Department of Real Estate
P. O. Box 187000
Sacramento, CA 95818-7000
Telephone: (916) 227-0789



DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

By REAL ESTATE

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the Matter of the Accusation of)

NO. H-1754 FRESNO

DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH and PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC.,

STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT
IN SETTLEMENT
AND ORDER

Respondents.

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It is hereby stipulated by and between PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC. and DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH (hereinafter "Respondents") and their attorney of record, Eliot S. Nahigian, of Coleman & Horowitt, LLP, and the Complainant, acting by and through David B. Seals, Counsel for the Department of Real Estate, as follows for the purpose of settling and disposing of the Accusation filed on February 16, 2005, in this matter:

1. All issues which were to be contested and all evidence which was to be presented by Complainant and Respondents at a formal hearing on the Accusation, which hearing was to be held in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), shall instead and in place ///

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PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC. AND DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH

- 2. Respondents have received, read and understand the Statement to Respondent, the Discovery Provisions of the APA and the Accusation filed by the Department of Real Estate in this proceeding.
- 3. A Notice of Defense was filed on February 28, 2005 by Respondents, pursuant to Section 11505 of the Government Code for the purpose of requesting a hearing on the allegations in the Accusation. Respondents hereby freely and voluntarily withdraw said Notice of Defense. Respondents acknowledge that they understand that by withdrawing said Notice of Defense they will thereby waive their right to require the Commissioner to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a contested hearing held in accordance with the provisions of the APA and that they will waive other rights afforded to them in connection with the hearing such as the right to present evidence in defense of the allegations in the Accusation and the right to cross-examine witnesses.
- 4. This Stipulation is based on the factual allegations contained in the Accusation. In the interests of expedience and economy, Respondents choose not to contest these allegations, but to remain silent and understand that, as a result thereof, these factual allegations, without being admitted or denied, will serve as a prima facie basis for the disciplinary action stipulated to herein. The Real Estate

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Commissioner shall not be required to provide further evidence to prove said factual allegations.

- Estate Commissioner may adopt the Stipulation and Agreement in Settlement as his decision in this matter thereby imposing the penalty and sanctions on Respondents' real estate licenses and license rights as set forth in the below "Order". In the event that the Commissioner in his discretion does not adopt the Stipulation and Agreement in Settlement, it shall be void and of no effect, and Respondents shall retain the right to a hearing and proceeding on the Accusation under all the provisions of the APA and shall not be bound by any admission or waiver made herein.
- 6. The Order or any subsequent Order of the Real Estate Commissioner made pursuant to this Stipulation and Agreement in Settlement shall not constitute an estoppel, merger or bar to any further administrative or civil proceedings by the Department of Real Estate with respect to any matters which were not specifically alleged to be causes for accusation in this proceeding.
- 7. Respondents have received, read and understand the "Notice Concerning Costs of Subsequent Audits". Respondents understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation and Agreement in Settlement, the findings set forth below in the DETERMINATION OF ISSUES become final, and that the Commissioner may charge Respondents for the costs of any audit for which they are charged pursuant to Section 10148 of the Business and H-1754 FRESNO

 3 PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC.

Professions Code (hereinafter the "Code"). The reasonable cost of the audits which led to this disciplinary action is \$8861.26. The maximum cost of the subsequent audit will not exceed \$8,861.26.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

Ι

By reason of the foregoing stipulations, admissions and waivers and solely for the purpose of settlement of the pending Accusation without a hearing, it is stipulated and agreed that the facts alleged above are grounds for the suspension or revocation of the licenses and license rights of Respondent DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH under Section 10177(h) of the Code and Section 10159.2 of the Code and Section 2725 of the Regulations both in conjunction with Section 10177(d) of the Code and, as to Respondent PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC. under Sections 10145, 10159.5 and 10240 of the Code and Sections 2731, 2831, 2831.2, 2832, 2832.1 and 2834 of the Regulations.

