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MAR 06 2012

DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

BY: *[Signature]*

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

* * *

In the Matter of the Accusation of) No. H-36732 LA
)
ARTURO FERNANDEZ,)
)
Respondent.)
_____)

ORDER SUSPENDING REAL ESTATE LICENSE

To: ARTURO FERNANDEZ
42 Via Prado
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688

On July 25, 2011, Respondent's real estate salesperson license was suspended for 30 days (stayed for 1 year on terms and conditions) by the Department of Real Estate as set forth in the Real Estate Commissioner's Decision of June 29, 2011, in Case No. H-36732 LA, effective July 25, 2011. Among those terms, conditions and restrictions, Respondent was required to submit, within six months from the aforementioned effective date, evidence of having taken and passed the Professional

1 Responsibility Examination administered by the Department. The
2 Commissioner has determined that Respondent has failed to satisfy
3 this condition.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Respondent's real
5 estate salesperson license and the exercise of any privileges
6 thereunder is hereby suspended until such time as Respondent
7 provides proof satisfactory to the Department of having taken and
8 passed the Professional Responsibility Examination, or pending
9 final determination made after hearing (see "Hearing Rights" set
10 forth below).

11 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all license certificates and
12 identification cards issued by the Department of Real Estate
13 which are in the possession of Respondent be immediately
14 surrendered by personal delivery or by mailing in the enclosed
15 self-addressed envelope to:

16 DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE
17 Attention: Flag Section
18 Post Office Box 187000
19 Sacramento, CA 95818-7000

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1 HEARING RIGHTS: You have the right to a hearing to
2 contest the Commissioner's determination that you are in
3 violation of the Order issued in this matter. If you desire a
4 hearing, you must submit a written request. The request may be in
5 any form, as long as it is in writing and indicates that you want
6 a hearing. Unless a written request for a hearing, signed by or
7 on behalf of you, is delivered or mailed to the Department at 320
8 West 4th Street, Suite 350, Los Angeles, California 90013-1105,
9 within 20 days after the date that this Order was mailed to or
10 served on you, the Department will not be obligated or required
11 to provide you with a hearing.

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13 This Order shall be effective immediately.

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15 DATED: 3/1/12

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17 BARBARA J. BIGBY
18 Acting Real Estate Commissioner

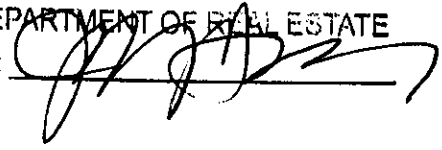
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FILED

DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

OCT 04 2011

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE
BY: 

In the Matter of the Accusation of)
MARK ALAN SHOEMAKER,)
Respondent.)

No. H-36732 LA
L-2010080855

In the Matter of the Second Amended)
Accusation of)
MARK ALAN SHOEMAKER,)
Respondent.)

No. H-36874 LA
L-2010110840

DECISION

The Proposed Decision dated August 24, 2011, of the Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings, is hereby adopted as the Decision of the Real Estate Commissioner in the above-entitled matter.

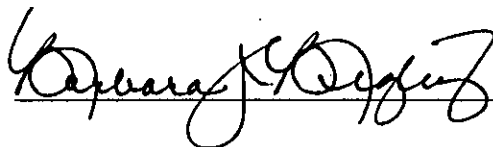
This Decision shall become effective at 12 o'clock noon on

OCT 24 2011

IT IS SO ORDERED

9/28/11

Barbara J. Bigby
Acting Real Estate Commissioner



BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

MARK ALAN SHOEMAKER,

Respondents

Case No. H-36732-LA

OAH No. 2010080855

In the Matter of the Second Amended
Accusation Against:

MARK ALAN SHOEMAKER,

Respondents.

Case No. H-36874-LA

OAH No. 2010110840

PROPOSED DECISION

Administrative Law Judge Coren D. Wong, Office of Administrative Hearings, State of California, heard these consolidated matters on July 1, 2011, in Los Angeles, California.

Cheryl D. Keily, Real Estate Counsel, represented Robin Trujillo and Dionne Faulk (collectively, complainants), Deputies Real Estate Commissioner of the State of California.

Mark Alan Shoemaker (respondent) represented himself.¹

Evidence was received, and the record was left open for the parties to submit simultaneous closing briefs and simultaneous reply briefs. Complainant's Closing Brief and Respondent's Closing Brief were received on July 22, 2011, and marked as Exhibits 18 and Q, respectively. Complainant's Reply Brief was received on August 4, 2011, and marked as Exhibit 19. Respondent's Reply Brief was received the following day and marked as Exhibit R. The record was closed and the matter submitted for decision on August 5, 2011.

¹ Prior to the hearing, Deputy Commissioner Trujillo reached a settlement with Luis Enrique Bahena and Arturo Fernandez in Case No. H-36732 and Deputy Commissioner Faulk reached a settlement with Fernando Toribio, Carlos Estupinian, Maricela Esther Cygan, and Ana Maria Solano in Case No. H-36874.

SUMMARY

Respondent is a licensed real estate broker and, until recently, an attorney licensed to practice in California. Complainants seek to discipline respondent's broker license on the grounds that respondent: 1) collected advance fees from clients without the approval of the Department; 2) employed or compensated unlicensed individuals (or individuals licensed under another broker) to collect the advance fees; 3) conducted business under a fictitious business name under which he was not licensed; and 4) was disbarred from the practice of law by the California Supreme Court. Cause to discipline respondent's license exists based on his use of a fictitious business name under which he was not licensed and his disbarment from the practice of law. The evidence establishes that he has not begun the road to rehabilitation since he continues to challenge the factual basis for his disbarment despite having stipulated to such discipline. Therefore, the only discipline supported by the evidence is the outright revocation of respondent's broker license.

FACTUAL FINDINGS

1. On January 30, 2006, the Department of Real Estate (Department) issued respondent Real Estate Broker License No. B01731858 (broker license). The license expired on January 29, 2010, and has not been renewed.² The Department issued a Desist and Refrain Order against respondent on October 19, 2010. There is no other history of discipline of the broker license.

2. On June 14, 1988, the State Bar of California issued respondent State Bar No. 134828 (State Bar license). On February 23, 2010, a representative of the State Bar Court of California and respondent executed a Stipulation Re Facts, Conclusions of Law and Disposition and Order Approving; Order of Involuntary Inactive Enrollment, whereby the parties agreed to the State Bar Court issuing an order recommending to the California Supreme Court that respondent be disbarred from the practice of law. On September 30, 2010, the State Bar Court approved the Stipulation. The California Supreme Court issued an order disbarring respondent from the practice of law on February 2, 2011. The order became final on March 4, 2011. (See, Cal. Rules of Court, rule 9.18(a) [the Supreme Court's order of discipline becomes final 30 days after it is filed, unless otherwise ordered].) There is no other history of discipline of the State Bar license.

