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DEPARTMENT OF REAL

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BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation of

THE MONTCLAIR INVESTMENT GROUP INC. T M I GROUP INC. and

JOHN VALLADOLID, individually and as designated officer of The Montclair Investment Group, Inc. and doing business as Real Estate Investment & Finance and Valladolid Realty,

Respondents.

No: H- 37670 LA

<u>ACCUSATION</u>

The Complainant, Maria Suarez, a Deputy Real Estate Commissioner of the State of California, for cause of Accusation against THE MONTCLAIR INVESTMENT GROUP INC. T M I GROUP INC. and JOHN VALLADOLID, individually and as designated officer of the Montclair Investment Group Inc. T M I GROUP INC., and doing business as Real Estate Investment & Finance and Valladolid Realty, alleges as follows:

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The Complainant, Maria Suarez, a Deputy Real Estate

Commissioner of the State of California, makes this Accusation in her official capacity.

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.

#### LICENSE HISTORY

3.

A. At all times mentioned, THE MONTCLAIR INVESTMENT GROUP INC. T M I GROUP INC. (hereinafter "TMIGI" or "Respondent TMIGI") and JOHN VALLADOLID (hereinafter "VALLADOLID" or "Respondent VALLADOLID" were licensed or had license rights issued by the Department of Real Estate (hereinafter "Department").

B. TMIGI is presently licensed and/or has license rights under the Real Estate Law (Part 1 of Division 4 of the Business and Professions Code) as a corporate real estate broker. Respondent TMIGI was originally licensed as a corporate real estate broker by the Department on or about July 23, 2004. TMIGI operates under the dbas Real Estate Investment & Finance (since on or about August 30, 2004) and Valladolid Realty (since on or about August 30, 2004). Respondent TMIGI was authorized to act by and through Respondent VALLADOLID as its designated broker pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 10211 and 10159.2 to supervise the activities requiring a real estate

license conducted on behalf of TMIGI and to be responsible for ensuring compliance with the Real Estate Law.

C. Respondent VALLADOLID is presently licensed and/or has license rights under the Real Estate Law (Part 1 of Division 4 of the Code) as a real estate broker. Respondent VALLADOLID was originally licensed as a real estate salesperson by the Department on or about January 9, 1996 and as a real estate broker on or about January 9, 2003. VALLADOLID operates under the dbas Real Estate Investment & Finance (since August 12, 2003) and Valladolid Realty (since August 12, 2003). VALLADOLID is the designated officer for TMIGI until July 22, 2012, pursuant to Code Section 10159.2, responsible for ensuring compliance with the Real Estate Law.

D. Roberto Manuel Noboa is presently licensed and/or has license rights under the Real Estate Law (Part 1 of Division 4 of the Code) as a real estate salesperson. Noboa was originally licensed as a real estate salesperson by the Department on or about April 16, 1990. Noboa's real estate salesperson license was revoked on November 18, 1997 in Case No. H-26521 LA.

BROKERAGE

4.

At all times mentioned, in the City of Montclair,

County of San Bernardino, Respondents TMIGI and VALLADOLID acted

as real estate brokers and conducted licensed activities within

the meaning of:

A. <u>Code Section 10131(a)</u>: VALLADOLID operates a real estate brokerage engaging in activities with the public wherein it sells or offers to sell, buys or offers to buy, solicits prospective sellers or purchasers of, solicits or obtains listings of, or negotiates the purchase, sale or exchange of real property or a business opportunity.

B. <u>Code Section 10131(d)</u>: VALLADOLID 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.

C. Code Section 10131(d) and 10131.2. VALLADOLID 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, extenuations, foreclosure prevention and short sales.

5.

All further references to "Respondents" herein include the parties identified in Paragraphs 3 ((a)-(c)) and 4, above, and also include the officers, directors, employees, agents and real estate licenses employed by or associated with said parties and who at all times herein mentioned were engaged in the

furtherance of the business or operations of said parties and who were acting within the course and scope of their authority and employment.

6.

Respondent VALLADOLID ordered, caused, authorized or participated in the conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondent TMIGI as is alleged in this Accusation.

# FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(AUDIT OF VALLADOLID)

7.

On November 24, 2010, the Department completed an audit examination of the books and records of VALLADOLID pertaining to the mortgage loan brokerage and loan modification activities described in Paragraph 4, above, which require a real estate license. The audit examination covered a period of time beginning on May 1, 2008 to September 30, 2010. 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 100051 (resale activity) and LA 100102 (mortgage loan activity), and the exhibits and work papers attached to said audit report.

8.

At all times mentioned, in connection with the activities described in Paragraph 4, above, VALLADOLID accepted or received funds including funds in trust (hereinafter "trust funds") from or on behalf of actual or prospective parties,

economically distressed homeowner-borrowers for credit and appraisal report fees, advance fees and loan modifications and mortgage loans handled by VALLADOLID, for the borrowers set forth below. Thereafter VALLADOLID made deposits and/or disbursements of such trust funds. From time to time herein mentioned during the audit period, said credit and appraisal fees were deposited and/or maintained by VALLADOLID in its business account, as VALLADOLID did not utilize a separate trust account during the audit period.

