1 Bureau of Real Estate 320 West 4th Street, Suite 350 2 Los Angeles, CA 90013-1105 3 Telephone: (213) 576-6982 4 MAR 0 9 2016 5 **BUREAU OF REAL ESTATE** 7 8 BEFORE THE BUREAU OF REAL ESTATE 9 STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 12 In the Matter of the Accusation Case No. H-02975 FR Case No. OAH 2015120917 13 FERNANDO CONTRERAS, 14 STIPULATION & AGREEMENT 15 Respondent. 16 17 It is hereby stipulated by and between Respondent FERNANDO CONTRERAS 18 (sometimes referred to as Respondent), and the Complainant, acting by and through Cheryl 19 Keily, Counsel for the Bureau of Real Estate, as follows for the purpose of settling and 20 disposing of the First Amended Accusation ("Accusation") filed on January 6, 2016, in this 21 matter. 22 1. All issues which were to be contested and all evidence which was to be 23 presented by Complainant and Respondent at a formal hearing on the Accusation, which 24 hearing was to be held in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act 25 (APA), shall instead and in place thereof be submitted solely on the basis of the provisions of 26 this Stipulation and Agreement. 27

- 2. Respondent has received, read and understands the Statement to Respondent, the Discovery Provisions of the APA and the Accusation filed by the Bureau of Real Estate ("Bureau") in this proceeding.
- 3. On December 14, 2015, Respondent 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. Respondent hereby freely and voluntarily withdraws said Notice of Defense. Respondent acknowledges that he understands that by withdrawing said Notice of Defense he will thereby waive his right to require the Commissioner of Real Estate ("Commissioner") to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a contested hearing held in accordance with the provisions of the APA and that he will waive other rights afforded to him in connection with the hearing, such as the right to present evidence in defense of the allegations in the Accusation and 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, Respondent chooses 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 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 Bureau, the state or federal government, or any agency of this state, another state or federal government is involved, and otherwise shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceedings.
- 6. It is understood by the parties that the Commissioner may adopt the Stipulation and Agreement as his decision in this matter, thereby imposing the penalty and sanctions on Respondent's real estate licenses and license rights as set forth in the below

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"Order". In the event that the Commissioner in his discretion does not adopt the Stipulation and Agreement, it shall be void and of no effect, and Respondent shall retain the right to a hearing and proceeding on the Accusation under all the provisions of the APA and shall not be bound by any admission or waiver made herein.

- 7. The Order or any subsequent Order of the Commissioner made pursuant to this Stipulation and Agreement shall not constitute an estoppel, merger or bar to any further administrative or civil proceedings by the Bureau with respect to any matters which were not specifically alleged to be causes for accusation in this proceeding.
- 8. Respondent understands that by agreeing to this Stipulation, Respondent agrees to pay, pursuant to Code Section 10106, the cost of the investigation and enforcement of this matter. The amount of the investigation costs is \$2,891.50 the amount of the enforcement costs is \$689.75.

## **DETERMINATION OF ISSUES**

1. The conduct, acts or omissions of Respondent FERNANDO CONTRERAS, as set forth in the Accusation, is in violation of Code Section 10177(g) [negligence] and constitutes cause to suspend or revoke the real estate licenses and license rights of Respondent under the provisions of Code Sections 10177(d).

## ORDER

WHEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING ORDER is hereby made:

- I. ALL licenses and licensing rights of Respondent FERNANDO CONTRERAS under the Real Estate Law are suspended for a period of thirty (30) days from the effective date of this Decision and Order; provided however, that the entire period of said suspension shall be stayed for two (2) years upon the following terms and conditions:
- A. Respondent shall obey all laws, rules and regulations governing the rights, duties and responsibilities of a real estate licensee in the State of California; and
  - B. That no final subsequent determination be made, after hearing or upon

stipulation, that cause for disciplinary action occurred within two (2) years of the effective date of this Decision. Should such a determination be made, the Commissioner may, in his discretion, vacate and set aside the stay order and reimpose all or a portion of the stayed suspension. Should no such determination be made, the stay imposed herein shall become permanent.

II. All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent are indefinitely suspended unless or until Respondent pays the sum of \$3,581.25 for the Commissioner's reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement which lead to the disciplinary action. Said payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check made payable to the Bureau of Real Estate. The investigative and enforcement costs must be delivered to the Bureau of Real Estate, Flag Section at P.O. Box 137013, Sacramento, California 95813-7013, prior to the effective date of this Decision and Order.

DATED: 7068, 2016

Cheryl D. Keily, Counsel BUREAU OF REAL ESTATE

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I have read the Stipulation and Agreement, and its terms are understood by me and are agreeable and acceptable to me. I understand that I am waiving rights given to me by the APA (including but not limited to Sections 11506, 11508, 11509 and 11513 of the Government Code), and I 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 I would have the right to cross-examine witnesses against me and to present evidence in defense and mitigation of the charges.

Respondent can signify acceptance and approval of the terms and conditions of this Stipulation and Agreement by faxing a copy of its signature page, as actually signed by Respondent, to the Bureau at the following telephone/fax number (213) 576-6917 or by e-

at which I would have the right to cross-examine witnesses against me and to present evidence in defense and mitigation of the charges.

Respondent can signify acceptance and approval of the terms and conditions of this Stipulation and Agreement by faxing a copy of its signature page, as actually signed by Respondent, to the Bureau at the following telephone/fax number (213) 576-6917 or by emailing it to <a href="Mailto:Cheryl.Keily@dre.ca.gov">Cheryl.Keily@dre.ca.gov</a>. Respondent agrees, acknowledges, and understands that by electronically sending to the Bureau a copy of his actual signature as it appears on the Stipulation and Agreement, that receipt of the copy by the Bureau shall be as binding on Respondent as if the Bureau had received the original signed Stipulation and Agreement.

DATED: 02/04/2016

FERNANDO CONTRERAS Respondent

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The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement is hereby adopted as my Decision in this matter and shall become effective at 12 o'clock noon on MARCH 29 , 2016.

IT IS SO ORDERED MARCH 1, 2016.

REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER

By: JEFFREY MASON Chief Deputy Commissioner