	-			
、 、 、				
1	ELLIOTT MAC LENNAN, SBN 66674			
. 2	Department of Real Estate FILED 320 West 4th Street, Ste. 350			
3	Los Angeles, California 90013-1105			
4	Telephone: (213) 576-6911 (direct) -or- (213) 576-6982 (office) DEPARTMENT of Part			
5	-or- (213) 576-6982 (office) DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE			
6				
7				
8				
9	BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
10	* * *			
11	In the Matter of the Accusation of $)$ No. H- 36791 LA			
12)))))))))))))))))))			
13	Uniko Mortgage Services and)			
14	Uniko Real Estate Service;) and LEONEL ACEVES, individually)			
15	and as designated officer of) Uniko Holding Inc.,			
16				
17	Respondents.			
18	The Completence Jeen Nin - Depute Deel Deter			
	ine complainant, boey Alu, a Deputy Real Estate			
20	Commissioner of the state of California, for cause of Accusatio			
. 21	against UNIKO HOLDING INC. dba Uniko Mortgage Services and Uniko			
22	Real Estate Service, and LEONEL ACEVES, individually and as			
23	designated officer of Uniko Holding Inc., alleges as follows:			
24	111			
25				
26	111			
27	///			
21				
	- 1 -			

1. 1 The Complainant, Joey Aiu, acting in his official 2 capacity as a Deputy Real Estate Commissioner of the State of 3 California, makes this Accusation against UNIKO HOLDING INC. 4 (UHI) and LEONEL ACEVES (ACEVES). 5 2. 6 All references to the "Code" are to the California 7 8 Business and Professions Code and all references to "Regulations" 9 are to Title 10, Chapter 6, California Code of Regulations. 10 License 11 3. 12 At all times mentioned, UHI was licensed or had license 13 rights issued by the Department of Real Estate (Department) as a 14 corporate real estate broker by and through real estate broker 15 LEONEL ACEVES (ACEVES). 16 Brokerage 17 4. 18 At all times mentioned, in the Corona, County of 19 Riverside, UHI and ACEVES engaged in the business of real estate 20 brokers conducting licensed activities within the meaning of: 21 Α. 22 10131(a). Respondents, dba Uniko Real Estate 23 Service, engaged in the business of, acted in the capacity of, 24 advertised or assumed to act as a real estate broker, including 25 the solicitation for listings of and the negotiation of the sale 26 of real property as the agent of others. 27

- 2 -

B. Code Sections 10131(d) and 10131.2. Respondent's engaged in operating a mortgage loan, advanced fee and loan modification service brokerage dba Uniko Mortgage Services. For compensation or in expectation of compensation and for fees often collected in advance.

Respondents advertised, solicited and offered to
 provide loan modification services to economically distressed
 homeowners seeking adjustments to the terms and conditions of
 their home loans including, but not limited to, repayment plans,
 forbearance plans, partial claims, and reduction in principal or
 interest, foreclosure prevention and short sales.

Audit

13 14

12

1

2

3

4

5

5.

On September 3, 2009, the Department completed an audit 15 examination of the books and records of UHI pertaining to the 16 residential resales and mortgage loan brokerage activities 17 described in Paragraph 4, which require a real estate license. 18 The audit examination covered a period of time beginning on May 19 1, 2006 to April 30, 2009. The audit examination revealed 20 violations of the Code and the Regulations as set forth in the 21 following paragraphs, and more fully discussed in Audit Report SD 22 080041 and LA 080050 and the exhibits and work papers attached to 23 2.4 said audit report. 25 111

3

26

111

27

Bank and Trust Accounts

,

1

6..

