Department of Real Estate 320 West 4th Street, Ste. 350 Los Angeles, California 90013-1105 Telephone: (213) 576-6982 (office)

# FILED

OCT 22 2009

DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the Matter of the Accusation of

No. H-35900 LA

12 GATEWAY FUNDING CORPORATION; and PAUL ANTHONY PELLIZZON, 13 individually and as designated 14

officer of Gateway Funding Corporation,

Respondents.

STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT

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It is hereby stipulated by and between Respondents GATEWAY FUNDING CORPORATION and PAUL ANTHONY PELLIZZON, individually and as designated officer of All Nations Lending Inc., (sometimes collectively referred to as "Respondents"), represented by Anthony F. Geraci, Esq. and the Complainant, acting by and through Elliott Mac Lennan, Counsel for the Department of Real Estate, as follows for the purpose of settling and disposing of the Accusation ("Accusation") filed on April 21,

2009, 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 ("Stipulation").

- 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. Respondents timely filed a Notice of Defense pursuant to Section 11506 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 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 their defense and the right to crossexamine witnesses.

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allegations contained in the Accusation. In the interest 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 Commissioner shall not be required to provide further evidence to prove said factual allegations.

- 5. This Stipulation is made for the purpose of reaching an agreed disposition of this proceeding and is expressly limited to this proceeding and any other proceeding or case in which the Department of Real Estate ("Department"), the state or federal government, or any agency of this state, another state or federal government is involved.
- Estate Commissioner may adopt this Stipulation 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 "Order" herein below. In the event that the Commissioner in his discretion does not adopt the Stipulation, it shall be void and of no effect and Respondents shall retain the right to a hearing and proceeding on the Accusation under the provisions of the APA and shall not be bound by any stipulation or waiver made herein.

The Order or any subsequent Order of the Real Estate Commissioner made pursuant to this Stipulation 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 but do constitute a bar, estoppel and merger as to any allegations actually contained in the Accusations against Respondent herein. Respondents understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation, Respondents agree to pay, pursuant to Business and 10 Professions Code Section 10148, the cost of the audit. 11 amount of said cost for the audit is \$7,683.70. 12 13 Respondents have received, read, and understand the 9. 14 "Notice Concerning Costs of Subsequent Audit". Respondents 15 further understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation, the 16 findings set forth below in the Determination of Issues become 17

final, and the Commissioner may charge Respondents for the cost of any subsequent audit conducted pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 10148 to determine if the violations have been corrected. The maximum cost of the subsequent audit will not exceed \$7,683.70.

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## DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

By reason of the foregoing, it is stipulated and agreed that the following determination of issues shall be made:

I.

The conduct, acts or omissions of GATEWAY FUNDING

CORPORATION and PAUL ANTHONY PELLIZZON, as described in Paragraph

4, above, are in violation of Sections 10145 and 10240 of the

Business and Professions Code ("Code") and Sections 2832.1, 2834

and 2840 and 2950(h) of Title 10, Chapter 6 of the California

Code of Regulations ("Regulations") and is a basis for discipline of Respondents' license and license rights as violation of the Real Estate Law pursuant to Code Sections 10177(d) and 10177(g).

ORDER

WHEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING ORDER is hereby made:

I.

The license and licensing rights of Respondents GATEWAY

FUNDING CORPORATION and PAUL ANTHONY PELLIZZON, under the Real

Estate Law, are suspended for a period of sixty (60) days from

the effective date of this Decision; provided, however, that

sixty (60) days of said suspension shall be stayed for two (2)

years upon the following terms and conditions:

A. Provided, however, that if Respondents request, the initial thirty (30) days of said suspension (or a portion thereof) shall be stayed for two (2) years upon condition that:

1. Each Respondent pays a monetary penalty pursuant to Section 10175.2 of the Business and Professions Code at the rate of \$50.00 per day for each day of the suspension for a monetary penalty of \$1,500, or \$3,000 total.

- 2. Said payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check or certified check made payable to the Recovery Account of the Real Estate Fund. Said check must be received by the Department prior to the effective date of the Decision in this matter.
- 3. No further cause for disciplinary action against the real estate license of Respondents occur within two (2) years from the effective date of the Decision in this matter.
- accordance with the terms of the Decision, the Commissioner may, without a hearing, order the immediate execution of all or any part of the stayed suspension, in which event the Respondent shall not be entitled to any repayment nor credit, prorated or otherwise, for money paid to the Department under the terms of this Decision.
- 5. If Respondents pay the monetary penalty and if no further cause for disciplinary action against the real estate license of Respondent occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of the Decision, the stay hereby granted shall become permanent.

