CHERYL D. KEILY, SBN# 94008 Bureau of Real Estate 320 West Fourth Street, Ste. 350

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

## FILED

JUL 30 2013

**BUREAU OF REAL ESTATE** 

BUREAU OF REAL ESTATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation

No. H-38974 LA

AMERICAN LOANS AND FUNDING INC.; and RAUL SANDOVAL, Individually, and as designated officer for American Loans and Funding Inc.,

ACCUSATION

Respondents.

SANDOVAL ("SANDOVAL") alleges as follows:

19

20

21

The Complainant, Robin Trujillo, a Deputy Real Estate Commissioner of the State of California, for cause of Accusation against AMERICAN LOANS AND FUNDING INC. ("AMERICAN") and RAUL

22 23

1.

24

25

26

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

27

1,6

2,3

AMERICAN is presently licensed and/or has license rights under the Real Estate Law (Part 1 of Division 4 of the Business and Professions Code, hereinafter "Code"), as a real estate corporation acting by and through SANDOVAL as its designated broker-officer.

3.

SANDOVAL is presently licensed and/or has license rights under the Real Estate Law as a real estate broker and was the designated broker-officer of AMERICAN during the period November 10, 2010, through April 22, 2011.

4.

At no time relevant herein was David Kaup ("Kaup"), licensed by the Bureau in any capacity.

5.

At all times relevant herein SANDOVAL, as the officer designated by AMERICAN pursuant to Section 10211 of the Code, was responsible for the supervision and control of the activities conducted on behalf of AMERICAN by its officers and employees as necessary to secure full compliance with the Real Estate Law as set forth in Section 10159.2 of the Code.

SANDOVAL ordered, caused, authorized or participated in the conduct of AMERICAN, as is alleged in this Accusation.

/// ///

At all times material herein, Respondents were engaged in the business of, acted in the capacity of, advertised or assumed to act as real estate brokers and/or real estate corporations in the State of California, within the meaning of Code Section of the Code. Said activity included soliciting borrowers and lenders and negotiating the terms of loans secured by real property between borrowers and third party lenders for or in expectation of compensation.

## FIRST CAUSE OF ACCUSATION

(Code Section 10176(a), 10176(b), 10176(i) and/or 10177(j)

8.

Commencing in or around December, 2010, AMERICAN, acting through various unlicensed individuals including Kaup, engaged in a course of conduct designed to fraudulently induce potential mortgage borrowers who responded to AMERICAN's internet advertisements to wire funds to AMERICAN. Kaup, using the fictitious names "Jorge Ramirez," "David Smith," "Marco Anderson," "William Rivers," "Louis Sandoval" and "Rolando Wilson," falsely represented to individuals who responded to AMERICAN's mortgage loan advertisements that AMERICAN could offer thirty-year fixed rate mortgages at an interest rate below that customarily being offered at the time. Kaup and other unlicensed individuals instructed potential borrowers to wire to AMERICAN's bank account located at a branch in Monterey Park, California the equivalent of one-year's mortgage payments at a fictitious

interest rate to be held in trust by AMERICAN. The wire transfers were falsely and fraudulently represented to the potential borrowers by AMERICAN to be necessary to demonstrate the borrowers' liquidity to non-existent mortgage lenders. In truth Kaup, and other acting through AMERICAN, intended to convert the borrowers' wired funds and to retain the funds for their own personal use.

9.

In reliance on the representations made by AMERICAN, as is alleged in Paragraph 8, above, the following individuals were induced to enter into transactions with AMERICAN as follows:

a. In December, 2010, Nicholas and Megan B., who were interested in obtaining mortgage loan financing, learned of AMERICAN from an advertisement on the internet. After completing an online survey on a Lending Tree or Quicken Loans website, Nicholas and Megan B. were contacted by Kaup, using the fictitious name "David Smith." Kaup represented that he was a loan specialist for AMERICAN. At Kaup's direction, on or about December 11, 2010, Nicholas and Megan B. filled out two separate Uniform Residential Loan Applications ("URLA"), one for the real property at 1131 N. Roddy Drive, La Habra, Ca 90631, and another for the real property at 432 Tanglewood, Big Bear City, Ca 92314. At the direction of Kaup, using the fictitious names David Smith and Jorge Ramirez, Nicholas and Megan B. wired the separate sums of \$15,469.68 and \$32,123.88 to AMERICAN's bank account in Monterey Park. Nicholas and Megan B. believed that the wired