2		
3	At all times mentioned, in connection with the	
4	activities described in Paragraph 4, above, UHI accepted or	
5	received funds including funds in trust (hereinafter "trust	
6	funds") from or on behalf of actual or prospective parties,	
7	including economically distressed homeowner-borrowers for advance	
8	fees and loan modifications handled by UHI. Thereafter UHI made	
9	deposits and or disbursements of such trust funds. From time to	
10	time herein mentioned during the audit period, said trust funds	
11	were deposited and/or maintained by UHI in these bank accounts as	
12	UHI did not maintain a trust accounts during the audit period:	
13	Numiles Helding Tro	
14		
15	Bank of America San Francisco, California	
16	(B/A #1 - general business account used for deposit of advance	
17	fees collected from homeowners for loan modifications)	
18	"Uniko Holding Inc.	
19	Account No. 00709-40546 Bank of America	
20	San Francisco, California	
21	(B/A #2 - general business account used for deposit of advance fees collected from homeowners for loan modifications)	
22	lees corrected from nomeowners for four modifications,	
23	"Uniko Holding Inc.	
24	Account No. 024425-71127 Bank of America	
25	San Francisco, California	
26	(<u>B/A #3</u> - general business account used for deposit of advance fees collected from homeowners for loan modifications)	
27		
	- 4 -	

Violations

1

7.

2 In the course of activities described in Paragraphs 4 3 and 6, above, and during the examination period described in 4 Paragraph 5, Respondents UHI and ACEVES, acted in violation of 5 the Code and the Regulations in that Respondents: 6 (a) Permitted, allowed or caused the disbursement of 7 trust funds from UHI bank account B/A #2, where the disbursement 8 of funds reduced the total of aggregate funds in B/A #2, to an 9 amount which, on April 30, 2009, was \$11,176.03, less than the 10 11 existing aggregate trust fund liability to every homeowner-12 borrower who was an owner of said funds, without first obtaining 13 the prior written consent of the owners of said funds, in 14 violation of Code Section 10145 and Regulation 2832.1. 15 Mixed and commingled trust funds and personal (b)(1) 16 funds by depositing trust funds in the form of advance fees 17 solicited from homeowner-borrowers for loan modification services 18 into UHI's general operating account, in violation of Code 19 Sections 10145, 10176(e) and/or 10177(g) and Regulation 2832; and 20 (b)(2) Converted trust funds and personal funds by 21 depositing trust funds in the form of advance fees solicited from 22 homeowner-borrowers for loan modification services into UHI's 23 general operating account, in violation of Code Sections 10145, 24 25 10176(i) and/or 10177(j) and 10177(g). UHI reduced the amount in 26 27

- 5 -

UHI's general account to an amount less than the amount of the trust funds deposited constituting conversion.

1

2

5

(c) Failed to maintain an and accurate and complete 3 control record in chronological order for each beneficiary or 4 transaction, thereby failing to account for all advance fees collected in connection with loan modification services, in 6 violation of Code Section 10145 and Regulation 2831. 7

(d)(1) Misrepresented to sellers that UHI held earnest 8 money deposit for homeowner-borrowers Leopoldo Lopez, Jesus Luna, 9 10 Rosario Ballondano and Osbaldo Castellanos, in violation of Code 11 Section 10176(a); and

12 (d)(2) Failed to place trust funds, including credit 13 report and appraisal fees, accepted on behalf of another into the 14 hands of the owner of the funds, a neutral escrow depository or 1.5 into a trust fund account in the name of the trustee at a bank or 16 other financial institution not later than three business days 17 following receipt of the funds by the broker or by the broker's 18 salesperson, in violation of Code Section 10145 and Regulation 19 2832(d). UHI did not pay credit report fees to the credit report 20 company prior to the close of escrow for borrowers Gregoria 21 Navarro and Roberto Lujan. 22

(e) Failed to maintain a separate record for each 23 beneficiary or transaction, thereby failing to account for all 24 25 advance fees collected for loan modification services, in 26 violation of Code Section 10145 and Regulation 2831.1. 27

- 6 -

(f) Failed to perform a monthly reconciliation of the balance of all separate beneficiary or transaction records maintained pursuant to Regulation 2831.1 with the record of all trust funds received and disbursed by the bank accounts that contain trust funds in the form of advance fees for loan modification services, in violation of Code Section 10145 and Regulations 2831.2, 2950(d) and 2951.