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B. The remaining thirty (30) days of the sixty (60) day suspension shall be stayed for two (2) years upon the following terms and conditions:

- (a) Respondents shall obey all laws, rules and regulations governing the rights, duties and responsibilities of a real estate licensee in the State of California; and
- after hearing or upon stipulation, that cause for disciplinary action occurred within two (2) years from the effective date of this Decision. 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.

II.

Pursuant to Section 10148 of the Business and

Professions Code, Respondents GATEWAY FUNDING CORPORATION and

PAUL ANTHONY PELLIZZON shall pay the Commissioner's reasonable

cost for (a) the audit which led to this disciplinary action (b)

a subsequent audit to determine if Respondents are now in

compliance with the Real Estate Law. The cost of the audit which

led to this disciplinary action is \$7,683.70. 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. Said amount for the prior and subsequent audits shall not exceed \$15,367.40.

Respondents 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 license of Respondents 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 the Respondent and the Commissioner. The suspension shall remain in effect until payment is made in full or until Respondents 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.

III.

All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent PAUL

ANTHONY PELLIZZON are indefinitely suspended unless or until

Respondent 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 Business and Professions Code. Proof of satisfaction of this requirement includes evidence that Respondent has successfully

completed the trust fund account and handling continuing education course by the effective date of the Decision or within 120 days prior to the effective date of the Decision.

IV.

Prior to the effective date of the Decision,

Respondents shall submit proof satisfactory to the Real Estate

Commissioner that the eight appraisal invoices of Issue Two of

the Audit Report LA 080162 & LA 080191, page 6, have been paid,

and that the shortage in the trust account has been cured. If

Respondents fail to satisfy this condition, all licenses and

licensing rights or Respondents shall be indefinitely suspended,

unless or until such proof is provided.

DATED: 8-4-09

ELLIOTT MAC LENNAN, Counsel for the Department of Real Estate

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# EXECUTION OF THE STIPULATION

We have read the Stipulation and discussed it with our Its terms are understood by us and are agreeable and acceptable to us. We understand that we are waiving rights given to us by the California Administrative Procedure Act (including but not limited to Sections 11506, 11508, 11509 and 11513 of the Government Code), and we 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 we would have the right to cross-examine witnesses against us and to present evidence in defense and mitigation of the charges.

### MAILING AND FACSIMILE

Respondents (1) shall mail the original signed signature page of the stipulation herein to Elliott Mac Lennan: Attention: Legal Section, Department of Real Estate, 320 W. Fourth St., Suite 350, Los Angeles, California 90013-1105. Respondents shall also (2) facsimile a copy of signed signature page, to the Department at the following telephone/fax number: (213) 576-6917, Attention: Elliott Mac Lennan.

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A facsimile constitutes acceptance and approval of the terms and conditions of this stipulation. Respondents agree, acknowledge and understand that by electronically sending to the Department a facsimile copy of Respondents' actual signature as it appears on the stipulation that receipt of the facsimile copy by the Department shall be as binding on Respondents as if the Department had received the original signed stipulation.

DATED: 08-19-09

GATIWAY RUNDING CORPORATION, a corporate real estate broker, BY: PAUL ANTHONY PELLIZZON D.O., Respondent

DATED: 08-19-09

PAUL ANTHUNY PERLITZO

individually and as designated officer of Gateway Funding Corporation, Respondent

DATED: 824-09

ANTHONY F. GERACI, ESQ. Attorney for Respondents Approved as to form

The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement is hereby adopted as my Decision as to Respondents GATEWAY FUNDING CORPORATION and PAUL ANTHONY PELLIZZON, individually and as designated officer of Gateway Funding Corporation and shall become effective at 12 o'clock noon on \_\_\_\_November 20 2009. IT IS SO ORDERED 2009. JEFF DAVI Real Estate Commissioner 

Department of Real Estate FILED 320 West 4th Street, Ste. 350 Los Angeles, California 90013-1105 2 APR 21 2009 3 Telephone: (213) 576-6911 (direct) (213) 576-6982 (office) -or-DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE 4 5 6 7 8 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE 9 STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 No. H-35900 LA In the Matter of the Accusation of 11 ACCUSATION 12 GATEWAY FUNDING CORPORATION; and PAUL ANTHONY PELLIZZON, 13 individually and as designated officer of Gateway Funding 14 Corporation, 15 Respondents. 16 17 18 The Complainant, Robin Trujillo, a Deputy Real Estate 19 Commissioner of the State of California, for cause of Accusation 20 against GATEWAY FUNDING CORPORATION and PAUL ANTHONY PELLIZZON, 21 individually and as designated officer of Gateway Funding 22 Corporation, alleges as follows: 23 /// 24 111 25 /// 26