3. On August 16, 2010, Robin Trujillo, acting solely in her official capacity as a Deputy Real Estate Commissioner of the State of California, filed an Accusation seeking to discipline the broker license on the grounds that respondent:

² The expiration of a real estate license does not divest the Department of jurisdiction to discipline such license. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 10103.)

1) collected an advance fee from Luisana Gutierrez, Jose Hernandez, Armando Camacho, and Diana Castro pursuant to a written advance fee agreement that was not approved by the Department; 2) employed or compensated individuals who were unlicensed (or were licensed under a different broker) to collect the advance fees; and 3) acted without Department authorization in using the fictitious name "Advocate for Fair Lending, LLC" to engage in activities requiring a real estate license. (Case No. 36732.)

4. On May 10, 2011, Dionne Faulk, acting solely in her official capacity as a Deputy Real Estate Commissioner of the State of California, filed a Second Amended Accusation seeking to discipline the broker license on the grounds that respondent: 1) collected an advance fee from Alicia Gomez, Barbara Lee Factor, Nicolas Tejeda, Barbara Ramos, Pedro Morales, Maximino Ferreira Lima, and Eduardo Medina Perez pursuant to a written advance fee agreement that was not approved by the Department; 2) employed or compensated individuals who were unlicensed (or were licensed under a different broker) to collect the advance fees; and 3) was ordered disbarred by the California Supreme Court for intentional, reckless, or repeated failure to perform legal services with competence; failure to promptly refund unearned advance fees; failure to adequately communicate with clients; failure to render appropriate accountings to clients; failure to release client files when requested; charging an unconscionable fee and engaging in an act of overreaching; failing to deposit client advanced costs into a client trust account; and aiding a non-attorney in the unauthorized practice of law. (Case No. 36874.)

Background Regarding Respondent's Activities

5. Respondent passed the California State Bar Examination in May 1988 and was issued his State Bar license the following month. He explained that for the first several years, his law practice focused primarily on advising business entities regarding fiscal matters and handling their litigation needs. Over time, he observed that there was a "big focus" on the interest rates for loans in the mortgage industry. He testified that he learned from account representatives for lenders and brokers that the industry issued interest rate cards and many lenders and brokers tried to obtain the highest interest rate possible for loans they issued, regardless of the particular borrower's credit worthiness. He asked one lender whether a prospective borrower should be told that he qualifies for a lower interest rate than the lender was offering, and the lender thought respondent was "crazy" and stated that such information should never be disclosed.

According to respondent, he researched the Federal Truth and Lending Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 1601-1667f, as amended (Act)) and the federal regulations interpreting the Act and concluded that lenders and mortgage brokers were violating the Act by not disclosing to borrowers the fact that they qualified for a lower interest rate than they were being offered. He concluded that borrowers who discovered such violations within three years of issuance of their loan had grounds for rescinding their loans and

any concomitant security agreements. He claimed to have spoken with staff attorneys with the Federal Reserve Bank in January 2008, who purportedly verified the accuracy of his conclusions.

6. On January 28, 2008, respondent filed Articles of Organization for Advocate For Fair Lending, LLC (Advocate). He was, and continuously has been, the owner and president of Advocate. He marketed Advocate as a business that helped "home owners that are trapped in their mortgages," that Advocate had "a team of attorneys that specialize in mortgage loans." He publicized and advertised Advocate primarily through mortgage brokers, many who became "net branches" of Advocate's "corporate office." A "net branch" was responsible for selling Advocate's services in return for a commission based on those sales. Clients paid monthly payments to Advocate for three months in an amount that was 70 percent of their monthly loan payment, with a minimum payment of \$1,000.

Once a client had engaged Advocate's services, they, or Advocate acting as their agent, would retrieve relevant loan documents from the lender. Advocate's "auditors" would then "audit" the loan documents using a software program in order to identify any violations of the Act. If violations were found, Advocate would draft and send a "demand" letter to the lender stating that violations had been found and offering a "settlement" in the form of a loan "restructure." The letter threatened that the loan would be "rescinded according to law" if the demand was not accepted.

While Advocate's client agreement stated that Advocate was "not engaged in loan modification services" and "is not a law firm," it also stated that the services included "analyz[ing] every client loan," "initiat[ing] legal action if necessary," "demand[ing] appropriate revision of Client's [sic] loan as appropriate based upon details of the audit process," and "rescind[ing] Client loan as appropriate." Advocate was able to perform these services through a limited power of attorney all clients were required to sign.

Advocate's demand letters were often ignored by lenders. In such instances, the client was told that legal action would be necessary and that they needed to hire an attorney. Respondent was often the attorney who was offered as an option. Respondent agreed to represent the client for \$1,000, which he characterized as "costs" or "expenses." His retainer agreement stated that he would "look to the opposing parties and the court for an award of attorneys fees" and that the client would not be responsible for any amount beyond that which he originally charged.

Improper Collection of an Advance Fee

7. Complainants alleged that respondent collected advance fees from Luisana Gutierrez, Jose Hernandez, Armando Camacho, Diana Castro, Alicia Gomez, Barbara Lee Factor, Nicolas Tejeda, Barbara Ramos, Pedro Morales, Maximino Ferreira Lima, and Eduardo Medina Perez pursuant to a written advance fee

agreement that was not approved by the Department. (Factual Findings 3 and 4.) The sole evidence offered to establish that the Department never approved an advance fee contract or advance fee advertising materials for use by respondent or Advocate was a Negative Affidavit signed by Sylvia I. Yrigollen. However, Ms. Yrigollen declared that she searched for, and did not find any, advance fee materials submitted for use by "Total Solution Mortgage, Inc.," or "Mark Alan Showmaker [sic], Designated Officer." Her declaration was silent about any such documents from Advocate or respondent in his capacity as the owner and president of Advocate. Additionally, Ms. Yrigollen said nothing about how long the Department maintains advance fee materials that have been submitted for approval or that she searched for such records submitted during the relevant time period. Therefore, it is impossible to determine whether she found no records because none in fact were ever submitted to the Department, such records were purged from the Department's files pursuant to a document retention policy, or she conducted an incomplete search.

Furthermore, complainant offered no evidence that any of the people alleged to have paid an advance fee, except for Diana Castro, did in fact pay such fee. (Factual Findings 3 and 4.) Other than Ms. Castro, none of the people who the Supreme Court concluded had paid an advance fee were alleged in the Accusation or Second Amended Accusation as having paid an advance fee.³ While Senior Deputy Commissioner James Howard Alston⁴ testified about complaints the Department received from Mr. Castro, Luisana Gutierrez, Jose Hernandez, and Armando Camacho at the hearing, the Department did not establish the witness' personal knowledge about the content of those complaints and his hearing testimony was based on his simultaneous reading of the declarations signed by those individuals.⁵

Complainant failed to prove that respondent collected an advance fee without the approval of the Department from Luisana Gutierrez, Jose Hernandez, Armando Camacho, Diana Castro, Alicia Gomez, Barbara Lee Factor, Nicolas Tejeda, Barbara Ramos, Pedro Morales, Maximino Ferreira Lima, or Eduardo Medina Perez, as explained in Legal Conclusion 4.