VALLADOLID's general business account was used for deposit of all fees collected pertaining to its real estate activities, including advance fees collected from borrowers for loan modification transactions, during the audit period.

l	Borrower	Date Recv'd	Amt Recv'd	Date Dep'd	Date Pd.	Amt Paid.
	Fernando Sanchez	06/10/08	\$35.00	06/16/08	06/06/08	\$16.33
	Lazaro Bencomo	04/30/08	\$35.00	05/05/08	04/08/08	\$28.66
ĺ	Josie & Leslie Lep	e 09/15/08	\$35.00	09/16/08	09/05/08	\$16.66

### Violations

In the course of activities described in Paragraphs 4 and 8, above, and during the examination period described in Paragraph 7, Respondent VALLADOLID engaged in residential resale activity and closed approximately twenty-one (21) transactions while collecting \$36,000 in earnest money deposits during the audit period. Respondent VALLADOLID acted in violation of the Code and the Regulations in that Respondent VALLADOLID:

9.

(a) Permitted, allowed or caused the mixing and commingling of credit report and appraisal fees collected from homeowner-borrowers at the close of escrow with Respondent VALLALODID's general bank account and commingled with VALLADOLID's funds until he paid the credit report fee to the credit report company and the appraisal fee to the appraiser, in violation of Code Sections 10145 and 10176(e) and Regulation 2835;

- (b) Collected credit report fees charged to the borrowers at the close of escrow that were greater than the invoice amount, and Respondent VALLADOLID failed to disclose the overcharged credit report fees to the borrowers, in violation of Code Section 10176(g) (Respondent VALLADOLID refunded the overcharged credit report fees to the borrowers on November 4, 2010.);
- (c) Failed to maintain a columnar record for the advance fees received from borrowers in connection with the loan modification transactions and the credit report and appraisal fees that Respondent VALLADOLID received from escrow companies in connection with the loan negotiation transactions, in violation of Code Section 10145 and Regulation 2832;
- (d) Failed to maintain a separate record for the beneficiary of advance fees collected in connection with the loan modification transactions and for each beneficiary of the credit report and appraisal fees that Respondent VALLADOLID received from the escrow companies in connection with the loan negotiation transactions, in violation of Code Section 10145 and Regulation

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2831.1; 1 2 (e) Collected advance fees from borrowers in connection 3 with the loan modification transactions without getting an Advance Fee Agreement reviewed by the Commissioner, in violation of Code Section 10085 and Regulation 2970; 6 (f) Collected advance fees from borrowers in connection 7 with the loan modification transactions and failed to deposit those advance fees into a trust account, in violation of Code Section 10146: 10 (g) Collected advance fees from borrowers in connection with the loan modification transactions without maintaining and 11 12 providing an accounting content to borrowers showing the services 13 to be rendered, which trust account the funds were to be 14 deposited, and details of how the funds were disbursed, in 15 violation of Regulation 2972; 16 (h) Held the earnest money deposits Respondent 17 VALLADOLID received in the sales transactions beyond three (3) business days following acceptance of offers without written 19 authorization from the principals, in violation of Code Section 20 10145 and Regulation 2832; 21 (i) Failed to maintain a copy of a Department of Real Estate approved Mortgage Loan Disclosure Statement ("MLDS") as 23 signed by the borrowers and broker to show that said statements were provided to the borrowers within three (b) business days 24 25 after the borrowers signed their loan applications in some of the 26 loan transactions, in violation of code Section 10240 and

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Regulation 2840;

(j) Failed to disclose Respondent VALLADOLID's real 1 2 estate broker license number on the MLDS that were provided to borrowers in some of the loan transactions, in violation of Code 3 Section 10236.4; and 5 (k) Failed to notify the Department of the employment 6 of real estate salesperson Giselle Brunetti and failed to timely notify the Department of the employment of salesperson Laszo Valladolid, in violation of Code Section 10161.8 and Regulation 2752. 9 10 Disciplinary Statutes 11 10. 12 The conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondent 13 VALLADOLID described in Paragraph 9, above, violated the Code and 14 the Regulations as set forth below: 15 16 PROVISIONS VIOLATED PARAGRAPH 17 Code Section 10145 and 10176(e) and 9(a) 18 Regulation 2835 19 20 21 Code Section 10176(g) 9 (b) 22 23 24 9(c) Code Section 10145 and Regulation 25 2832 26

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1	9 (d)	Code Section 10145 and Regulation				
2		2831.1				
3						
4	9 (e)	Code Section 10085 and Regulation				
5		2970				
6	,					
7	9(f)	Code Section 10146 and				
8						
9	9 (g)	Regulation 2972				
10						
11	9 (h)	Code Section 10145 and Regulation				
12		2832				
13						
14	9(i)	Code Section 10240 and Regulation				
15		Regulation 2840				
16	9(j)	Code Section 10236.4				
17	J (J)	code because a substitution and				
18	9(k)	Code Section 10161.8 and Regulation				
19	,	2752				
20		2732				
21	The foregoing violations constitute cause for					
22	discipline of the real estate license and license rights of					
23	VALLADOLID, as aforesaid, under the provisions of Code Sections					
24	10176(e) for commingling; 10177(d) for violation of the Real					
25	Estate Law; 10177(h) for failure to supervise by VALLADOLID;					
26	and/or 10177(g) for negligence.					
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## SECOND CAUSE OF ACCUSATION

(LOAN MODIFICATION SERVICES BY VALLADOLID)

11.

