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NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA



#112711

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF WAKE

BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER
OF INSURANCE

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSURE
OF AMY K. BENDER
LICENSE NO. 0017560738

VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT

NOW COME, Amy K. Bender (hereinafter "Ms. Bender") and the North Carolina Department of Insurance (hereinafter "Department"), and hereby voluntarily and knowingly enter into the following Voluntary Settlement Agreement (hereinafter "this Agreement").

WHEREAS, the Department has the authority and responsibility for enforcement of the insurance laws of this State, and for regulating and licensing insurance agents; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bender currently holds a resident producer's license with authority for Personal Lines insurance issued by the Department; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 58-33-32(k) requires producers to report to the Commissioner any administrative action taken against the producer in another state or by another governmental agency in this State, including enforcement actions taken against the producer by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), within 30 days after the final disposition of the matter; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bender's producer's license application was denied by the Wisconsin Department of Insurance by letter dated May 21, 2015 for failure to make a required disclosure regarding past criminal charges made against her; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bender appealed the decision and agreed to a Stipulation and Order effective June 8, 2015 approving her application upon the condition that she notify the Wisconsin Department of Insurance within 10 days of any criminal charges issued against her in any state, and agreed to the immediate revocation of her producer's license if she is convicted of any criminal charge, in any jurisdiction on or before June 1, 2017; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bender did not report the June 8, 2015 administrative action taken by the Wisconsin Insurance Commissioner to the Department within 30 days after the final disposition of the matter as required by North Carolina General Statute § 58-33-32(k), and therefore was in violation thereof; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bender admits to this violation of North Carolina General Statute § 58-33-32(k); and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 58-33-46(a)(2) provides that the Commissioner may place on probation, suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue or renew any license issued under Article 58 of the General Statutes of North Carolina for violating any insurance law of this or any other state, violating any administrative rule, subpoena, or order of the Commissioner or of another state's regulator; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bender has agreed to settle, compromise, and resolve the matter referenced in this Agreement on behalf of herself, and the Department has agreed not to pursue additional penalties, sanctions, remedies, or restitution based on these matters against Ms. Bender; and

WHEREAS, the parties to this Agreement mutually wish to resolve this matter by consent before the Department initiates an administrative hearing, and have reached a mutually agreeable resolution of this matter as set out in this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in exchange for the consideration and promises and agreements set out herein, Ms. Bender and the Department hereby agree to the following:

1. Immediately upon the signing of this Agreement, Ms. Bender shall pay a civil penalty of **\$250.00** to the Department. The form of payment shall be by certified check, cashier's check or money order. The check or money order for the payment of this civil penalty shall be payable to the "North Carolina Department of Insurance." Ms. Bender shall remit the civil penalty by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Department along with a copy of this signed Agreement. The civil penalty and the signed Agreement must be received by the Department no later than **September 11, 2017**. The civil penalty shall be subject to disbursement in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, Section 7 of the North Carolina Constitution for the benefit of public schools.
2. This Agreement does not in any way affect the Department's disciplinary power in any future examination of Ms. Bender or in any other complaints involving Ms. Bender.
3. Ms. Bender enters into this Agreement, on behalf of herself, freely and voluntarily and with the knowledge of her right to have an administrative hearing on this matter. Ms.


Bender understands she may consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Agreement.


4. The parties to this Agreement agree that this Agreement shall have the full force and effect of an Order of the Commissioner. Ms. Bender understands that N.C.G.S. § 58-33-46(a)(2) provides that a producer's license may be revoked for violating an Order of the Commissioner.
5. This Agreement, when finalized, will be a public record and will **not** be held confidential by the Department. Following the execution of this Agreement, any and all licenses issued by the Department to Ms. Bender shall reflect that Regulatory Action has been taken against her. The Department is free to disclose the contents of this Agreement with third parties upon request or pursuant to any law or policy providing for such disclosure. The Department routinely provides copies of voluntary settlement agreement to all companies that have appointed the licensee.
6. The parties have read and understand this Agreement and agree to abide by the terms and conditions stated herein.
7. Be aware that if a state or federal regulator other than the N. C. Department of Insurance has issued an occupational or professional license to you, that regulator may require you to report this administrative action to it. The N.C. Department of Insurance cannot give you legal advice as to the specific reporting requirements of other state or federal regulators.

14th
This the 7 day of September, 2017.



N. C. Department of Insurance

By:  K. Bender
License No. 0017560738

By:  Harris
Senior Deputy Commissioner
PFP Group