Bureau of Real Estate
P.O. Box 137007
Sacramento, CA 95813-7007

Telephone: (916) 263-8672

## FILED

JAN 0 9 2017
BUREAU OF REAL ESTATE
By B. Mi Chiolis

## BEFORE THE BUREAU OF REAL ESTATE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

\* \* \*

In the Matter of the Accusation of

SEQUOIA PACIFIC LENDING INC.,
DAVID LEE SIMAS, and CRUZ
MORALES,

Respondents.

It is hereby stipulated by and between SEQUOIA PACIFIC LENDING INC. (SEQUOIA), DAVID LEE SIMAS (SIMAS), and CRUZ MORALES (MORALES) (collectively referred to as "Respondents"), represented by Richard C. Conway, and the Complainant, acting by and through Truly Sughrue, Counsel for the Bureau of Real Estate (Bureau), as follows for the purpose of settling and disposing the Accusation filed on April 26, 2016, 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 thereof be submitted solely on the basis of the provisions of this Stipulation and Agreement.
- 2. Respondents have received, read, and understand the Statement to Respondent, and the Discovery Provisions of the APA filed by the Bureau in this proceeding.

- 3. Respondents filed a Notice of Defense 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 Respondents understand that by withdrawing said Notice of Defense Respondents will thereby waive Respondents' rights to require the Real Estate Commissioner (Commissioner) to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a contested hearing held in accordance with the provisions of the APA, and that Respondents will waive other rights afforded to Respondents 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 and Agreement is based on the factual allegations contained in the Accusation. In the interest of expediency and economy, Respondents choose not to contest these factual allegations, but to remain silent and understand that, as a result thereof, these factual statements will serve as a prima facie basis for the "Determination of Issues" and "Order" set forth below. The Commissioner shall not be required to provide further evidence to prove such allegations.
- 5. This Stipulation and Agreement and Respondents' decision not to contest the Accusation are made for the purpose of reaching an agreed disposition of this proceeding and are expressly limited to this proceeding and any other proceeding or case in which the Bureau, the state or federal government, an agency of this state, or an agency of another state is involved.
- 6. Respondents understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation and Agreement, Respondents agree to pay, pursuant to Section 10106 of the Business and Professions Code (Code), the cost of the investigation and enforcement which resulted in the determination that Respondent committed the violation(s) found in the Determination of Issues. The amount of said costs is \$1,500.00.
- 7. It is understood by the parties that the Commissioner may adopt the Stipulation and Agreement as his Decision and Order in this matter thereby imposing the penalty and sanctions on the real estate licenses and license rights of Respondents as set forth in the

below "Order". In the event that the Commissioner in his discretion does not adopt the Stipulation and Agreement, 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.

8. The Order or any subsequent Order of the Commissioner made pursuant to this Stipulation and Agreement shall not constitute an estoppel, merger or bar to any further administrative or civil proceedings by the Bureau with respect to any matters which were not specifically alleged in Accusation H-6391 SAC.

\* \* \*

## **DETERMINATION OF ISSUES**

By reason of the foregoing stipulations and waivers and solely for the purpose of settlement of the pending Accusation without a hearing, it is stipulated and agreed that the following determination of issues shall be made:

I

The acts and omissions of Respondents as described in the First Cause of Action in the Accusation are grounds for the suspension or revocation of Respondents' licenses and license rights under the following sections of the Code and Title 10 of the California Code of Regulations (Regulations):

As to Paragraph 10(a), under Section 10177(d) of the Code, in conjunction with Sections 10085 and 10085.5 of the Code and Section 2970 of the Regulations;

As to Paragraph 10(b), under Section 10177(d) of the Code, in conjunction with Sections 10145 and 10146 of the Code and 2832 of the Regulations;

II

The acts and omissions of SIMAS as described in the Third Cause of Action in the Accusation are grounds for the suspension or revocation of SIMAS's licenses and license rights under Section 10177(h) of the Code.

\* \* \*

## **ORDER**

I

All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent SEQUOIA under the Real Estate Law are revoked; provided, however, a restricted real estate corporate license shall be issued to SEQUOIA pursuant to Section 10156.5 of the Code if SEQUOIA makes application therefor and pays to the Bureau the appropriate fee for the restricted license within 90 days from the effective date of this Decision and Order. The restricted license issued to Respondent shall be subject to all of the provisions of Section 10156.7 of the Code and to the following limitations, conditions and restrictions imposed under authority of Section 10156.6 of that Code:

- 1. The restricted license issued to SEQUOIA may be suspended prior to hearing by Order of the Commissioner on evidence satisfactory to the Commissioner that SEQUOIA has violated provisions of the California Real Estate Law, the Subdivided Lands Law, Regulations of the Real Estate Commissioner or conditions attaching to the restricted license.
- 3. SEQUOIA shall not be eligible to petition for the issuance of any unrestricted real estate license nor for removal of any of the conditions, limitations or restrictions of a restricted license until two (2) years have elapsed from the effective date of this Decision and Order. SEQUOIA shall not be eligible to apply for any unrestricted licenses until all restrictions attaching to the license have been removed.

