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FILED

JUN 1 6 2021

DEPT. OF REAL ESTATE

By_

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

* * *

In the Matter of the Accusation of

LINDA LAUREEN TOTH,

Respondent.

No. H-41902 LA

FIRST AMENDED

ACCUSATION

)

This First Amended Accusation amends the Accusation filed on February 25, 2021. The Complainant, Veronica Kilpatrick, a Supervising Special Investigator of the State of California, acting in her official capacity, for cause of Accusation against LINDA LAUREEN TOTH ("TOTH") dba Home Sweet Home Property Management, is informed and alleges as follows:

1.

The Complainant, Veronica Kilpatrick, acting in her official capacity as Supervising Special Investigator of the State of California, makes this Accusation.

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 unless otherwise specified.

Respondent TOTH is presently licensed and/or has license rights issued by the Department of Real Estate as a real estate broker (DRE license no. 00848451). TOTH was originally licensed as a real estate broker on or about July 3, 2002, and has been so licensed through the present. Previously, TOTH was licensed as a real estate salesperson. From on or about July 3, 2002 through the present, Respondent TOTH has had the fictitious business name of "Home Sweet Home Property Management."

4.

At all times mentioned, in Ventura County, Respondent TOTH engaged in the business of a real estate broker conducting licensed activities within the meaning of Code section 10131(b) ("[l]eases or rents or offers to lease or rent, or places for rent, or solicits listings of places for rent, or solicits for prospective tenants, or negotiates the sale, purchase, or exchanges of leases on real property, or on a business opportunity, or collects rents from real property, or improvements thereon, or from business opportunities").

(Trust Fund Audit)

5.

On or about December 27, 2019, the Department of Real Estate completed an audit examination of the books and records of Respondent TOTH to determine whether Respondent TOTH handled and accounted for trust funds and conducted her real estate activities in accordance with the Real Estate Law and Regulations. The audit examination covered a period of time beginning on September 1, 2017 and ended on September 30, 2019. The audit examination revealed violations of the Code and the Regulations set forth in the following paragraphs, and more fully discussed in Audit Report LA190037 and the exhibits and work papers attached to said audit report.

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6.

At all times mentioned, in connection with the activities described in Paragraph
4, above, TOTH accepted or received funds including funds in trust ("trust funds") from or on
behalf of actual or prospective parties, such as owners of real property, involved in property
management services, and thereafter made deposits and/or disbursements of such funds. From
time to time herein mentioned, during the audit period, said trust funds were deposited and/or
maintained by TOTH in the bank account as follows:

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*****2814

10 || Union Bank

256 West Los Angeles Ave.

11 Moorpark, CA 93021

(T/A 1)

12 || ****2346

Union Bank

256 West Los Angeles Ave.

14 Moorpark, CA 93021

(T/A.2)

15 *****2361

Union Bank

256 West Los Angeles Ave.

Moorpark, CA 93021

(B/A 1)

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7.

In the course of activities described in Paragraphs 4 and 6, above, and during the audit examination period in Paragraph 5, above, Respondent TOTH acted in violation of the Code and the Regulations as set forth below:

(a) Permitted, allowed, or caused the disbursement of trust funds from bank
accounts T/A 1 where the disbursement of funds reduced the total of aggregate funds in T/A
to a total amount which, on September 30, 2019, was at least \$11,773.56 less than the existing
aggregate trust fund liability to every principal who was an owner of said funds, without first
obtaining the prior written consent of the owners of said funds, in violation of Code section
10145 and Regulations section 2832.1. This shortage in T/A 1 was cured on or about
December 12, 2019.
(b) Failed to maintain an accurate control record of all trust funds received

- (b) Failed to maintain an accurate control record of all trust funds received, deposited, and disbursed for T/A 1, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.
- (c)(1) Failed to maintain accurate separate beneficiary records with the record of all trust funds received and disbursed for T/A 1, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.1.
- (c)(2) Failed to maintain a separate record related to deposits and disbursements made for broker's funds and expenses for T/A 1, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.1.
- (d) Failed to perform and maintain an accurate monthly reconciliation comparing the balance of all separate beneficiary or transaction records (separate records) to the balance of the record of all trust funds received and disbursed (control record) for T/A 1, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.2.
- (e) Failed to designate BA 1 as a trust account in the name of TOTH despite using BA 1 to deposit and disburse trust funds, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2832.
- (f) Permitted TOTH's employee, Scott G. Harthorne, who is an unlicensed and unbonded person, to be an authorized signatory on T/A 1, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2834.

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<u>PARAGRAPH</u>

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7(b)

7(c)

7(d)

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PROVISIONS VIOLATED

Code and the Regulations as set forth below:

Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2832.1

The conduct of Respondent TOTH described in Paragraph 7, above, violated the

Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831

Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.1

Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.2

Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2832

Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2834

The foregoing violations constitute cause for discipline of the real estate license and license rights of Respondent TOTH under the provisions of Code sections 10177(d) and 10177(g).

COSTS

9.

Code section 10106 provides, in pertinent part, that in any order issued in resolution of a disciplinary proceeding before the department, 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.

Code section 10148(b) provides, in pertinent part, the Commissioner shall charge a real estate broker for the cost of any audit, if the Commissioner has found in a final decision following a disciplinary hearing that the broker has violated Code section 10145 or a regulation or rule of the Commissioner interpreting said section.

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 all licenses and/or license rights under the Real Estate Law (Part 1 of Division 4 of the California Business and Professions Code) of Respondent LINDA. LAUREEN TOTH, for the cost of investigation and enforcement as permitted by law, audit costs as permitted by law, and for such other and further relief as may be proper under applicable provisions of law. Dated at San Diego, California: Supervising Special Investigator cc: Linda Laureen Toth Evolve RE, Inc. Veronica Kilpatrick Sacto **Audits**