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## FILED

MAY 11 2012

DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE BY:

NO. H-36791 LA

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BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation of

UNIKO HOLDINGS INC., doing business as Uniko Mortgage Services and Uniko Real Estate Service; and LEONEL ACEVES, individually and as designated officer of Uniko Holdings Inc.,

Respondents.

ORDER NUNC PRO TUNC MODIFYING DECISION

It having been called to the attention of the Real Estate Commissioner that there is an error in the Decision by Stipulation and Agreement dated March 29, 2012, effective May 11, 2012, and good cause appearing therefor, the Stipulation and Agreement is amended as follows:

Page 4, Paragraph II, Line 6, "0177(h)" is amended to . 2 read "10177(h)". This Order, Nunc Pro Tunc to March 29, 2012, effective May 11, 2012, shall become effective immediately. IT IS SO ORDERED REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER By WAYAYE S. BELL Chief Counsel 

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ELLIOTT MAC LENNAN, Counsel (SBN 66674) Department of Real Estate 320 W. 4<sup>TH</sup> Street, Suite 350 Los Angeles, CA 90013-1105

Telephone: (213) 576-6982 (Office) -or- (213) 576-6911 (Direct)

### FILED

APR 11 2012

DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE
BY:

# BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

\* \* \*

In the Matter of the Accusation of

UNIKO HOLDINGS INC.; doing business as
Uniko Mortgage Services and
Uniko Real Estate Service;
and, LEONEL ACEVES, individually
and as designated officer of
Uniko Holdings Inc.,

Respondents.

It is hereby stipulated by and between Respondents UNIKO HOLDINGS INC. and LEONEL ACEVES, individually and as designated officer of Uniko Holdings Inc., (sometimes collectively referred to as "Respondents"), and the Complainant, acting by and through Elliott Mac Lennan, Counsel for the Department of Real Estate, as follows for the purpose of settling and disposing of the Accusation filed on September 3, 2010, in this matter:

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

- Respondents have received, read and understand the Statement to Respondent, the Discovery Provisions of the APA and the Accusation filed by the Department of Real Estate in this proceeding.
- 3. Respondents timely filed a Notice of Defense pursuant to Section 11506 of the Government Code for the purpose of requesting a hearing on the allegations in the Accusation. Respondents hereby freely and voluntarily withdraw said Notice of Defense. Respondents acknowledge that they understand that by withdrawing said Notice of Defense they thereby waive their right to require the Commissioner to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a contested hearing held in accordance with the provisions of the APA and that they will waive other rights afforded to them in connection with the hearing such as the right to present evidence in their defense the right to cross-examine witnesses.
- 4. This Stipulation is based on the factual allegations contained in the Accusation. In the interest of expedience and economy, Respondents choose not to contest these allegations, but to remain silent and understand that, as a result thereof, these factual allegations, without being admitted or denied, will serve as a prima facie basis for the disciplinary action stipulated to herein. The Real Estate Commissioner shall not be required to provide further evidence to prove said factual allegations.
- 5. This Stipulation is made for the purpose of reaching an agreed disposition of this proceeding and is expressly limited to this proceeding and any other proceeding or case in which the Department of Real Estate ("Department"), or another licensing agency of this state, another state or if the federal government is involved, and otherwise shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceeding.
- 6. It is understood by the parties that the Real Estate Commissioner may adopt this Stipulation as his Decision in this matter thereby imposing the penalty and sanctions on Respondents' real estate licenses and license rights as set forth in the below "Order". In the event that the Commissioner in his discretion does not adopt the Stipulation, the Stipulation shall be void and of no effect and Respondents shall retain the right to a hearing and proceeding on the

Accusation under the provisions of the APA and shall not be bound by any stipulation or waiver made herein.