II

All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent SIMAS under the Real Estate Law are revoked; provided, however, a restricted real estate broker license shall be issued to SIMAS pursuant to Section 10156.5 of the Code if SIMAS makes application therefor and pays to the Bureau the appropriate fee for the restricted license within 90 days from the effective date of this Decision and Order. The restricted license issued to SIMAS shall be subject to all of the provisions of Section 10156.7 of the Code and to the following limitations, conditions and restrictions imposed under authority of Section 10156.6 of that Code:

- 1. The restricted license issued to SIMAS may be suspended prior to hearing by Order of the Commissioner in the event of SIMAS' conviction or plea of nolo contendere to a crime which is substantially related to SIMAS's fitness or capacity as a real estate licensee.
- 2. The restricted license issued to SIMAS may be suspended prior to hearing by Order of the Commissioner on evidence satisfactory to the Commissioner that SIMAS has violated provisions of the California Real Estate Law, the Subdivided Lands Law, Regulations of the Commissioner, or conditions attaching to the restricted license.
- 3. SIMAS shall not be eligible to petition for the issuance of any unrestricted real estate license nor for removal of any of the conditions, limitations or restrictions of a restricted license until two (2) years have elapsed from the effective date of this Decision and Order. SIMAS shall not be eligible to apply for any unrestricted licenses until all restrictions attaching to the license have been removed.
- 4. SIMAS shall, within nine (9) months from the effective date of this

  Decision and Order, present evidence satisfactory to the Commissioner that SIMAS has, since
  the most recent issuance of an original or renewal real estate license, taken and successfully
  completed the continuing education requirements of Article 2.5 of Chapter 3 of the Real Estate
  Law for renewal of a real estate license. If SIMAS fails to satisfy this condition, SIMAS's real
  estate license shall automatically be suspended until SIMAS presents evidence satisfactory to the
  Commissioner of having taken and successfully completed the continuing education
  requirements. Proof of completion of the continuing education courses must be delivered to the
  Bureau of Real Estate, Flag Section at P.O. Box 137013, Sacramento, CA 95813-7013.
- 5. All licenses and licensing rights of SIMAS are indefinitely suspended unless or until SIMAS provides proof satisfactory to the Commissioner, of having taken and successfully completed the continuing education course on trust fund accounting and handling specified in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 10170.5 of the Code. Proof of satisfaction of this requirement includes evidence that SIMAS has successfully completed the trust fund accounting and handling continuing education course, no earlier than 120 days prior to

the effective date of the Decision and Order in this matter. Proof of completion of the trust fund accounting and handling course must be delivered to the Bureau of Real Estate, Flag Section at P.O. Box 137013, Sacramento, CA 95813-7013 or by fax at 916-263-8758, prior to the effective date of this Decision Order.

6. SIMAS shall, within six (6) months from the effective date of this Decision and Order, take and pass the Professional Responsibility Examination administered by the Bureau including the payment of the appropriate examination fee. If SIMAS fails to satisfy this condition, SIMAS's real estate license shall automatically be suspended until Respondent passes the examination.

III

All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent MORALES under the Real Estate Law are revoked; provided, however, a restricted real estate salesperson license shall be issued to MORALES pursuant to Section 10156.5 of the Code if MORALES makes application therefor and pays to the Bureau the appropriate fee for the restricted license within 90 days from the effective date of this Decision and Order. The restricted license issued to MORALES shall be subject to all of the provisions of Section 10156.7 of the Code and to the following limitations, conditions and restrictions imposed under authority of Section 10156.6 of that Code:

- 1. The restricted license issued to MORALES may be suspended prior to hearing by Order of the Commissioner in the event of MORALES' conviction or plea of nolo contendere to a crime which is substantially related to MORALES' fitness or capacity as a real estate licensee.
- 2. The restricted license issued to MORALES may be suspended prior to hearing by Order of the Commissioner on evidence satisfactory to the Commissioner that MORALES has violated provisions of the California Real Estate Law, the Subdivided Lands Law, Regulations of the Real Estate Commissioner or conditions attaching to the restricted license.