ORDER

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All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent

PREMIER LENDING SERVICES; INC. under the Real Estate Law are

suspended for a period of sixty (60) days from the effective

date of this Order; provided, however, that:

1. All sixty (60) days of said suspension shall be stayed for two (2) years upon the following terms and conditions:

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PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC. AND DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH

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A. Respondent shall obey all laws, rules and regulations governing the rights, duties and responsibilities of a real estate licensee in the State of California; and

- B. That no final subsequent determination be made, after hearing or upon stipulation, that cause for disciplinary action occurred within two (2) years from the effective date of this Order. Should such a determination be made, the Commissioner may, in his discretion, vacate and set aside the stay order and reimpose all or a portion of the stayed suspension. Should no such determination be made, the stay imposed herein shall become permanent.
- C. Respondent PREMIER petition pursuant to Section 10175.2 of the Business and Professions Code and pays a monetary penalty pursuant to Section 10175.2 of the Business and Professions Code at a rate of \$100.00 for each day of the suspension for a total monetary penalty of \$6,000.00:
 - check or certified check made payable to the Recovery Account of the Real Estate Fund. Said check must be delivered to the Department prior to the effective date of the Order in this matter.
 - (2) No further cause for disciplinary action against the Real Estate licenses of said Respondent occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of the decision in this matter.

and any other moneys due under this Stipulation and Agreement and if no further cause for disciplinary action against the real estate licenses of Respondent PREMIER occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of this Order, the entire stay hereby granted under Paragraphs I and II of this Order, as to Respondent PREMIER only, shall become permanent.

AND DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH

D. Pursuant to Section 10148 of the Business and
Professions Code, Respondents DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH and PREMIER

LENDING SERVICES, INC. shall pay the Commissioner's reasonable

cost for the audit which led to this disciplinary action and a

subsequent audit to determine if Respondent PREMIER LENDING

SERVICES, INC. has corrected the trust fund violation(s) found

in Paragraph I of the Determination of Issues. In calculating

the amount of the Commissioner's reasonable cost, the

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- 6 - PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC.

Commissioner may use the estimated average hourly salary for all persons performing audits of real estate brokers, and shall include an allocation for travel time to and from the auditor's place of work. Respondents DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH and PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC. shall pay such cost within 60 days of receiving an invoice from the Commissioner detailing the activities performed during the audit and the amount of time spent performing those activities. The Commissioner may suspend the licenses of Respondents DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH and PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC. pending a hearing held in accordance with Section 11500, et seq., of the Government Code, if payment is not timely made as provided for herein, or as provided for in a subsequent agreement between Respondents DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH and PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC. and the Commissioner. suspension shall remain in effect until payment is made in full or until Respondents DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH and PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC. enter into an agreement satisfactory to the Commissioner to provide for payment, or until a decision providing otherwise is adopted following a hearing held pursuant to this condition.

ΙI

All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH under the Real Estate Law are suspended for a period of sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Order; provided, however, that:

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H-1754 FRESNO

- A. Respondent shall obey all laws, rules and regulations governing the rights, duties and responsibilities of a real estate licensee in the State of California; and,
- B. That no final subsequent determination be made, after hearing or upon stipulation, that cause for disciplinary action occurred within two (2) years from the effective date of this Order. Should such a determination be made, the Commissioner may, in his discretion, vacate and set aside the stay order and reimpose all or a portion of the stayed suspension. Should no such determination be made, the stay imposed herein shall become permanent.
- C. That Respondent BLOUGH petition pursuant to Section 10175.2 of the Business and Professions Code and pays a monetary penalty pursuant to Section 10175.2 of the Business and Professions Code at a rate of \$100.00 for each day of the suspension for a total monetary penalty of \$6,000.00:
 - check or certified check made payable to the Recovery Account of the Real Estate Fund. Said check must be delivered to the Department prior to the effective date of the Order in this matter.

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- penalty as provided above prior to the effective date of this Order, the stay of the suspension shall be vacated as to Respondent BLOUGH and the order of suspension shall be immediately executed, under this Paragraph II of this Order, in which event Respondent BLOUGH shall not be entitled to any repayment nor credit, prorated or otherwise, for the money paid to the Department under the terms of this Order.
- and any other moneys due under this Stipulation and Agreement and if no further cause for disciplinary action against the real estate licenses of Respondent BLOUGH occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of this Order, the entire stay hereby granted under Paragraphs I and II of this Order, as to Respondent BLOUGH only, shall become permanent.
- D. Pursuant to Section 10148 of the Business and
 Professions Code, Respondents DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH and PREMIER

 LENDING SERVICES, INC. shall pay the Commissioner's reasonable

 cost for the audit which led to this disciplinary action and a

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 9 PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC.