³ The Supreme Court's conclusion that Ms. Castro paid an advance fee was based on the Rules of Professional Conduct and did not consider the Real Estate Law.

⁴ Complainant's sole witness.

⁵ The declarations were admitted into evidence as administrative hearsay pursuant to Government Code section 11514, subdivision (a), because respondent timely requested, but was denied, the opportunity to cross-examine the declarants. There was no non-hearsay evidence for the declarations to supplement or explain. Therefore, none of the declarations were considered. (Gov. Code, § 11513, subd. (d).)

Improper Employment or Compensation of Unlicensed Individuals

8. Complainants alleged that respondent employed or compensated unlicensed individuals (or individuals licensed under a different broker) to collect advance fees from Luisana Gutierrez, Jose Hernandez, Armando Camacho, Diana Castro, Alicia Gomez, Barbara Lee Factor, Nicolas Tejeda, Barbara Ramos, Pedro Morales, Maximino Ferreira Lima, and Eduardo Medina Perez. (Factual Findings 3 and 4.) Complainants failed to prove that respondent employed or compensated any individuals, whether licensed or not, to collect advance fees from anyone. In fact, the evidence established that those individuals were employed or compensated by Advocate. Furthermore, there is no evidence that Luisana Gutierrez, Jose Hernandez, Armando Camacho, Alicia Gomez, Barbara Lee Factor, Nicolas Tejeda, Barbara Ramos, Pedro Morales, Maximino Ferreira Lima, or Eduardo Medina Perez paid an advance fee to anyone, as discussed in Factual Finding 7.

Unauthorized Use of a Fictitious Business Name

9. Respondent provided his loan modification services under the fictitious business name of "Advocate for Fair Lending, LLC." (Factual Finding 6.) However, his broker license was issued to him as an individual, not him doing business under a fictitious business name. (Factual Finding 1.)

Disbarment from the Practice of Law

10. The California Supreme Court's order disbarring respondent from the practice of law became final on March 4, 2011. (Factual Finding 2.) The order contained the following conclusions of law about respondent's actions:

- a. By not performing any legal services of value for any of the above listed clients, including but not limited to, negotiating and obtaining a home mortgage "restructure," "modification," or any other change, Respondent intentionally, recklessly or repeatedly failed to perform legal services with competence in willful violation of rule 3-110(A) of the Rules of Professional Conduct.
- b. By failing to refund promptly any part of the advance fees or costs each of the above listed clients paid, despite not having earned that fee or expended those costs, Respondent willfully violated rule 3-700(D)(2) of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

c. By failing to provide his clients with an accounting of advance fees and/or costs they paid, Respondent willfully failed to render appropriate accounts to his clients in willful violation of rule 4-100(b)(3) of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

d. By failing to deposit the advance costs clients paid into a client trust account, Respondent willfully violated rule 4-100(A) of the Rules of Professions Conduct.

Factors in Aggravation, Mitigation, and Rehabilitation

11. Respondent offered little, if any, evidence to rebut complainants' evidence. (Evid. Code, § 413 [a party's failure to rebut incriminating evidence raises an inference that he cannot].) Instead, he chose to focus his efforts on challenging the Department's jurisdiction to discipline his broker license. As discussed in Legal Conclusions 1 through 3, each of his arguments is rejected.

12. As discussed below, cause exists to discipline respondent's broker license because he conducted business under Advocate's name even though he was licensed solely in his individual capacity and the California Supreme Court disbarred him from the practice of law. His belated attempt to collaterally attack the Supreme Court's order established that he has not begun the road towards rehabilitation. (See, *Seide v. Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California* (1989) 49 Cal.3d 933, 940 ["Fully acknowledging the wrongfulness of his actions is an essential step towards rehabilitation."]; see also, *Harrington v. Department of Real Estate* (1989) 214 Cal.App.3d 394, 402 ["Honesty and truthfulness are two qualities deemed by the Legislature to bear on one's fitness and qualification to be a real estate licensee."]; *In re Andreani* (1939) 14 Cal.2d 736, 749 [the existence of rehabilitation is difficult to establish affirmatively, "but its nonexistence may be 'proved' by a single act."]) Therefore, the only discipline supported by the evidence is the outright revocation of his license.

LEGAL CONCLUSION

Jurisdiction

1. Respondent challenged the Department's authority to discipline his broker license on the ground that he was not acting as a real estate broker when he was providing his loan modification services to clients through Advocate. His argument is based on an overly myopic reading of the statutory definition of "real estate broker," which is, in relevant part:

A real estate broker within the meaning of this part is a person who, for a compensation or in expectation of a compensation, regardless of the form or time of payment, does or negotiates to do one or more of the following acts for another or others:

[¶ . . . ¶]

(d) Solicits borrowers or lenders for or negotiates loans or collects payments or performs services for borrowers or lenders or note owners in connection with loans secured directly or collaterally by liens on real property or on a business opportunity. . . .

(Bus. & Prof. Code, § 10131.)

Respondent argued that Advocate simply performed “audits” of clients’ home loans to determine whether the lender violated the Act. Clients were provided with a report, which noted any violations, for the purpose of contacting their lenders and negotiating a loan modification. But the evidence established that Advocate went much further. After the loan audit was performed and violations of the Act were discovered, Advocate drafted a “demand” letter, which was sent to the particular lender and pointed out any violations of the Act discovered by Advocate’s auditors. The letter offered a “settlement” in the form of a loan “restructure.” If this settlement was rejected, the letter threatened legal action, in which case the loan would be “rescinded according to law.” (Factual Finding 6.)

The evidence established that the Advocate provided loan modification services and that respondent was acting as a real estate broker by providing such services. The Department has jurisdiction to discipline respondent’s broker license.

2. Respondent also challenged the Department’s jurisdiction to discipline his broker license for his alleged advance fee violations on the ground that prior to 2009, a broker was allowed to collect an advance fee in connection with providing loan modification services. On October 11, 2009, the Governor signed S.B. 94, which now prohibits such activity. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 10085.6, subd. (a).) Complainant seeks discipline for respondent’s violation of Business and Professions Code section 10085 for collecting advance fees pursuant to an advance fee agreement that was not approved by the Department, not because he collected advance fees in connection with his provision of loan modification services. Besides, respondent’s challenge is moot in light of the absence of cause for discipline for alleged advance fee violations as discussed in Legal Conclusion 4.