ELLIOTT MAC LENNAN, SBN 66674

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The Complainant, Robin Trujillo, acting in her official capacity as a Deputy Real Estate Commissioner of the State of California, makes this Accusation against GATEWAY FUNDING CORPORATION (GFC) and PAUL ANTHONY PELLIZZON (PELLIZZON).

2.

All references to the "Code" are to the California
Business and Professions Code and all references to "Regulations"
are to Title 10, Chapter 6, California Code of Regulations.

3.

- A. At all times mentioned, GFC and PELLIZZON were licensed or had license rights issued by the Department of Real Estate (Department) as real estate brokers.
- B. At all times material herein, GFC was licensed by the Department as a corporate real estate broker by and through PELLIZZON, pursuant to Code Sections 10211 and 10159.2 for supervising the activities requiring a real estate license conducted on behalf GFC.

### **BROKERAGE**

4.

At all times mentioned, in the City of Laguna Hills,
County of Orange, GFC and PELLIZZON acted as real estate brokers
and conducted licensed activities within the meaning of:

A. Code Section 10131(d). GFC operated a mortgage and loan brokerage engaging in activities with the public wherein lenders and borrowers were solicited for loans secured directly

or collaterally by liens on real property, wherein such loans were arranged, negotiated, processed and consummated on behalf of others for compensation or in expectation of compensation and for fees often collected in advance as well as at the conclusion of transactions: and

B. In addition, GFC conducted broker-controlled escrows through its escrow division under the exemption set forth in California Financial Code Section 17006(a)(4) for real estate brokers performing escrows incidental to a real estate transaction where the broker is a party and where the broker is performing acts for which a real estate license is required.

#### AUDIT EXAMINATION

5.

On March 18, 2009, the Department completed an audit examination of the books and records of GFC pertaining to the mortgage loan and broker-escrow activities described in Paragraph 4 that require a real estate license. The audit examination covered a period of time beginning on March 1, 2006 to December 31, 2008. The audit examination revealed violations of the Code and the Regulations as set forth in the following paragraphs, and more fully discussed in Audit Report LA 080162 and LA 080191 and the exhibits and work papers attached to said audit report.

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#### TRUST ACCOUNTS

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At all times mentioned, in connection with the activities described in Paragraph 4, above, GFC accepted or received funds including funds in trust (hereinafter "trust funds") from or on behalf of actual or prospective parties, including lenders, borrowers and homeowners, to real estate transactions handled by GFC and thereafter made deposits and or disbursements of such funds. From time to time herein mentioned during the audit period, said trust funds were deposited and/or maintained by GFC in the bank account as follows:

"Gateway Funding Corp. Account No. 2890009142" Union Bank of California

Los Angeles, California

"Gateway Funding Corp. - Escrow Division Trust Account Account No. 1891615377"

Comercia Bank Los Angeles, California

"Gateway Funding Corp. Escrow Division Trust Account Account No. 001762249" Mellon First Business Bank

Los Angeles, California

(T/A #2)

(T/A #1)

(T/A)

VIOLATIONS OF THE REAL ESTATE LAW

7.

 In the course of activities described in Paragraphs 4 and 6, above, and during the examination period described in Paragraph 5, Respondents GFC and PELLIZZON, acted in violation of the Code and the Regulations in that Respondents:

- (a) Permitted, allowed or caused the disbursement of trust funds from T/A #1, where the disbursement of funds reduced the total of aggregate funds in T/A #1, to an amount which, on December 31, 2008, was \$6,452.57, less than the existing aggregate trust fund liability of GFC to every principal who was an owner of said funds, without first obtaining the prior written consent of the owners of said funds, in violation of Code Section 10145 and Regulations 2832.1, 2950(g) and 2951. \$4,063.84 of the shortage was restored on December 31, 2008, with \$2,388.73 remaining due and owing.
- (b) Mixed and commingled trust funds and personal funds by depositing the appraisal fee for Verushka Espinoza, as received from escrow into GFC's general operating account and issuing checks from said account to the appraiser after the aforesaid appraisal check was deposited, in violation of Code Sections 10145 and 10176(e) and Regulations 2832(a), 2950(d) and 2951.
- (c) Failed to maintain an accurate and complete control record for each beneficiary or transaction, thereby failing to

account for all trust funds received, deposited and disbursed for T/A #1, in violation of Code Section 10145 and Regulations 2831, 2950(d) and 2951.