- 7. The Order or any subsequent Order of the Real Estate Commissioner made pursuant to this Stipulation shall not constitute an estoppel, merger or bar to any further administrative or civil proceedings by the Department of Real Estate with respect to any matters which were not specifically alleged to be causes for accusation in this proceeding.
- 8. Respondents understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation, Respondents agree to pay, pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 10148, the cost of the audit which led to this disciplinary action. The amount of said cost is \$6,598.10.
- 9. Respondents have received, read, and understand the "Notice Concerning Costs of Subsequent Audit". Respondents further understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation, the findings set forth below in the Determination of Issues become final, and the Commissioner may charge Respondents for the cost of any subsequent audit conducted pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 10148 to determine if the violations have been corrected. The maximum cost of the subsequent audit will not exceed \$6,598.10.

#### **DETERMINATION OF ISSUES**

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

I.

The conduct of <u>UNIKO HOLDINGS INC</u>. as described in Paragraph 4, above, is in violation of Sections <u>10085</u>, <u>10145</u>, <u>10146</u> and <u>10176(e)</u> of the Business and Professions Code ("Code") and Sections <u>2831</u>, <u>2831.1</u>, <u>2831.2</u>, <u>2970</u> and <u>2972</u> of Title 10, Chapter 6 of the California Code of Regulations ("Regulations") and is a basis for the suspension or revocation of Respondent's license and license rights as a violation of the Real Estate Law pursuant to Code Sections <u>10177(d)</u>.

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The conduct of <u>LEONEL ACEVES</u>, as described in Paragraph 4, above, constitutes a failure to keep Uniko Holdings Inc. in compliance with the Real Estate Law during the time that he was the officer designated by a corporate broker licensee in violation of Section 10159.2 of the Code. This conduct is a basis for the suspension or revocation of Respondent's license pursuant to Code Sections 10177(d), 10177(g) and 0177(h).

#### **ORDER**

WHEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING ORDER is hereby made:

I

All licenses and licensing rights of Respondents UNIKO HOLDINGS INC. and LEONEL ACEVES, under the Real Estate Law are revoked; provided, however, restricted real estate broker licenses shall be issued to said Respondents, pursuant to Section 10156.5 of the Business and Professions Code if Respondents:

(A) Make application thereof and pays to the Department of Real Estate the appropriate fee for the restricted license within ninety (90) days from the effective date of this Decision.

(B) Provide, prior to the issuance of any restricted license, evidence satisfactory to the Commissioner that the trust fund deficit set forth in the Accusation in audit report SD080041/SD080050, in amount of \$11,176.03, as of April 30, 2009, has been cured, including the identity of the source of funds used to cure them.

(C) Respondent LEONEL ACEVES shall, prior to and as a condition of the issuance of the restricted license, submit proof satisfactory to the Commissioner of having taken and successfully completed the continuing education course on trust fund accounting and handling specified in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 10170.5 of the Business and Professions Code. Proof of satisfaction of this requirement includes evidence that Respondent has successfully completed the trust fund account and handling continuing education course within 120 days prior to the effective date of the Decision in this matter.

The restricted licenses issued to Respondents shall be subject to all of the provisions of Section 10156.7 of the Business and Professions Code and to the followings limitations, conditions and restrictions imposed under authority of Section 10156.6 of that Code:

- 1. The restricted license issued to Respondents may be suspended prior to hearing by Order of the Real Estate Commissioner in the event of a Respondent's conviction or plea of nolo contendere to a crime which is substantially related to a Respondent's fitness or capacity as a real estate licensee.
- 2. The restricted licenses issued to Respondents may be suspended prior to hearing by Order of the Real Estate Commissioner on evidence satisfactory to the Commissioner that a Respondent has violated provisions of the California Real Estate Law, the Subdivided Lands Law, Regulations of the Real Estate Commissioner or conditions attaching to the restricted license.
- 3. Respondents shall not be eligible to apply for the issuance of an unrestricted real estate license nor for the removal of any of the conditions, limitations or restrictions of a restricted license until two (2) years have elapsed from the effective date of this Decision.
- 4. Respondent LEONEL ACEVES shall within six (6) months from the effective date of the restricted license, take and pass the Professional Responsibility Examination administered by the Department including the payment of the appropriate examination fee. If Respondent fails to satisfy this condition, the Commissioner may order suspension of the restricted license until respondent passes the examination.
- 5. Respondent LEONEL ACEVES shall, within nine (9) months from the effective date of this Decision, present evidence satisfactory to the Real Estate Commissioner that Respondent has, since the most recent issuance of an original or renewal real estate license, taken and successfully completed the continuing education requirements of Article 2.5 of Chapter 3 of the Real Estate Law for renewal of a real estate license. If Respondent fails to satisfy this condition, the Commissioner may order the suspension of his license until the Respondent presents such evidence. The Commissioner shall afford Respondent the opportunity