3. Respondent challenged the Department's jurisdiction to discipline his broker license based on his disbarment from the practice of law because he gave the State Bar notice that he was rescinding the Stipulation Re Facts, Conclusions of Law and Disposition and Order Approving, the factual basis for his disbarment. The notice of rescission, he opined, automatically vitiated the Supreme Court's order disbaring him. He is wrong. While he is correct that stipulated settlements in administrative proceedings are treated the same as those in civil matters and may be rescinded on the same grounds as any other contract (see, *Stermer v. Board of Dental Examiners* (2002) 95 Cal.App.4th 128, 133), the Stipulation was merged into the Supreme Court's opinion on February 2, 2011. (Factual Finding 2; see, *Munoz v. MacMillan* (2011) 195 Cal.App.4th 648, 660 [all contractual rights are merged into and extinguished by entry of judgment].) The Supreme Court's order became final on March 4, 2011. (Factual Finding 2.) Respondent did not establish that the Supreme Court's opinion has been rescinded.

Cause to Discipline Respondent's Broker License

4. A broker license may be disciplined if the licensee claims, demands, charges, receives, collects, or contracts for the collection of an advance fee without first obtaining Department approval of materials used to collect such fee. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 10085; see, Bus. & Prof. Code, § 10177, subds. (d) and (g).) There is no evidence that the Department never approved respondent's advance fee materials. (Factual Finding 7.) Nor is there any evidence that he collected an advance fee from Luisana Gutierrez, Jose Hernandez, Armando Camacho, Alicia Gomez, Barbara Lee Factor, Nicolas Tejeda, Barbara Ramos, Pedro Morales, Maximino Ferreira Lima, or Eduardo Medina Perez, as alleged in the Accusation and Second Amended Accusation. (Factual Findings 3, 4, and 7; see, *Linda Jones General Builder v. Contractors' State License Board* (1987) 194 Cal.app.3d 1320, 1324 ["Disciplinary action can be founded only upon charges made in the accusation."]; *Wheeler v. State Board of Forestry* (1983) 144 Cal.App.3d 522, 526-527 [the order of discipline must be based on the law and facts alleged in the accusation].)⁶ Therefore, no cause exists to discipline respondent's broker license pursuant to Business and Professions Code sections 10085 or 10177, subdivisions (d) or (g).

5. A broker license may be disciplined if the licensee employs or compensates an unlicensed individual (or an individual licensed under a different broker) for performing activities for which a real estate license is required. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 10137; see, Bus. & Prof. Code, § 10177, subds. (d) and (g).) Since it was Advocate who employed or compensated individuals to collect advance fees and

⁶ While the Supreme Court's order disbaring respondent from the practice of law is conclusive evidence that he collected an advance fee from Ms. Castro, there was no evidence that such fee was collected pursuant to an advance fee agreement that was never approved by the Department. (Factual Finding 7.)

there was no evidence that respondent collected advance fees from Luisana Gutierrez, Jose Hernandez, Armando Camacho, Alicia Gomez, Barbara Lee Factor, Nicolas Tejada, Barbara Ramos, Pedro Morales, Maximino Ferreira Lima, and Eduardo Medina Perez (Factual Finding 8; Legal Conclusion 4), no cause exists for disciplining respondent's broker license pursuant to Business and Professions Code sections 10137 or 10177, subdivisions (d) or (g), based on his alleged unlawful employment or compensation of an unlicensed individual (or an individual licensed under a different broker) for collecting such fees (Factual Finding 8).

6. A person cannot perform services under a fictitious business name if the performance of such services requires a real estate license, unless he has a real estate license in the name of the fictitious business. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 10, § 2731, subd. (a); see, Bus. & Prof. Code, § 10159.5 [applicants seeking a license under a fictitious business name must include a copy of their fictitious business name statement that was filed with the County with their application].)

Respondent performed loan modification services under the fictitious name of "Advocate," even though he was licensed solely in his individual capacity. (Factual Finding 9.) Therefore, cause to discipline the broker license exists pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 10177, subdivision (d), based on his willful violation of the Real Estate Law, or a regulation adopted pursuant to such law. No cause exists to discipline the broker license pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 10177, subdivision (g), because respondent did not negligently or incompetently perform an act for which he was required to be licensed.

7. A broker license may be disciplined when the licensee is also a licensed attorney and the State Bar has disciplined his license to practice law for conduct which, if committed by a broker, would also constitute grounds for discipline under the Real Estate Law. Business and Professions Code section 10177, subdivision (f), provides for discipline if the licensee has:

Acted or conducted himself or herself in a manner that would have warranted the denial of his or her application for a real estate license, or has either had a license denied or had a license issued by another agency of this state, another state, or the federal government revoked or suspended for acts that, if done by a real estate licensee, would be grounds for the suspension or revocation of a California real estate license, if the action of denial, revocation, or suspension by the other agency or entity was taken only after giving the licensee or applicant fair notice of the charges, an opportunity for a hearing, and other due process protections comparable to the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340), Chapter 4 (commencing with

Section 11370), and Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code), and only upon an express finding of a violation of law by the agency or entity.

(See, *Berg v. Davi* (2005) 130 Cal.App.4th 223 [affirming denial of application for real estate license on the grounds that the applicant was previously disbarred from the practice of law].)

The California Supreme Court issued an order disbarring respondent from the practice of law on February 2, 2011, and the order became final on March 4, 2011. (Factual Finding 2.) Some of the conduct for which respondent was disbarred would also constitute grounds for discipline under the Real Estate Law if committed by a real estate licensee. (Factual Findings 10(a), 10(b), 10(c), and 10(d); see, Bus. & Prof. Code, §§ 10145, subd. (a)(1); 10146; 10176, subds. (a), (b), and (i); 10177, subd. (d).) The Supreme Court's findings that respondent committed such conduct are binding on respondent and cannot be collaterally attacked. (See, *State Bar of California v. Statile* (2009) 168 Cal.App.4th 650, 671 [the State Bar Court's decision to grant an application for reimbursement by the Client Security Fund collaterally estops the attorney from challenging the Client Security Fund's claim for reimbursement in a subsequent action]; *Berg v. Davi, supra*, 130 Cal.App.4th 223, 231 [collateral estoppel applies in administrative proceedings].) Furthermore, respondent stipulated to the factual basis for his disbarment. (See, *Gonzales v. Pacific Greyhound Lines* (1950) 34 Cal.2d 749, 754-758 [a party's stipulation to facts constitutes a judicial admission]; *Palmer v. City of Long Beach* (1948) 33 Cal.2d 134, 141-142 ["Unless the trial court . . . permits a party to withdraw from a stipulation, it is conclusive upon the parties, and the truth of the facts contained therein cannot be contradicted."]))

Respondent's Reply Brief distinguishes *Berg* on grounds which are not relevant here. He argued that *Berg* involved an administrative decision which did not deny a fundamental right. There is no question that the discipline of a professional license such as respondent's broker license involves a fundamental right and that cause for discipline must be established by clear and convincing evidence. (See, *The Grubb Company, Inc. v. Department of Real Estate* (2011) 194 Cal.App.4th 1494, 1502.) That does not alter *Berg's* holding that the discipline of a real estate licensee's State Bar license constitutes grounds for disciplining his real estate license under Business and Professions Code section 10177, subdivision (f). (*Berg v. Davi, supra*, 130 Cal.App.4th at p. 225.)