At all times mentioned herein, Respondent VALLADOLID engaged in the business of a loan modification and advance fee brokerage, within the definition of Code Sections 10131(d) and 10131.2.

## General Allegations

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During 2008 and continuing thereafter to date,

VALLADOLID solicited economically distressed homeowners facing

foreclosure and eviction from their homes, offered loan

modification serviced, and charged and collected advance fees.

# Specific Allegations

13.

Using the name "Valladolid Realty" and/or "Valladolid Real Estate," Respondent VALLADOLID offered loss mitigation and loan modification services to homeowner-borrowers seeking downward adjustments or payment extenuations to their home mortgages. During the audit period, Respondent collected approximately \$10,000 in advanced fees from twenty (20) homeowner-borrowers without possessing a pre-approved advance fee agreement from the Department, in violation of Code Section 10085 and Regulation 2970.

## Loan Modification Violations

14.

The conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondent
VALLADOLID violated the Code and the Regulations as set forth
below with respect to the homeowner-borrowers set forth above:

15.

The overall conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondent VALLADOLID with respect to homeowner-borrowers seeking loan modification services constitutes a willful disregard or violation of the Real Estate Law and is cause for the suspension or revocation of the real estate license and license rights of Respondents pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 10177(d).

The overall conduct, acts and/or omissions of
Respondent VALLADOLID with respect to homeowner-borrowers seeking
loan modification services constitutes negligence. This conduct
and violation are cause for the suspension or revocation of the
real estate license and license rights of said Respondents
pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 10177(g).

## THIRD CAUSE OF ACCUSATION

(DISCIPLINE OF THE MONTCLAIR INVESTMENT GROUP T M I GROUP INC.'s' LICENSE)

16.

TMIGI was a registered close corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Nevada. TMIGI filed Articles of Incorporation with the Nevada Secretary of State on April 28,

2004, listing "J. Valladolid" as the President, Treasurer, and Director, "S. Valladolid" as the Secretary, and "T.M.I. Group Inc." as the Resident Agent. On or about May 10, 2007, TMIGI filed a Certificate of Change to change the Resident Agent to "Eastbiz.com." TMIGI's corporate entity status was revoked effective May 1, 2009 by the State of Nevada for failure to: (1) file the Annual List of officers and directors and designation of Registered Agent for the filing period April 2008 to April 2009 and (2) pay the filing fee and penalty pursuant to the provisions of the Nevada Revised Statutes.

17.

The conduct, acts and/or omissions resulting in the foregoing action taken with respect to Respondent TMIGI, and the suspension of Respondent TMIGI, as alleged herein above in Paragraph 16, are cause under Code Sections 10177(f) and/or 10177(g) for the suspension or revocation of the license and license rights of Respondent under the Real Estate Law.

#### Negligence

18.

The overall conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondents TMIGI and VALLADOLID constitute negligence. This conduct and the resulting violation(s) are cause for the suspension or revocation of the real estate license and license rights of said Respondents pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 10177(g).

## Breach of Fiduciary Duty

19.

The overall conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondents TMIGI and VALLADOLID constitute 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 to the provisions of Code Sections 10176(i) and/or 10177(g).

# Failure to Supervise

20.

The overall conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondent VALLADOLID constitute a failure on Respondent's part, as the officer designated by a corporate broker licensee, to exercise the reasonable supervision and control over the licensed activities of TMIGI, as required by Code Sections 10159.2 and 10211, and to keep TMIGI in compliance with the Real Estate Law and is cause for the suspension or revocation of the real estate license and license rights of TMIGI and VALLADOLID pursuant to the provisions of Code Sections 10177(d), 10177(g) and 10177(h).

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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 THE MONTCLAIR INVESTMENT GROUP INC. T M I GROUP INC. and JOHN VALLADOLID under the Real Estate Law (Part 1 of vision 4 of the Business and Professions Code) and for such other and further relief as may be proper under other applicable provisions of law including, but not limited to restitution of advanced fees paid for unearned loan modifications, and for costs of audit.

Dated at Los Angeles, California

this The day of Msuleuber, 2011.

JOHN VALI

Deputy Real Estate Commissioner

CC: THE MONTCLAIR INVESTMENT GROUP INC. T M I GROUP INC.

c/o John Valladolid, D.O.

JOHN VALLADOLID Maria Suarez

Sacto

Enforcement - Lupe Felix

Audits - Lisa Kwong