(g) Failed to establish and maintain a trust account at
 ⁹ a bank or other recognized financial institution in the name of
 ¹⁰ the broker for deposit of advance fees collected by UHI, in
 ¹¹ violation of Code Section 10146.

(h) Collected advance fees within the meaning of Code Section 10026 from homeowners seeking loan modification services wherein UHI failed to provide homeowner-borrowers James Vacca, Jaime Hernandez, Carolina Cotero and William Miller, a preapproved advance fee agreement from the Department in the form of a no objection letter, in violation of Code Section 10085 and Regulation 2970.

(i) With reference to the lack of an advance fee
agreement, UHI and ACEVES, failed to provide a complete
description of services to be rendered provided to each
homeowner-borrower in 10 point type font and, an allocation and
disbursement of the amount collected as the advance fee for each
loan modification, in violation of Code Section 10146 and
Regulation 2972.

27

- 7 -

•				
1	Disciplinary Statutes			
2	8.			
3	The conduct of Respondents UHI and ACEVES described in			
4	Paragraph 7, above, violated the Code and the Regulations as set			
5	forth belo	w:		
6				
7	PARAGRAPH	PROVISIONS VIOLATED		
8	7(a)	Code Section 10145 and 2832.1		
9				
10	7(b)	Code Sections 10145, 10176(e), 10176(i) and/or 10177(j) ar.		
11		10177(g) and Regulation 2831		
13				
14	7(c)	Code Sections 10145 and Regulation 2831		
15				
16	7 (d)	Code Sections 10145 and 10176(a) and Regulation 2832		
17				
18	7 (e)	Code Section 10145 and Regulation 2831.1		
19		Quite Querties 10145 and Description 2021 2		
20	7(f)	Code Section 10145 and Regulation 2831.2		
21	7(g)	Code Section 10146		
22				
23	7(h)	Code Section 10085.8 and Regulation 2970		
24				
25	7(i)	Code Section 10146 and Regulation 2972		
26				
27				

1

The foregoing violations constitutes cause for the suspension or revocation of the real estate license and license rights of UHI and ACEVES, as aforesaid, under the provisions of Code Sections [10176(e) for commingling], 10176(i) and/or 10177(j) for conversion, 10177(d) for violation of the Real Estate Law and/or 10177(g) for negligence.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

13

20

9.

8 The overall conduct of Respondents UHI and ACEVES 9 constitutes negligence. This conduct and violation are cause for 10 the suspension or revocation of the real estate license and 11 license rights of said Respondents pursuant to the provisions of 12 Code Section 10177(g).

10.

The overall conduct of Respondents UHI and ACEVES constitutes a breach of fiduciary duty. This conduct and violation are cause for the suspension or revocation of the real estate license and license rights of said Respondents pursuant the provisions of Code Sections 10176(i) and/or 10177(g).

11.

The overall conduct of Respondent ACEVES 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 UHI, as required by Code Sections 10159.2 and 10211, and to keep UHI in compliance with the Real Estate Law, with specific regard to loan

- 9 -

modifications services and advance fee handling, requiring a real estate license and is cause for the suspension or revocation of the real estate license and license rights of UHI and ACEVES pursuant to the provisions of Code Sections 10177(d), 10177(g) and 10177(h).

1

2

3

Δ

5

WHEREFORE, Complainant prays that a hearing be 6 conducted on the allegations of this Accusation and that upon 7 proof thereof, a decision be rendered imposing disciplinary 8 9 action against the license and license rights of Respondents 10 UNIKO HOLDING INC. and LEONEL ACEVES, under the Real Estate Law 11 (Part 1 of vision 4 of the Business and Professions Code) and for 12 such other and further relief as may be proper under other 13 applicable provisions of law. 14Dated at Los Angeles, California 15 2110. this If the August 16 Deputy Real Estate Commissioner 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 Uniko Holding Inc. cc: 24 c/o Leonel Aceves D.O. Joey Aiu 25 Sacto Jesse Hafen 26 Audits - Darryl Thomas 27 - 10 -