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**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA**

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF WAKE**

**BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER
OF INSURANCE**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSURE OF
MAURICE VINCENT CATES,
(NPN 11039081)**

**VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT**

NOW COME Maurice Vincent Cates ("Bail Bondsman") and the North Carolina Department of Insurance ("Department") and voluntarily and knowingly enter into the following Voluntary Settlement Agreement ("Agreement"):

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

WHEREAS, Bail Bondsman holds a license as a surety bail bondsman ("License") issued by the Department; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, Bail Bondsman executed a surety appearance bail bond for principal Takara Yvette Lashley in connection with judicial proceedings and, in return for doing so, received bond premium payments in installments; and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 58-71-140(d), 58-71-167 and 58-71-168, respectively, require that bail bondsmen file an affidavit with the court for every surety appearance bail bond they execute, that there be created a memorandum of agreement between the surety and the principal if bond premium payments are in installments and that the affidavit, memorandum of agreement and all other records relating to executing bail bonds be maintained for no less than three years after final entry is made; and

WHEREAS, in response to an inquiry by the Department within three years of the 2014 surety appearance bail bond that Bail Bondsman executed for Ms. Ashley, Bail Bondsman was unable to produce records relating to the bond, including the required affidavit and memorandum of agreement; and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-71-80(a)(7) authorizes the Commissioner to place on probation, suspend, revoke or refuse to renew Bail Bondsman's License for failing to comply with or violating the provisions of the Article 71 of N.C. Gen. Stat. Ch. 58, including N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 58-71-140(d) and 58-71-168; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-2-70(g), the North Carolina Commissioner of Insurance and the Department have the express authority to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement with any person as to the status of the person's license issued by the Department, or as

to any civil penalty or restitution;

WHEREAS, the Parties mutually wish to resolve this matter by consent before the Department initiates an administrative hearing concerning this matter; and

WHEREAS, the Parties have reached a mutually agreeable resolution of this matter as set out in this Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, in exchange for, and in consideration of the promises and agreements set out herein, the Department and Bail Bondsman hereby agree to the following:

1. Immediately upon signing this Agreement, Bail Bondsman shall pay a civil penalty of **Five Hundred and No Cents (\$500.00)** 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." Bail Bondsman shall remit the civil penalty by certified mail, return receipt requested (attention: Tommy Walls, ASD), to the Department along with the original of this Agreement bearing Bail Bondsman's signature. The civil penalty and the signed Agreement must be received by the Department no later than July 20, 2016. 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. Bail Bondsman shall comply with all of the provisions of Chapter 58 of the North Carolina General Statutes and of Title 11 of the North Carolina Administrative Code that are applicable to Bail Bondsman.
3. The Parties agree that this Agreement shall have the full force and effect of an Order of the Commissioner. Bail Bondsman understands that N.C. Gen. Stat. § 58-71-80(a)(7) provides that Bail Bondsman's license may be revoked for violating an Order of the Commissioner.
4. Bail Bondsman enters into this Agreement freely and voluntarily and with knowledge of Bail Bondsman's right to have an administrative hearing regarding this matter. Bail Bondsman understands that Bail Bondsman may consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Agreement.
5. This Agreement constitutes a complete settlement of all administrative penalties against Bail Bondsman for the acts, policies or practices expressly addressed in this Agreement. Except as to the acts, policies or practices expressly addressed herein, this Agreement does not in any way affect the Department's disciplinary power in any future examination of Bail Bondsman or in any other complaints involving Bail Bondsman. In the event that Bail Bondsman fails to comply with this Agreement or otherwise fails to comply with the laws and rules applicable to Bail Bondsman, the Department may take any administrative or legal action it is authorized to take.

6. This Agreement, when finalized, will be a public record and is not confidential. 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. Following the execution of this Agreement, any and all licenses issued by the Department to Bail Bondsman shall reflect that Regulatory Action has been taken against Bail Bondsman. The Department routinely provides copies of voluntary settlement agreements to all companies that have appointed the licensee.
7. Bail Bondsman understands and agrees that, if a state or federal regulator other than the Department has issued a permit or license to Bail Bondsman, that regulator may require Bail Bondsman to report this administrative action to it. Bail Bondsman understands and agrees that the Department cannot give Bail Bondsman legal advice as to the specific reporting requirements of other state or federal regulators.
8. This Agreement shall become effective when signed by Bail Bondsman and the Department.

[Redacted Signature]

Matrice Vincent Cates

State of NC County of Alamance
Subscribed and sworn before me on 10/27/16

[Redacted Signature]

(Notary Signature)

Date: 10/27/16



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

[Redacted Signature]

By:

Angela K. Ford
Senior Deputy Commissioner

Date: 11/1/16