funds were required for the processing of their mortgage loan applications with AMERICAN. On or about April 19, 2011, Nicholas and Megan B. learned that AMERICAN was in bankruptcy, and that none of their funds had been placed in trust or would be refunded to them. At no time did Nicholas and Megan B. receive either loan brokerage services from AMERICAN or a refund of the funds transferred to AMERICAN's bank account.

b. In July, 2010, Philip Y., who was interested in obtaining mortgage loan financing, learned of AMERICAN from an advertisement on the internet. Philip Y. completed an online survey on a Lending Tree or Quicken Loans website, and was contacted by Kaup, using the fictitious names William Rivers, David Smith and Jorge Ramirez. On or about July 13, 2010, Philip Y. applied to AMERICAN for a \$1,170,000 pledged asset mortgage with respect to the real property located at 48908 Crest View Common, Fremont, Ca 94539. Kaup represented to Philip Y. that he would need to wire AMERICAN a deposit of \$52,716.48 to secure a 30-year mortgage loan on the property at an interest rate of 4.15%. Kaup further represented to Philip Y. that his deposit would be refunded at the close of escrow or within three months. At Kaup's direction on July 30, 2010, Philip Y. wired the funds to AMERICAN's bank account in Monterey Park. Philip Y. believed that the wired funds were required for the processing of his pledged asset mortgage loan application with AMERICAN. After a series of supposed delays in the purported closing of the loan, Philip Y. learned on or about April 22, 2011, that AMERICAN was

27

1

2

3

5

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

in bankruptcy, and that none of his funds had been placed in trust or would be refunded to him. At no time did Philip Y. receive either loan brokerage services from AMERICAN or a refund of the funds transferred to AMERICAN's bank account.

1

2

4

5

6

7

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

22

23

24

25

26

27

c. In September, 2010, Regina S. was interested in obtaining mortgage loan financing from AMERICAN to refinance the property at 783 El Cerrito Way, Gilroy, Ca 95020. AMERICAN's representative, Kaup using the fictitious name Jorge Ramirez, represented to Regina S. that in order to obtain the best interest rate on her loan she would be required to demonstrate one-year of liquidity covering all expenses related to the Gilroy property. Regina S. completed a URLA, and returned it to AMERICAN. At AMERICAN's direction on or about March 8, 2011, Regan S. wired the sum of \$137,000 to AMERICAN's bank account in Monterey Park. Regina S. believed that the wired funds were required for the processing of her mortgage loan applications with AMERICAN. On or about April 18, 2011, Regina S. learned that AMERICAN was in bankruptcy, and that none of her funds had been placed in trust or would be refunded to her. At no time did Regina S. receive either loan brokerage services from AMERICAN or a refund of the funds transferred to AMERICAN's bank account.

d. In or around December, 2010, Stuart M. was interested in obtaining mortgage loan financing from AMERICAN to refinance the property at 1059 S. York Street, Denver, Colorado 90209. On or about December 27, 2010, AMERICAN's representatives, Kaup using the names David Smith and Jorge Ramirez, represented

14

17

16

18 19

20

21 22

23

24

25

27

to Stuart M. that in order to obtain the best interest rate on his loan he would be required to demonstrate one-year of liquidity covering all expenses related to the Denver property. On or about December 28, 2010, after completing a URLA, and returning it to AMERICAN, Stuart M. wired \$28,973.28 to AMERICAN's bank account in Monterey Park. Stuart M. believed that the wired funds were required for the processing of his mortgage loan application with AMERICAN. On or about April 18, 2011, Stuart M. received an e-mail from AMERICAN advising him that AMERICAN was in bankruptcy, and that none of his funds had been placed in trust or would be refunded to him. At no time did Stuart M. receive either loan brokerage services from AMERICAN or a refund of the funds transferred to AMERICAN's bank account.