 AND DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH

subsequent audit to determine if Respondent PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC. has corrected the trust fund violation(s) found in Paragraph I of the Determination of Issues. In calculating the amount of the Commissioner's reasonable cost, the Commissioner may use the estimated average hourly salary for all persons performing audits of real estate brokers, and shall include an allocation for travel time to and from the auditor's place of work. Respondents DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH and PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC. shall pay such cost within 60 days of receiving an invoice from the Commissioner detailing the activities performed during the audit and the amount of time spent performing those activities. The Commissioner may suspend the licenses of Respondents DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH and PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC. pending a hearing held in accordance with Section 11500, et seq., of the Government Code, if payment is not timely made as provided for herein, or as provided for in a subsequent agreement between Respondents DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH and PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC. and the Commissioner. suspension shall remain in effect until payment is made in full or until Respondents DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH and PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC. enter into an agreement satisfactory to the Commissioner to provide for payment, or until a decision providing otherwise is adopted following a hearing held pursuant to this condition.

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E. Respondent DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH shall, prior to the date this Stipulation becomes effective, submit proof satisfactory to the Commissioner of having taken and H-1754 FRESNO - 10 - PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC. AND DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH

successfully completed the continuing education course on trust fund accounting and handling specified in subdivision (a) of Section 10170.5 of the Business and Professions Code. Proof of satisfaction of this requirement includes evidence that Respondent DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH has successfully completed the trust fund account and handling continuing education course within 120 days prior to the effective date of the Stipulation in this matter. If Respondent BLOUGH fails to satisfy this condition, the Commissioner may order suspension of Respondent's license until Respondent submits satisfactory proof of completion of the course.

F. Respondent DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH shall, within six (6) months from the effective date of this Decision, take and pass the Professional Responsibility Examination administered by

pass the Professional Responsibility Examination administered by the Department including the payment of the appropriate examination fee. If Respondent BLOUGH fails to satisfy this condition, the Commissioner may order suspension of Respondent's license until Respondent passes the examination.

DATED: Joly 5, 2005

DAVID B. SEALS, Counsel DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

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DATED:

H-1754 FRESNO

* * *

I have read the Stipulation and Agreement, have discussed it with my counsel, and its terms are understood by me and are agreeable and acceptable to me. I understand that I am waiving rights given to me by the California Administrative Procedure Act (including but not limited to Sections 11506, 11508, 11509, and 11513 of the Government Code), and I willingly, intelligently, and voluntarily waive those rights, including the right of requiring the Commissioner to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a hearing at which I would have the right to cross-examine witnesses against me and to present evidence in defense and mitigation of the charges.

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DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH

Respondent

PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC.

Respondent

I have reviewed the Stipulation and Agreement as to form and content and have advised my client accordingly.

DATED: JUNE 10, 2005

Eliot S. Nahigian

Attorney for Respondents

PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC. AND DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH

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and					fective				
Thomas	AUGUS				STEEL PROPERTY CO., THE PROPERTY OF				

The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement in Settlement

IT IS SO ORDERED

1-27-05

JEFF DAVI

Real Estate Commissioner

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PREMIER LENDING SERVICES, INC. AND DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH

DAVID B. SEALS, Counsel (SBN 69378) Department of Real Estate P. O. Box 187007 Sacramento, CA 95818-7007 DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE Telephone: (916) 227-0789 -or-(916) 227-0792 (Direct) 5 6 7 8 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE 9 STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 In the Matter of the Accusation of) NO. H-1754 FRESNO 12 DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH and PREMIER LENDING SERVICES INC., ACCUSATION 13 Respondents. 14 15 16 The Complainant, John Sweeney, a Deputy Real Estate Commissioner of the State of California for cause of Accusation 17 against PREMIER LENDING SERVICES INC. (hereinafter "Respondent 18 19 PREMIER") and DANIEL DEAN BLOUGH (hereinafter "Respondent BLOUGH") is informed and alleges as follows: 20 21 FIRST CAUSE OF ACCUSATION 22 The Complainant, John Sweeney, a Deputy Real Estate 23 24 Commissioner of the State of California, makes this Accusation

in his official capacity.

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Respondent PREMIER is presently licensed and/or has license rights under the Real Estate Law, Part 1 of Division 4 of the California Business and Professions Code (hereinafter "Code"), as a corporate real estate broker.