(d) Failed to maintain an accurate and complete

- (d) Failed to maintain an accurate and complete separate record for each beneficiary or transaction, thereby failing to account for all trust funds received, deposited and disbursed for T/A #1, including appraisal fee for the Verushka Espinoza, in violation of Code Section 10145 and Regulations 2831.1, 2950(d) and 2951.
- (e) Permitted Gina Pellizon and Christine Moore, unlicensed and unbonded persons, to be authorized signatories on T/A and T/A #2, in violation of Code Section 10145 and Regulations 2834, 2950(d) and 2951.
- (f)(1) Failed to provide and/or maintain an approved Mortgage Loan Disclosure Statement containing all the information required by Code Section 10241(c), including anticipated liens on the subject properties before borrowers James Fox, Verushka Espinoza, Salvador/Patricia de La Pena, Russell/Kristin Widman and Stephan/Denise Snyder became obligated to perform under the terms of their respective loans, in violation of Code Section 10240(a) and Regulations 2840 and 2840.1; and
- (f)(2) Failed to provide or retain a true and correct copy of a Good Faith Estimate that satisfies the requirements of the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 (12 U.S.C.A 2601 et seq.), that (1) sets forth the broker's real estate

license number; and (2) a clear and conspicuous statement on the face of the document stating that the Good Faith Estimate does not constitute a loan commitment; and, further sets forth all applicable disclosures including but not limited to (3) yield spread premiums rebates by the lenders outside of closing for borrower James Fox, in violation of Code Section 10240(c) and Regulation 2840; and

(g) Failed to disclose in writing to all parties GFC and PELLIZZON's financial interest and ownership of their escrow division, in violation of Code Section 10145 and Regulation 2950(h).

## DISCIPLINARY STATUES AND REGULATIONS

8.

The conduct of Respondents GFC and PELLIZZON described in Paragraph 7, above, violated the Code and the Regulations as set forth below:

18	<u>PARAGRAPH</u>	PROVISIONS VIOLATED
19	·	
20	7(a)	Code Section 10145 and Regulations
21		2832.1, 2950(g) and 2951
22		·
23	7 (b)	Code Sections 10145 and 10176(e)
24	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	and Regulations 2832(a), 2950(d)

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and 2951

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1	7 (c)	Code Section 10145 and Regulations
2	(10)	
3		2831, 2950(d) and 2951
4		
5	7 (d)	Code Section 10145 and Regulations
6		
7		2831.1, 2950(d) and 2951
8		
9	7 (e)	Code Section 10145 and Regulations
10		2834, 2950(d) and 2951
11		
12		
13	7 (e)	Code Section 10145 and Regulations
14		2834, 2950(d) and 2951
15		
16		
17	7(f)	Code Sections 10240 and Regulations
18		2840 and 2840.1
19		
20	7 (a)	Code Section 10145 and Regulation
21	7 (g)	•
22	·	2950(h)
23		
. 24	The foregoing violations constitute cause for the suspension or	
25	revocation of the real estate license and license rights of GFC	
26	and PELLIZZON, under the provisions of Code Sections 10176(e),	
	10177(d) and/or 10177(g).	
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The overall conduct of Respondents GFC and PELLIZZON constitutes negligence. This conduct and violation is cause for the suspension or revocation of the real estate license and license rights of Respondents GFC and PELLIZZON pursuant to Code Section 10177(g).

10.

The overall conduct of Respondent PELLIZZON constitutes a failure on Respondent's part, as officer designated by a corporate broker licensee, to exercise the reasonable supervision and control over the licensed activities of GFC as required by Code Section 10159.2, and to keep GFC in compliance with the Real Estate Law, and is cause for the suspension or revocation of the real estate license and license rights of PELLIZZON pursuant to the provisions of Code Sections 10177(d), 10177(h) and/or 10177 (g).

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 the license and license rights of Respondents GATEWAY FUNDING CORPORATION and PAUL ANTHONY PELLIZZON, individually and as designated officer of Gateway Funding Corporation, 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 applicable provisions of law. Dated at Los Angeles, California

cc: Gateway Funding Corporation c/o Paul Anthony Pellizzon D.O. Robin Trujillo

Sacto

Audits - Isabel Beltran

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