10.

The conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondents, as set forth above, are cause for the suspension or revocation of the licenses and license rights of Respondents pursuant to Code Sections 10085, 10177(d) and/or 10177(g).

## SECOND CAUSE OF ACCUSATION

(Violation of Code Section 10137 by Respondents AMERICAN and SANDOVAL in Employing and/or Compensating Unlicensed Individuals)

11.

Complainant hereby incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 10, above.

12.

On the occasions set forth in Paragraph 9, above, Kaup

engaged in the business of negotiating, or offering to negotiate, mortgage loans secured directly or collaterally by liens on real property for compensation or in expectation of compensation though he held no real estate license.

13.

Complainant hereby incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 16, above.

14.

The activities described in Paragraph 9, above, require a real estate license under Section 10131(d). Respondents

AMERICAN and SANDOVAL violated Section 10137 of the Code by employing and/or compensating Kaup who was not licensed as a real estate salesperson or as a broker to perform activities requiring a license.

15.

The conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondents

AMERICAN and SANDOLVAL, as set forth in Paragraph 14, above,

violate Code Section 10137, and is cause for the suspension or

revocation of the licenses and license rights of Respondents

AMERICAN and SANDOVAL pursuant to Code Sections 10137, 10177(d)

and/or 10177(g).

THIRD CAUSE OF ACCUSATION (Record Retention Violation by AMERICAN and SANDOVAL)

16.

Complainant hereby incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 15, above.

•

. 

In the course of the activities described in Paragraphs 1 through 10, above, Respondents AMERICAN and SANDOVAL acted in violation of the Code in that they failed to retain all records of their activities requiring a real estate broker license for a period of three years including loan transaction files for their real estate clients and further including loan applications, deposit receipts, canceled checks, escrow and trust records, and specifically including the loan documentation pertaining to the mortgage loans described in Paragraph 9, above, as is required by Code Section 10148.

18.

The conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondents

AMERICAN and SANDOVAL, as set forth above, is in violation of

Code Section 10148, and is cause for the suspension or revocation

of the licenses and license rights of said Respondents pursuant

to Code Sections 10177(d) and/or 10177(g).

(Failure to Supervise against Respondent SANDOVAL)

19.

Complainant hereby incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 18, above.

20.

The conduct, acts and/or omissions of SANDOVAL in allowing AMERICAN to violate the Real Estate Law, as set forth above, constitutes a failure by SANDOVAL, as the officer designated by the corporate broker licensee, to exercise the

supervision and control over the activities of AMERICAN as required by Code Section 10159.2, and is in violation of Section 2725 of the Regulations, and cause to suspend or revoke the real estate licenses and license rights of SANDOVAL under Code Sections 10177(d), 10177(g) and/or 10177(h).

Code Section 10106 provides, in pertinent part, that in any order issued in resolution of a disciplinary proceeding before the Bureau, the Commissioner may request the administrative law judge to direct a licensee found to have committed a violation of this part to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of investigation and enforcement of the case.

111

13 | ///

1

7

10.

11

12

14 | ///

15 | ///

16

17 1//

18 ///

19 ///

20 ///

21 ///

22 ///

23 | ///

24 ///

25 / /

26 | //

27 ///

conducted on the allegations of this Accusation and that upon proof thereof, a decision be rendered imposing disciplinary action against all the licenses and license rights of Respondents AMERICAN LOANS AND FUNDING INC. and RAUL SANDOVAL under the Real Estate Law (Part 1 of Division 4 of the Business and Professions Code), for the cost of investigation and enforcements as permitted by Code Section 10106, and for such other and further relief as may be proper under other applicable provisions of law. Dated at Los Angeles, California this 24 day of \_

WHEREFORE, Complainant prays that a hearing be

ROBIN TRUJILLO

Deputy Real Estate Commissioner

15

12

13

14

16

17

18

19

20

21

AMERICAN LOANS AND FUNDING INC.

22 RAUL SANDOVAL Robin Trujillo

23 Sacramento

24

25

26