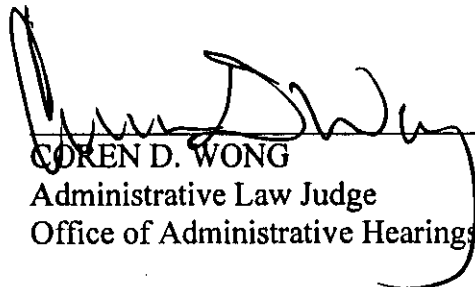
For the reasons discussed above, cause exists to discipline respondent's broker license pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 10177, subdivision (f).

8. Cause exists to discipline respondent's broker license for the reasons discussed in Legal Conclusions 6 and 7, individually and collectively. As discussed in Factual Finding 12, the appropriate discipline is the outright revocation of his license.

ORDER

All licenses and licensing rights of respondent Mark Alan Shoemaker under the Real Estate Law are REVOKED.

DATED: August 24, 2011


COREN D. WONG
Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings

1 Department of Real Estate
2 320 West 4th Street, Suite 350
3 Los Angeles, CA 90013-1105
4 Telephone: (213) 576-6982

FILED

JUL 05 2011

DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE
BY: 

8 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE
9 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

10 * * *

11
12 In the Matter of the Accusation

No. 36732 LA
No. L-2010080855

13 MARK ALAN SHOEMAKER;)
14 LUIS ENRIQUE BAHENA; and)
15 ARTURO FERNANDEZ,)
16 Respondents.)

STIPULATION AND
AGREEMENT

17 In the Matter of the Accusation

No. H-36874 LA
No. L-2010110840

18 MARK ALAN SHOEMAKER;)
19 FERNANDO TORIBIO; CARLOS)
20 ESTUPINIAN; MARICELA ESTHER)
21 CYGAN; and ANA MARIA SOLANO,)
22 Respondents.)

23 It is hereby stipulated by and between ARTURO
24 FERNANDEZ (sometimes referred to as "Respondent"), and his
25 attorney, Timothy E. Nilan, and the Complainant, acting by and
26 through Cheryl Keily, Counsel for the Department of Real Estate,
27 as follows for the purpose of settling and disposing of the
Accusation filed on July 22, 2010, in this matter.

1 1. All issues which were to be contested and all
2 evidence which was to be presented by Complainant and Respondent
3 at a formal hearing on the Accusation, which hearing was to be
4 held in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative
5 Procedure Act (APA), shall instead and in place thereof be
6 submitted solely on the basis of the provisions of this
7 Stipulation and Agreement.

8 2. Respondent has received, read and understands the
9 Statement to Respondent, the Discovery Provisions of the APA and
10 the Accusation filed by the Department of Real Estate
11 ("Department") in this proceeding.

12 3. On August 9, 2010, Respondent filed a Notice of
13 Defense, pursuant to Section 11506 of the Government Code for
14 the purpose of requesting a hearing on the allegations in the
15 Accusation. Respondent hereby freely and voluntarily withdraws
16 said Notice of Defense. Respondent acknowledges that he
17 understands that by withdrawing said Notice of Defense he will
18 thereby waive his right to require the Commissioner to prove the
19 allegations in the Accusation at a contested hearing held in
20 accordance with the provisions of the APA and that he will waive
21 other rights afforded to him in connection with the hearing,
22 such as the right to present evidence in defense of the
23 allegations in the Accusation and the right to cross-examine
24 witnesses.

25 4. This Stipulation and Agreement is based on the
26 factual allegations contained in the Accusation filed in this
27 proceeding. In the interest of expedience and economy,

1 Respondent chooses not to litigate these allegations at a
2 formal administrative hearing, but to remain silent and
3 understands that, as a result thereof, these factual
4 allegations, without being admitted or denied, will serve as a
5 prima facie basis for the disciplinary action stipulated to
6 herein. This Stipulation and Agreement and Respondent's
7 decision not to contest the Accusation are hereby expressly
8 limited to this proceeding and made for the sole purpose of
9 reaching an agreed disposition of this proceeding. Respondent's
10 decision not to contest the factual allegations at a formal
11 administrative hearing is made solely for the purpose of
12 effectuating this Stipulation and Agreement and is intended to
13 be non-binding upon Respondent in any actions against him by
14 third parties. The Real Estate Commissioner shall not be
15 required to provide further evidence to prove said factual
16 allegations.
17
18

19 5. It is understood by the parties that the Real
20 Estate Commissioner may adopt the Stipulation and Agreement as
21 his decision in this matter, thereby imposing the penalty and
22 sanctions on Respondent's real estate licenses and license
23 rights as set forth in the below "Order". In the event that
24 the Commissioner in his discretion does not adopt the
25 Stipulation and Agreement, it shall be void and of no effect,
26 and Respondent shall retain the right to a hearing and
27 proceeding on the Accusation under all the provisions of the

1 APA and shall not be bound by any admission or waiver made
2 herein.

3 6. The Order or any subsequent Order of the Real
4 Estate Commissioner made pursuant to this Stipulation and
5 Agreement shall not constitute an estoppel, merger or bar to any
6 further administrative or civil proceedings by the Department of
7 Real Estate with respect to any matters which were not
8 specifically alleged to be causes for accusation in this
9 proceeding.

10 DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

11 By reason of the foregoing stipulations, admissions,
12 and waivers, and solely for the purpose of settlement of the
13 pending Accusation without a hearing, it is stipulated and
14 agreed that the following determination of issues shall be
15 made:
16

17 The conduct of Respondent, as described in the
18 Accusation, is in violation of Business and Professions Code
19 Section 10130, and is a basis for discipline of Respondent's
20 license and license rights as violations of the Real Estate Law
21 pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 10177(g).
22

23 ORDER

24 WHEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING ORDER is hereby made:

25 I. ALL licenses and licensing rights of Respondent
26 ARTURO FERNANDEZ under the Real Estate Law are suspended for a
27 period of thirty (30) days from the effective date of this
Decision. The entire period of the thirty (30) day suspension

1 shall be stayed for one (1) year upon the following terms and
2 conditions:

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

6 b. That no final subsequent determination be made,
7 after hearing or upon stipulation, that cause for disciplinary
8 action occurred within one (1) year of the effective date of
9 this Decision. Should such a determination be made, the
10 Commissioner may, in his discretion, vacate and set aside the
11 stay order and reimpose all or a portion of the stayed
12 suspension. Should no such determination be made, the stay
13 imposed herein shall become permanent.

14 2. Respondent shall, within six months from the
15 effective date of this Decision, take and pass the Professional
16 Responsibility Examination administered by the Department
17 including the payment of the appropriate examination fee. If
18 Respondent fails to satisfy this condition, the Commissioner may
19 order suspension of Respondent's license until Respondent passes
20 the examination.

