

KARYN E. POLITO

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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

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

> JAY ASH SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

> > JOHN C. CHAPMAN UNDERSECRETARY

GARY D. ANDERSON ACTING COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

April 12, 2017

Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc. C/O Lauren Vaughn 189 Wells Avenue Suite 303 Newton, MA 02459

Re: Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc., SIU No. 9413

VIA E-MAIL (Amarulawofc@aol.com)

Dear Ms. Vaughn:

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 Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc. violated the Massachusetts insurance laws set forth below by the conduct detailed in this settlement letter.

This case was opened on February 28, 2017, after the Division discovered that Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc.'s insurance producer license expired December 06, 2016, and was not renewed until February 27, 2017. While unlicensed, Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc. wrote and/or renewed 2 policies, which generated \$2127.56 in commissions and \$18,955.00 in policy premiums.

Further investigation also revealed that the Secretary of the Commonwealth dissolved Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc.'s corporation status on May 31, 2007, and was not revived until March 4, 2013. The dissolution of Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc. was not reported to the Commissioner of Insurance.

The conduct described above is evidence of the following violations:

M.G.L. c. 175, § 175 ... Whoever, not being duly licensed as an insurance agent or broker or as an adjuster of fire losses, represents or holds himself out to the public as being such an agent, broker, or adjuster, or as being engaged in the insurance business, by means of advertisements, cards, circulars, letterheads, signs, or other methods, or whoever, being duly licensed as such agent, broker, or adjuster,

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advertises as aforesaid or carries on such business in any other name than that stated in his license, shall be punished by a fine of not less than ten nor more than one hundred dollars.

M.G.L. c. 175, § 174... [t]he clerk or other corresponding officer [of the corporation] shall... at once notify the commissioner in writing in case of the dissolution of the corporation. Upon receipt of such notice, the commissioner shall forthwith revoke its license without a hearing. Whoever... fails to notify the commissioner of the dissolution of the corporation... or whoever... acts under said license after the dissolution of such corporation, shall be punished by a fine not less than twenty nor more than five hundred dollars.

The Division is authorized to issue an order requiring you to show cause as to why Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc. should not be made to cease and desist from the above alleged conduct. If, after a public hearing, the Commissioner of Insurance finds that Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc. 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 and agree to pay a \$500 fine. 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 April 26, 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 **April 26, 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

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GOVERNOR

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement ("Agreement") is made by and between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Division of Insurance ("Division"), and Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc., licensed as an insurance producer under the laws of the Commonwealth ("Commonwealth") and with an address of 189 Wells Avenue Suite 303, Newton, MA 02459.

WHEREAS, Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc. 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 9413, and contends that the acts and conduct of Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc. as set forth in the Division's correspondence dated April 12, 2017, a copy of which is attached hereto, constitute grounds for revocation of Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc.'s insurance license and the imposition of fines;

WHEREAS, Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc. is aware of its 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. Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc. agrees to immediately cease and desist from the conduct outlined in the Division's April 12, 2017 correspondence.
- 2. Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc. agrees to pay a \$500.00 fine by April 26, 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:

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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 Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc. 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.
- 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.
- The provisions of this Agreement may be amended, modified, or expanded solely in writing by joint consent of the Division and Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc..

SIGNED:

Lauren Vaughn

Commonwealth Asset Proctection Insurance Agency, Inc.

Scott Peary

Chief Enforcement Counsel

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Insurance

Dated: 425/17

Dated: April 12, 2017