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Respondent BLOUGH is presently licensed and/or has license rights under the Real Estate Law, Part 1 of Division 4 of the Code as real estate broker and as the designated officer of Respondent PREMIER.

ΤV

Whenever reference is made in an allegation in this Accusation to an act or omission of Respondent PREMIER, such allegation shall be deemed to mean that the officers, directors, employees, agents and real estate licensees employed by or associated with Respondent PREMIER committed such act or omissions while engaged in furtherance of the business or operation of Respondent PREMIER and while acting within the course and scope of their corporate authority and employment.

That at all times herein mentioned, Respondent PREMIER, engaged in the business of, acted in the capacity of, advertised, or assumed to act as a real estate broker in the State of California within the meaning of Sections 10131(a), (b), and (d) of the Code, for or in expectation of compensation. ///

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VI

That at all times mentioned herein, Respondent PREMIER accepted or received funds in trust (hereafter trust funds) from and on behalf of its principals placing them in bank accounts and at times thereafter made disbursements of such funds.

From May 28, 2003 through September 8, 2003 investigative audits were performed by the Department of the records and bank records of Respondent PREMIER (Audit Nos. FR 020075, FR 020076, and FR 020083) for the period from June 1, 2000 through June 1, 2003, as said records related to its activities as a real estate broker.

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Respondent PREMIER maintained seven accounts into which trust funds were placed for its licensed activities. The accounts were as follows:

- 1. Mid-State Bank & Trust, P.O. Box 6002, Arroyo Grande, CA 93421, Account Name: Premier Lending Services Inc., Account No. 151533345 with Daniel Dean Blough, Peggy Blough, and Jeff Rishwain as signatories (hereinafter Bank 1);
- 2. Mid-State Bank & Trust, 2739 Santa Maria Way, Santa Maria, CA 93456, Account Name: Premier Lending Services Inc. dba Coldwell Banker Dan Blough & Assoc. Trust Account, Account No. 151537871 with Daniel Dean Blough, Peggy Blough, Jeff Rishwain and Debra Morgan as signatories (hereinafter Trust 2);

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1 3. Mid-State Bank & Trust, 2739 Santa Maria Way, Santa 2 Maria, CA 93456, Account Name: Century 21 Home and Land Trust 3 Account Daniel D. Blough Trustee, Account No. 2501258911 with 4 Daniel Dean Blough, Peggy Blough, and Mike Mazur as signatories 5 (hereinafter Trust 3); 6 4. United Security Bank, 2151 West Shaw Avenue, 7 Fresno, CA 93711, Account Name: Coldwell Banker Dan Blough & Assoc. Trust Account, Account No. 1114654 with Daniel Dean Blough, Peggy Blough, and George Murphy as signatories 10 (hereinafter Trust 4); 11 5. Central Valley Community Bank, 600 Polasky Avenue, 12 Clovis, CA 93612, Account Name: Coldwell Banker Clovis Realty 13 Trust Account, Account No. 001765205 with Daniel Dean Blough, 14 Peggy Blough, George Murphy, and Susan Tarter as signatories 15 (hereinafter Trust 5); 16 6. Central Valley Community Bank, 600 Polasky Avenue, 17 Clovis, CA 93612, Account Name: DBA Coldwell Banker Clovis Realty 18 Premier Lending Services, Inc. Trust, Account No. 001765159 with Daniel Dean Blough, George Murphy, and Jan Ryan as signatories 19 20 (hereinafter Trust 6); and 21 7. Central Valley Community Bank, 600 Polasky Avenue, 22 Clovis, CA 93612, Account Name: Coldwell Banker Trust II Premier Lending Services, Inc., Account No. 001765167 with George Murphy 23 24 and Patricia Nielsen as signatories (hereinafter Trust 7).

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X

The audits referred to in Paragraph VII set forth that the adjusted balance of Bank 1 as of April 30, 2003 was Eleven Thousand Seven Hundred Five and 53/100 Dollars (\$11,705.53) and the trust fund accountability in the account as of April 30, 2003 was Twenty Thousand Seven Hundred Five and 75/100 Dollars (\$20,705.75). Therefore, Respondent PREMIER, as of April 30, 2003, had a trust fund shortage of Nine Thousand and 22/100 Dollars (\$9,000.22).