21
22 DATED: 6/2/11


CHERYL D. KEILY, Counsel
DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

23
24 * * *

25 I have read the Stipulation and Agreement, and its
26 terms are understood by me and are agreeable and acceptable to
27 me. I understand that I am waiving rights given to me by the

1 California Administrative Procedure Act (including but not
2 limited to Sections 11506, 11508, 11509 and 11513 of the
3 Government Code), and I willingly, intelligently and voluntarily
4 waive those rights, including the right of requiring the
5 Commissioner to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a
6 hearing at which I would have the right to cross-examine
7 witnesses against me and to present evidence in defense and
8 mitigation of the charges.

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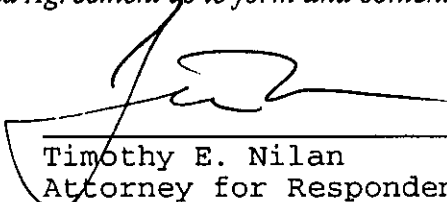
1 Respondent can signify acceptance and approval of the
2 terms and conditions of this Stipulation and Agreement by faxing
3 a copy of its signature page, as actually signed by Respondent,
4 to the Department at the following telephone/fax number (213)
5 576-6917. Respondent agrees, acknowledges, and understands that
6 by electronically sending to the Department a fax copy of his
7 actual signature as it appears on the Stipulation and Agreement,
8 that receipt of the faxed copy by the Department shall be as
9 binding on Respondent as if the Department had received the
10 original signed Stipulation and Agreement.

11
12 DATED: 5/26/11


ARTURO FERNANDEZ,
Respondent

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

16
17 DATED: 6/1/11


Timothy E. Nilan
Attorney for Respondent

18 * * *

19
20 The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement is hereby
21 adopted as my Decision in this matter and shall become effective
22 at 12 o'clock noon on _____, 2011.

23 IT IS SO ORDERED _____, 2011.

24
25 _____
26 Real Estate Commissioner
27

1 Respondent can signify acceptance and approval of the
2 terms and conditions of this Stipulation and Agreement by faxing
3 a copy of its signature page, as actually signed by Respondent,
4 to the Department at the following telephone/fax number (213)
5 576-6917. Respondent agrees, acknowledges, and understands that
6 by electronically sending to the Department a fax copy of his
7 actual signature as it appears on the Stipulation and Agreement,
8 that receipt of the faxed copy by the Department shall be as
9 binding on Respondent as if the Department had received the
10 original signed Stipulation and Agreement.

11
12 DATED: _____

ARTURO FERNANDEZ,
Respondent

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

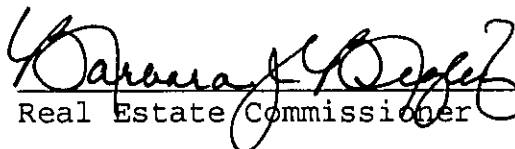
16
17 DATED: _____

Timothy E. Nilan
Attorney for Respondent

18 * * *

19 The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement is hereby
20 adopted as my Decision in this matter and shall become effective
21 at 12 o'clock noon on JUL 25 2011, 2011.

22 IT IS SO ORDERED 6/29, 2011.
23

24 
25 Real Estate Commissioner
26
27

1 Department of Real Estate
2 320 West 4th Street, Suite 350
3 Los Angeles, CA 90013-1105

4 Telephone: (213) 576-6982

FILED

JUN 10 2011

DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

BY: 

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

* * *

12 In the Matter of the Accusation

No. 36732 LA

No. L-2010080855

13 MARK ALAN SHOEMAKER;)

14 LUIS ENRIQUE BAHENA; and)

15 ARTURO FERNANDEZ;)

16 Respondents.)

STIPULATION AND
AGREEMENT

17 In the Matter of the Accusation

No. H-36874 LA

No. L-2010110840

18 MARK ALAN SHOEMAKER;)

19 FERNANDO TORIBIO; CARLOS)

20 ESTUPINIAN; MARICELA ESTHER)

21 CYGAN; and ANA MARIA SOLANO,)

22 Respondents.)

23 It is hereby stipulated by and between LUIS ENRIQUE
24 BAHENA (sometimes referred to as "Respondent"), and the
25 Complainant, acting by and through Cheryl Keily, Counsel for the
26 Department of Real Estate, as follows for the purpose of
27 settling and disposing of the Accusation filed on July 22, 2010,
in this matter.

1 1. All issues which were to be contested and all
2 evidence which was to be presented by Complainant and Respondent
3 at a formal hearing on the Accusation, which hearing was to be
4 held in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative
5 Procedure Act (APA), shall instead and in place thereof be
6 submitted solely on the basis of the provisions of this
7 Stipulation and Agreement.

8 2. Respondent has received, read and understands the
9 Statement to Respondent, the Discovery Provisions of the APA and
10 the Accusation filed by the Department of Real Estate
11 ("Department") in this proceeding.

12 3. On August 9, 2010, Respondent filed a Notice of
13 Defense, pursuant to Section 11506 of the Government Code for
14 the purpose of requesting a hearing on the allegations in the
15 Accusation. Respondent hereby freely and voluntarily withdraws
16 said Notice of Defense. Respondent acknowledges that he
17 understands that by withdrawing said Notice of Defense he will
18 thereby waive his right to require the Commissioner to prove the
19 allegations in the Accusation at a contested hearing held in
20 accordance with the provisions of the APA and that he will waive
21 other rights afforded to him in connection with the hearing,
22 such as the right to present evidence in defense of the
23 allegations in the Accusation and the right to cross-examine
24 witnesses.

25 4. This Stipulation and Agreement is based on the
26 factual allegations contained in the Accusation filed in this
27 proceeding. In the interest of expedience and economy,

1 Respondent chooses not to litigate these allegations at a
2 formal administrative hearing, but to remain silent and
3 understands that, as a result thereof, these factual
4 allegations, without being admitted or denied, will serve as a
5 prima facie basis for the disciplinary action stipulated to
6 herein. This Stipulation and Agreement and Respondent's
7 decision not to contest the Accusation are hereby expressly
8 limited to this proceeding and made for the sole purpose of
9 reaching an agreed disposition of this proceeding. Respondent's
10 decision not to contest the factual allegations at a formal
11 administrative hearing is made solely for the purpose of
12 effectuating this Stipulation and Agreement and is intended to
13 be non-binding upon Respondent in any actions against him by
14 third parties. The Real Estate Commissioner shall not be
15 required to provide further evidence to prove said factual
16 allegations.
17
18
19

20 5. It is understood by the parties that the Real
21 Estate Commissioner may adopt the Stipulation and Agreement as
22 his decision in this matter, thereby imposing the penalty and
23 sanctions on Respondent's real estate licenses and license
24 rights as set forth in the below "Order". In the event that
25 the Commissioner in his discretion does not adopt the
26 Stipulation and Agreement, it shall be void and of no effect,
27 and Respondent shall retain the right to a hearing and
proceeding on the Accusation under all the provisions of the

1 APA and shall not be bound by any admission or waiver made
2 herein.

3 6. The Order or any subsequent Order of the Real
4 Estate Commissioner made pursuant to this Stipulation and
5 Agreement shall not constitute an estoppel, merger or bar to any
6 further administrative or civil proceedings by the Department of
7 Real Estate with respect to any matters which were not
8 specifically alleged to be causes for accusation in this
9 proceeding.