for a hearing pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act to present such evidence.

6. During the time Respondent LEONEL ACEVES is licensed as a restricted real estate broker, Respondent shall not serve as the designated broker at any corporate real estate broker unless and until Respondent is the sole owner of record of the shares of the licensed real estate corporation.

III.

Pursuant to Section 10148 of the Business and Professions Code, Respondents shall pay the Commissioner's reasonable cost for (a) the audits which led to this disciplinary action and (b) a subsequent audits to determine if Respondents UNIKO HOLDINGS INC. and LEONEL ACEVES are now in compliance with the Real Estate Law. The cost of the audit which led to this disciplinary action is \$6,598.10. In calculating the amount of the Commissioner's reasonable cost, the Commissioner may use the estimated average hourly salary for all persons performing audits of real estate brokers, and shall include an allocation for travel time to and from the auditor's place of work. Said amount for the prior and subsequent audits shall not exceed \$13,196.20. Respondents are jointly and severally liable for the cost of the audits.

Respondents shall pay such cost within 60 days of receiving an invoice from the Commissioner detailing the activities performed during the audit and the amount of time spent performing those activities.

The Commissioner may suspend the license of Respondents pending a hearing held in accordance with Section 11500, et seq., of the Government Code, if payment is not timely made as provided for herein, or as provided for in a subsequent agreement between the Respondents and the Commissioner. The suspension shall remain in effect until payment is made in full or until a Respondent enters into an agreement satisfactory to the Commissioner to provide for payment, or until a decision providing otherwise is adopted following a hearing held pursuant to this condition.

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DATED:

ELLIOTT MAC LENNAN, Counsel for the Department of Real Estate

#### **EXECUTION OF THE STIPULATION**

We have read the Stipulation. Its terms are understood by us and are agreeable and acceptable to us. We understand that we are waiving rights given to us by the California Administrative Procedure Act (including but not limited to Sections 11506, 11508, 11509 and 11513 of the Government Code), and we willingly, intelligently and voluntarily waive those rights, including the right of requiring the Commissioner to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a hearing at which we would have the right to cross-examine witnesses against us and to present evidence in defense and mitigation of the charges.

#### **FACSIMILE**

Respondents can signify acceptance and approval of the terms and conditions of this Stipulation by faxing a copy of its signature page, as actually signed by Respondents, to the Department at the following facsimile number: Elliott Mac Lennan at (213) 576-6917. Respondents agree, acknowledge and understand that by electronically sending to the Department a fax copy of Respondents' actual signature as they appear on the Stipulation, that receipt of the faxed copy by the Department shall be as binding on Respondents as if the Department had received the original signed Stipulation.

DATED: 3/7/12

EONEL ACEVES.

Respondent

DATED: 3/7/12

CEVES, individually and as designated officer/of Uniko Holdings Inc., Respondent

The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement is hereby adopted as my Decision as to Respondents UNIKO HOLDINGS INC. and LEONEL ACEVES, individually and as designated officer of Uniko Holdings Inc. and shall become effective at 12 o'clock noon on May 11 , 2012.

IT IS SO ORDERED March 29, 2012.

Real Estate Commissioner

By WAYNE S. BELI