XI

The audits referred to in Paragraph VII set forth that the adjusted balance of Trust 2 as of April 30, 2003 was Forty-Two Thousand Forty-Five and 79/100 Dollars (\$42,045.79) and the trust fund accountability in the account as of April 30, 2003 was Forty-Two Thousand Three Hundred Forty-Three and 79/100 Dollars (\$42,343.79). Therefore, Respondent PREMIER, as of April 30, 2003, had a trust fund shortage of Two Hundred Ninety-Eight and 00/100 Dollars (\$298.00).

XII

The audits referred to in Paragraph VII set forth that the adjusted balance of Trust 6 as of April 30, 2003 was Ten Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Three and 72/100 Dollars (\$10,563.72) and the trust fund accountability in the account as of April 30, 2003 was Ten Thousand Six Hundred Eight and 72/100 Dollars (\$10,608.72). Therefore, Respondent PREMIER, as of April 30, 2003, had a trust fund shortage of Forty-Five and 00/100 Dollars (\$45.00).

XIII

For the period covered by the audits referred to in Paragraph VII Respondent PREMIER, in Bank 1, caused the disbursement of trust funds from the trust account without the written consent of every principal who was an owner of the funds, causing the balance of the funds in the account to be an amount less than the existing aggregate trust fund liability of Respondent PREMIER to all owners of said funds in violation of Section 10145 of the Code and Section 2832.1, Title 10, California Code of Regulations (hereinafter the "Regulations").

XIV

Respondent PREMIER failed to retain a copy of the completed and signed Mortgage Loan Disclosure Statement in the file of all borrowers during the period covered by the audits in violation of Section 10240 of the Code.

ΧV

During the period covered by the audits referred to in Paragraph VII Respondent PREMIER placed trust funds into Bank 1 but failed to designate it as a trust account and also placed trust funds in Trust 6 and Trust which accounts were not in the name of the broker all in violation of Section 2832 of the Regulations and Section 10145 of the Code.

XVI

During the period covered by the audits referred to in Paragraph VII Susan Tarter was a signatory on Trust 5. However, Susan Tarter was not licensed by the Department nor was there fidelity bond coverage at least equal to the minimum amount of

trust funds to which she had access at the time, in violation of Section 2834 of the Regulations.

IIVX

During the period covered by the audits referred to in Paragraph VII, Respondent PREMIER used the names "Coldwell Banker Clovis Realty" and "Century 21 Home & Land Realtors" but Respondent PREMIER did not hold a license bearing either fictitious name in violation of Section 2731 of the Regulations and Section 10159.5 of the Code.

IIIVX

During the period covered by the audits referred to in Paragraph VII, Respondent PREMIER failed to maintain, in Bank 1, on a monthly basis a reconciliation of their separate records for each beneficiary or transaction with the record of all trust funds received and disbursed in violation of Section 2831.2 of the Regulations.

XIX

At all times mentioned herein, Respondent BLOUGH failed to exercise reasonable supervision over the activities of Respondent PREMIER, and permitted, ratified and/or caused the conduct described above. Respondent BLOUGH failed to reasonably or adequately review, oversee, inspect and manage the personnel and activities of Respondent PREMIER, and/or to establish reasonable policies, rules, procedures and systems for such review, oversight, inspection and management.

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The acts and/or omissions of Respondents PREMIER and BLOUGH described above are grounds for the revocation or suspension of the licenses of Respondent PREMIER under Section 10177(d) of the Code in conjunction with Sections 10145, 10159.5 and 10240 of the Code and Sections 2731, 2831, 2831.2 and 2832, 2832.1 and 2834 of the Regulations and are grounds for the revocation or suspension of the licenses of Respondent BLOUGH, only, under Section 10177(h) of the Code and Section 10159.2 of the Code and Section 2725 of the Regulations both in conjunction with Section 10177(d) of the Code.

WHEREFORE, Complainant prays that a hearing be conducted on the allegations of this Accusation and that upon proof thereof, a decision be rendered imposing disciplinary action against all licenses and license rights of Respondents under the Real Estate Law (Part 1 of Division 4 of the Business and Professions Code), and for such other and further relief as may be proper under other provisions of law.

Deputy Real Estate Commissioner

Dated at Fresno, California, this 3) day of January, 2005.