10 DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

11 By reason of the foregoing stipulations, admissions,
12 and waivers, and solely for the purpose of settlement of the
13 pending Accusation without a hearing, it is stipulated and
14 agreed that the following determination of issues shall be
15 made:
16

17 The conduct of Respondent, as described in the
18 Accusation, is in violation of Business and Professions Code
19 Section 10130, and is a basis for discipline of Respondent's
20 license and license rights as violations of the Real Estate Law
21 pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 10177(g).
22

23 ORDER

24 WHEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING ORDER is hereby made:

25 I. ALL licenses and licensing rights of Respondent
26 LUIS ENRIQUE BAHENA under the Real Estate Law are suspended for
27 a period of thirty (30) days from the effective date of this
Decision. The entire period of the thirty (30) day suspension

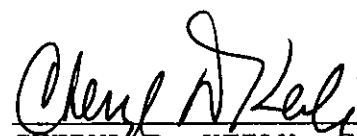
1 shall be stayed for one (1) year upon the following terms and
2 conditions:

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

6 b. That no final subsequent determination be made,
7 after hearing or upon stipulation, that cause for disciplinary
8 action occurred within one (1) year of the effective date of
9 this Decision. Should such a determination be made, the
10 Commissioner may, in his discretion, vacate and set aside the
11 stay order and reimpose all or a portion of the stayed
12 suspension. Should no such determination be made, the stay
13 imposed herein shall become permanent.

14 2. Respondent shall, within six months from the
15 effective date of this Decision, take and pass the Professional
16 Responsibility Examination administered by the Department
17 including the payment of the appropriate examination fee. If
18 Respondent fails to satisfy this condition, the Commissioner may
19 order suspension of Respondent's license until Respondent passes
20 the examination.

21
22 DATED: May 16, 2011


CHERYL D. KEILY, Counsel
DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

23
24 * * *

25 I have read the Stipulation and Agreement, and its
26 terms are understood by me and are agreeable and acceptable to
27 me. I understand that I am waiving rights given to me by the

1 California Administrative Procedure Act (including but not
2 limited to Sections 11506, 11508, 11509 and 11513 of the
3 Government Code), and I willingly, intelligently and voluntarily
4 waive those rights, including the right of requiring the
5 Commissioner to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a
6 hearing at which I would have the right to cross-examine
7 witnesses against me and to present evidence in defense and
8 mitigation of the charges.

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1 Respondent can signify acceptance and approval of the
2 terms and conditions of this Stipulation and Agreement by faxing
3 a copy of its signature page, as actually signed by Respondent,
4 to the Department at the following telephone/fax number (213)
5 576-6917. Respondent agrees, acknowledges, and understands that
6 by electronically sending to the Department a fax copy of his
7 actual signature as it appears on the Stipulation and Agreement,
8 that receipt of the faxed copy by the Department shall be as
9 binding on Respondent as if the Department had received the
10 original signed Stipulation and Agreement.

11
12 DATED: 4/29/2011


LUIS ENRIQUE BAHENA,
Respondent

15 * * *

16 The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement is hereby
17 adopted as my Decision in this matter and shall become effective
18 at 12 o'clock noon on JUN 30 2011, 2011.

19 IT IS SO ORDERED 6/6, 2011.

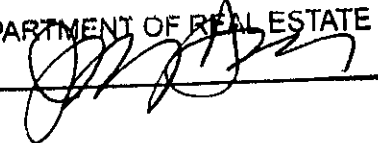
20
21 
22 Real Estate Commissioner

1 CHERYL D. KEILY, SNB# 94008
2 Department of Real Estate
3 320 West Fourth Street, Ste. 350
4 Los Angeles, California 90013

5 Telephone: (213) 576-6982
6 (Direct) (213) 576-6905

FILED

JUL 22 2010

DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE
BY: 

9 DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

10 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

11 * * * * *

12 In the Matter of the Accusation

No. H-36732 LA

13 MARK ALAN SHOEMAKER;) A C C U S A T I O N
14 LUIS ENRIQUE BAHENA; and)
15 ARTURO FERNANDEZ;)
16 Respondents.)
_____)

17
18 The Complainant, Robin Trujillo, a Deputy Real Estate
19 Commissioner of the State of California, for cause of Accusation
20 against MARK ALAN SHOEMAKER ("SHOEMAKER"); LUIS ENRIQUE BAHENA
21 ("BAHENA"); and ARTURO FERNANDEZ ("FERNANDEZ") alleges as
22 follows:

23 1.

24 The Complainant, Robin Trujillo, a Deputy Real Estate
25 Commissioner of the State of California, makes this Accusation in
26 her official capacity.

27 ///

2.

Respondent SHOEMAKER is presently licensed and/or has license rights under the Real Estate Law as real estate broker.

3.

Respondents BAHENA and FERNANDEZ are presently licensed and/or have license rights under the Real Estate Law as real estate salespersons.

4.

At no time relevant herein were Advocate for Fair Lending, LLC ("Advocate") or Mariana Rodriguez ("Rodriguez") licensed by the Department in any capacity.

5.

Respondent SHOEMAKER ordered, caused, authorized or participated in the conduct of Advocate, as is alleged in this Accusation.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACCUSATION
(Advance Fee Violation)

6.

At all times mentioned herein, Respondent SHOEMAKER engaged in the business of a real estate broker in the State of California within the meaning of Code Sections 10131(d) and 10131.2 including brokering mortgage loans and performing loan modification activities and claiming, demanding, charging, receiving, collecting or contracting for the collection of an advance fee, within the meaning of Code Section 10026, including, but not limited to, the following loan modification activities

1 with respect to loans which were secured by liens on real
2 property:

3 a. On or about May 15, 2008, Luisana Gutierrez
4 ("Gutierrez") paid an advance fee of \$1,742.30 to BAHENA on
5 behalf of Respondent SHOEMAKER, doing business as Advocate. The
6 advance fee was collected pursuant to the provisions of an
7 agreement pertaining to loan solicitation, negotiation, and
8 modification services to be provided by Respondent SHOEMAKER,
9 doing business as Advocate, with respect to a loan secured by
10 the real property located at 1432 E. 54th Street, Los Angeles,
11 California 90011.

12 b. On or about December 5, 2008, Jose Hernandez
13 ("Hernandez") paid an advance fee of \$4,303.92 to FERNANDEZ on
14 behalf of Respondent SHOEMAKER, doing business as Advocate. The
15 advance fee was collected pursuant to the provisions of an
16 agreement pertaining to loan solicitation, negotiation, and
17 modification services to be provided by Respondent SHOEMAKER
18 through Advocate with respect to loans secured by the real
19 property located at 5587 Marlatt Street, Mira Loma, California
20 and 6655 West Winter Way, Tucson, Arizona.