3. MORALES shall not be eligible to apply for the issuance of an unrestricted real estate license nor for removal of any of the conditions, limitations or restrictions of a restricted license until two (2) years have elapsed from the effective date of this Decision and Order. MORALES shall not be eligible to apply for any unrestricted licenses until all restrictions attaching to the license have been removed.

- 4. MORALES shall submit with any application for license under an employing broker, or any application for transfer to a new employing broker, a statement signed by the prospective employing real estate broker on a form approved by the Bureau which shall certify:
  - (a) That the employing broker has read the Decision and Order of the Commissioner which granted the right to a restricted license; and
  - (b) That the employing broker will exercise close supervision over the performance by the restricted licensee relating to activities for which a real estate license is required.
- 5. MORALES shall, within nine (9) months from the effective date of this
  Decision and Order, present evidence satisfactory to the Commissioner that Respondent has,
  since the most recent issuance of an original or renewal real estate license, taken and successfully
  completed the continuing education requirements of Article 2.5 of Chapter 3 of the Real Estate
  Law for renewal of a real estate license. If MORALES fails to satisfy this condition,
  MORALES' real estate license shall automatically be suspended until MORALES presents
  evidence satisfactory to the Commissioner of having taken and successfully completed the
  continuing education requirement.

IV

All licenses and licensing rights of Respondents are indefinitely suspended unless or until Respondents pay the sum of \$1,500.00 for the Commissioner's reasonable cost of the investigation and enforcement which led to this disciplinary action. Said payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check made payable to the Bureau of Real Estate. The investigative and

| 1  | enforcement costs must           |
|----|----------------------------------|
| 2  | 137013, Sacramento, CA           |
| 3  |                                  |
| 4  | 28-Dec-17                        |
| 5  | DATED                            |
| 6  |                                  |
| 7  |                                  |
| 8  | <br>  I have rea                 |
| 9  | terms are understood by          |
| 10 | waiving rights given to n        |
| 11 | <br>  intelligently and voluntar |
| 12 | Commissioner to prove t          |
| 13 | hearing at which I would         |
| 14 | evidence in defense and r        |
| 15 | Responde                         |
| 16 | Stipulation by mail to the       |
| 17 | Stipulation is signed by R       |
| 18 | Section, P.O. Box 137007         |
| 19 | attorney understand and a        |
| 20 | date, Complainant retains        |
| 21 |                                  |
| 22 |                                  |
| 3  |                                  |
| 24 | 12-20-16                         |
| 5  | DATED                            |

be delivered to the Bureau of Real Estate, Flag Section at P.O. Box A 95813-7013, prior to the effective date of this Decision and Order.

> TRULY SUGHRUE Counsel for Complainant

d the Stipulation and Agreement, discussed it with my counsel, and its me and are agreeable and acceptable to me. I understand that I am ne by the California Administrative Procedure Act, and I willingly, ily waive those rights, including the right of requiring the he allegations in the First Amended Order to Desist and Refrain at a have the right to cross-examine witnesses against me and to present mitigation of the charges.

nt and Respondent's attorney further agree to send the original signed following address no later than one (1) week from the date the Respondent and Respondent's attorney: Bureau of Real Estate, Legal 7, Sacramento, California 95813-7007. Respondent and Respondent's gree that if they fail to return the original signed Stipulation by the due the right to set this matter for hearing.

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David Lee Simas, on behalf of SEQUOIA PACIFIC LENDING INC. Respondent

- 8 -

|    | 12-20-16                                                                      |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | DATED DAVID LEE SIMAS                                                         |
| 2  | Respondent                                                                    |
| 3  | 12-20-16                                                                      |
| 4  | DATED CRUZ MORALES                                                            |
| 5  | Respondent                                                                    |
|    | ***                                                                           |
| 6  | I have reviewed the Stipulation and Agreement as to form and content and have |
| 7  | advised my clients accordingly.                                               |
| 8  |                                                                               |
| 9  | 12-20-16                                                                      |
| 10 | DATED RICHARD C. CONWAY                                                       |
| 11 | Attorney for Respondents                                                      |
| 12 | * * *                                                                         |
| 13 | The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement is hereby adopted as my Decision and  |
| 14 | Order and shall become effective at 12 o'clock noon on JAN 3 0 2017           |
|    |                                                                               |
| 15 | IT IS SO ORDERED $\frac{1/4/2017}{}$ .                                        |
| 16 | ′ /                                                                           |
| 17 | WAYNE S. BELD<br>REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER                                     |
| .8 | REAL COMMISSIONER                                                             |
| .9 | (tupler)                                                                      |
| 20 |                                                                               |
| 21 |                                                                               |
|    |                                                                               |
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