hearing, the Commissioner of Insurance finds that you did commit the alleged violations, he may impose a fine up to the amounts listed above and order that your Massachusetts Insurance Producer License be placed on probation, suspended or revoked.

The Division proposes to resolve this matter through a settlement if you agree to waive the right to a public hearing, agree to cease and desist from the above-alleged conduct, agree to the suspension of your Massachusetts non-resident insurance producer license until such time as proof of holding a resident insurance producer license is provided to the undersigned, and agree to pay a **fine of \$100.00**. If you choose to accept the Division's offer, please have an authorized individual sign this settlement letter where provided below and return it to my attention along with a check made payable to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, no later than **June 2, 2017**.

The Division considers the acceptance of this settlement to constitute a reportable administrative event which should be included on your next Massachusetts producer license renewal application. You also may be required to report this action in other jurisdictions where you hold an insurance producer license. This Agreement shall be construed under and governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Although this correspondence does not constitute the required statutory notice of a public hearing, if this matter is not resolved by **June 2, 2017**, the Division intends to file its Order to Show Cause and will notify you of the hearing date.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, I may be reached at (617) 521-7471 or Scott.Peary@state.ma.us.

Sincerely,

Scott J. Peary Chief Enforcement Counsel

Enclosure



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

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CHARLES D. BAKER GOVERNOR

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> JOHN C. CHAPMAN UNDERSECRETARY

GARY D. ANDERSON ACTING COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement ("Agreement") is made by and between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Division of Insurance ("Division"), and Desiree Wendell ("Wendell") licensed as an insurance producer licensed under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts ("Commonwealth") and with an address of 40771 Fenian Way, North Branch, MN 55056.

WHEREAS, Wendell was licensed by the Division as an insurance producer pursuant to M.G.L. c. 175, § 162H et seq.;

WHEREAS, an insurance producer licensed in the Commonwealth must uphold the standards in M.G.L. c. 175, § 162H et seq. and must comply with the Commonwealth's insurance laws, including without limitation, those set forth in M.G.L. c. 175 & M.G.L. c. 176D; the Code of Massachusetts Regulations; and any other regulatory requirements; each of which give the Commissioner of Insurance review, approval, and enforcement authority over licensees;

WHEREAS, the Division has conducted an investigation, Special Investigation Number 9358, and contends that the acts and conduct of Wendell as set forth in the Division's correspondence dated May 31, 2017, a copy of which is attached hereto, constitute grounds for revocation of Wendell's insurance license and the imposition of fines;

WHEREAS, Wendell is aware of her rights to notice and to an administrative hearing with respect to the alleged violations of Massachusetts insurance laws in these matters, and hereby waives those rights.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and the covenants, warranties, representations, and agreements contained herein, it is mutually agreed as follows:

1. Wendell agrees to immediately cease and desist from the conduct outlined in the Division's May 31, 2017 correspondence.

2. Wendell agrees to pay a \$100.00 fine by June 2, 2017. Such check shall be made payable to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and returned, along with an original signed version of the instant settlement agreement, to:

Massachusetts Division of Insurance C/O Scott Peary, Chief Enforcement Counsel 1000 Washington Street, Suite 810 Boston, MA 02118

- 3. Except as expressly set forth in this Agreement, the failure of the Division at any time to require strict performance by Wendell of any terms, provisions, or conditions hereof shall in no way affect the right thereafter to enforce the same, nor shall the waiver by the Division of any breach of any of the terms, provisions, and conditions hereof be construed or deemed a waiver of any succeeding breach of any term, provision, or condition thereof.
- 4. In the event that the Division finds that there has been a breach of any provision of this Agreement, the Division may, in its discretion, pursue any and all legal remedies permitted by the Massachusetts insurance laws as well as any other appropriate law of the Commonwealth.
- 5. The provisions of this Agreement may be amended, modified, or expanded solely in writing by joint consent of the Division and Wendell.

SIGNED:

Desiree Wendell

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DAJES

Division of Insurance

Scott Peary

Chief Enforcement Counsel

Dated: 5.31.17 Dated: May 31, 2017