22 c. On or about December 17, 2008, Armando Camacho
23 ("Camacho") paid an advance fee of \$4,200 to Rodriguez on behalf
24 of Respondent SHOEMAKER, doing business as Advocate. The
25 advance fee was collected pursuant to the provisions of an
26 agreement pertaining to loan solicitation, negotiation, and
27 modification services to be provided with respect to a loan

1 secured by the real property located at 313 Infinidad Street,
2 Oxnard, California. Rodriguez represented to Camacho that the
3 services would be provided by Advocate.

4 d. On or about November 22, 2008, Diana Castro
5 ("Castro") paid an advance fee of \$2,621.00 to SHOEMAKER, doing
6 business as Advocate. The advance fee was collected pursuant to
7 the provisions of an agreement pertaining to loan solicitation,
8 negotiation, and modification services to be provided by
9 Respondent SHOEMAKER through Advocate with respect to a loan
10 secured by the real property located at 3409 Glen Abbey Lane,
11 Oxnard, California 93036.

12 7.

13 Respondents collected the advance fees described in
14 Paragraph 6, above, pursuant to the provisions of written
15 agreements which constitute an advance fee agreement within the
16 meaning of Code Section 10085.

17 8.

18 Respondent SHOEMAKER failed to submit the written
19 agreement referred to in Paragraphs 6 and 7, above, to the
20 Commissioner ten days before using it in violation of Code
21 Section 10085 and Section 2970, Title 10, Chapter 6, Code of
22 Regulations ("Regulations").

23 9.

24 The conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondents, as
25 set forth above, are cause for the suspension or revocation of
26
27

1 the licenses and license rights of Respondents pursuant to Code
2 Sections 10085, 10177(d) and/or 10177(g).

3 SECOND CAUSE OF ACCUSATION

4 (Unlicensed Activity by Respondents BAHENA and FERNANDEZ)

5 10.

6 Complainant hereby incorporates by reference the
7 allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 9, above.

8 11.

9 On the occasion set forth in Paragraph 6a., above,
10 though Respondent BAHENA was then employed under the broker
11 license of Forefront Mortgage and Investments Inc., Respondent
12 BAHENA engaged in the business of negotiating, or offering to
13 negotiate, loan modifications in connection with loans secured
14 directly or collaterally by liens on real property for
15 compensation or in expectation of compensation from someone
16 other than a broker who then employed him.

17 12.

18 On the occasion set forth in Paragraph 6b., above,
19 though Respondent FERNANDEZ was then employed under the broker
20 license of Infinity Realty & Mortgage Inc., Respondent FERNANDEZ
21 engaged in the business of negotiating, or offering to
22 negotiate, loan modifications in connection with loans secured
23 directly or collaterally by liens on real property for
24 compensation or in expectation of compensation from someone
25 other than a broker who then employed him.

26 ///
27

13.

1 Based on the information contained in Paragraphs 11
2 and 12, above, Respondents BAHENA and FERNANDEZ performed and/or
3 participated in loan solicitation, negotiation, and modification
4 activities which require a real estate broker license under the
5 provisions of Code Sections 10131(d) during a period of time
6 when Respondents were not licensed by the Department as a real
7 estate broker nor employed as a real estate salesperson by a
8 broker on whose behalf the activities were performed.
9

10 14.

11 The conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondents
12 BAHENA and FERNANDEZ violate Code Section 10130, and are cause
13 for the suspension or revocation of the licenses and license
14 rights of Respondents BAHENA and FERNANDEZ pursuant to Code
15 Sections 10177(d) and/or 10177(g) and/or 10177(j).
16

17 THIRD CAUSE OF ACCUSATION

18 (Unlicensed Activity by Respondent SHOEMAKER in Employing and/or
19 Compensating Individuals Who Were Not Licensed)

20 15.

21 Complainant hereby incorporates by reference the
22 allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 14, above.

23 16.

24 The activities described in Paragraph 6, subparts a, b
25 and c, supra, require a real estate license under Sections
26 10131(d) and 10131.2 of the Code. Respondent SHOEMAKER violated
27 Section 10137 of the Code by employing and/or compensating

1 individuals who were not licensed as a real estate salesperson or
2 as a broker to perform activities requiring a license as follows:

3 a. Respondent SHOEMAKER employed and/or compensated
4 BAHENA to perform some or all of the services alleged in
5 Paragraph 6, subsection (a), above, though he was not employed by
6 Respondent SHOEMAKER, and was instead working under the license
7 of another broker.

8 b. Respondent SHOEMAKER employed and/or compensated
9 Respondent FERNANDEZ to perform some or all of the services
10 alleged in Paragraph 6, subsection (b), above, though he was not
11 employed by Respondent SHOEMAKER, and was instead working under
12 the license of another broker.

13 c. Respondent SHOEMAKER employed and/or compensated
14 Rodriguez to perform some or all of the services alleged in
15 Paragraph 6, subsection (c), above, though Rodriguez was not
16 licensed as a real estate salesperson or broker.

17 17.

18
19 The conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondent
20 SHOEMAKER, as set forth in Paragraph 16, above, violate Code
21 Section 10137, and are cause for the suspension or revocation of
22 the licenses and license rights of Respondent SHOEMAKER pursuant
23 to Code Sections 10137, 10177(d) and/or 10177(g).

24 ///

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27 ///

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACCUSATION

(Use of Unauthorized Fictitious Business Name)

18.

Complainant hereby incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 17, above.

19.

Respondent SHOEMAKER acted without Department authorization in using the fictitious business name "Advocate for Fair Lending, LLC" to engage in activities requiring the issuance of a real estate license.

20.

The conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondent SHOEMAKER, as set forth in Paragraph 19, above, violate Code Section 10159.5 and Section 2731 of the Regulations, and are cause for the suspension or revocation of the licenses and license rights of Respondent SHOEMAKER pursuant to Code Sections 10177(d) and/or 10177(g).

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1 WHEREFORE, Complainant prays that a hearing be
2 conducted on the allegations of this Accusation and that upon
3 proof thereof, a decision be rendered imposing disciplinary
4 action against all the licenses and license rights of Respondents
5 MARK ALAN SHOEMAKER, LUIS ENRIQUE BAHENA and ARTURO FERNANDEZ
6 under the Real Estate Law (Part 1 of Division 4 of the Business
7 and Professions Code), and for such other and further relief as
8 may be proper under other applicable provisions of law.

9 Dated at Los Angeles, California

10 this 20 day of July, 2010.
11

12
13 
14 Robin Trujillo
15 Deputy Real Estate Commissioner
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24

25 cc: Mark Alan Shoemaker
26 Luis Enrique Bahena
27 Arturo Fernandez
Robin Trujillo
Sacto.