

Department of Real Estate P.O. Box 187007 Sacramento, CA 95818-7007

Telephone: (916) 227-0781

By P. OF REAL ESTATE

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation of

RUBEN G. VENEGAS,

Respondent.

No. H-5525 SAC

STIPULATION AND
AGREEMENT

It is hereby stipulated by and between RUBEN G. VENEGAS (hereinafter "Respondent"), represented by Joshua B. Clark, and the Complainant, acting by and through Truly Sughrue, Counsel for the Department of Real Estate, as follows for the purpose of settling and disposing the Accusation filed on December 21, 2010 in this matter:

- 1. All issues which were to be contested and all evidence which was to be presented by Complainant and Respondent at a formal hearing on the Accusation, which hearing was to be held in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (hereinafter "APA"), shall instead and in place thereof be submitted solely on the basis of the provisions of this Stipulation and Agreement.
- 2. Respondent has received, read and understands the Statement to Respondent, and the Discovery Provisions of the APA filed by the Department of Real Estate in this proceeding.
- 3. Respondent filed a Notice of Defense pursuant to Section 11505 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 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. Respondent, pursuant to the limitations set forth below, hereby admits that the factual allegations of the Accusation filed in this proceeding are true and correct and the Real Estate Commissioner shall not be required to provide further evidence to prove such allegations.
- 5. It is understood by the parties that the Real Estate Commissioner may adopt the Stipulation and Agreement as his decision in this matter thereby imposing the penalty and sanctions on the real estate licenses and license rights of Respondent as set forth in the below "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.
- 6. The Order or any subsequent Order of the Real Estate 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 Department of Real Estate with respect to any matters which were not specifically alleged to be causes for accusation in this proceeding.

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DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

By reason of the foregoing stipulations and waivers and solely for the purpose of settlement of the pending Accusation without a hearing, it is stipulated and agreed that the following determination of issues shall be made:

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The acts and omissions of Respondent as described in the First Cause of Action in the Accusation are grounds for the suspension or revocation of Respondent licenses and license rights under Section 10130 of the Business and Professions Code (hereinafter "the Code") in conjunction with Section 10177(d) of the Code.

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The acts and omissions of Respondent as described in the Second Cause of Action in the Accusation are grounds for the suspension or revocation of Respondent licenses and license rights under Sections 10085, 10146, and 10145(c) of the Code and Section 2970 of Title 10, California Code of Regulations (hereinafter "Regulations") in conjunction with Section 10177(d) of the Code.

ORDER

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- A. All real estate license(s) and license rights of Respondent RUBEN G. VENEGAS are revoked.
- B. A restricted real estate salesperson license shall be issued to Respondent pursuant to

 Section 10156.6 of the Code if within ninety (90) days of the effective date of the Order,

 Respondent makes application therefore and pays to the Department the appropriate fee for said license.
- C. The restricted license issued to Respondent shall be subject to all of the provisions of

 Section 10156.7 of the Business and Professions Code and to the following conditions and
 limitations imposed under authority of Section 10156.6 of said Code:
 - 1) The restricted license issued to Respondent may be suspended prior to hearing by order of the Real Estate Commissioner in the event of Respondent's conviction or plea of nolo contendere to a crime which bears a substantial relationship to Respondent's fitness or capacity as a real estate licensee.
 - 2) The restricted license may be suspended prior to hearing by Order of the Real Estate Commissioner on evidence satisfactory to the Commissioner that 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) Respondent shall not be eligible to apply for the issuance of an unrestricted real estate license, nor the removal of any of the conditions of the restricted license, until four (4) years have elapsed from the effective date of this Order.

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2011.

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY COURSE INFORMATION

Please read if the attached Decision requires you to take and pass the Professional Responsibility Course.

The attached Decision of the Real Estate Commissioner revokes your real estate license, but grants you the right to a restricted license upon certain terms and conditions. If you apply for and obtain a restricted license, one of those conditions requires you to take and pass a course in Professional Responsibility within a specified number of months from the effective date of the Decision.

You need not pass the course examination prior to applying for a restricted license; however, failure to pass the course examination within the specified period after obtaining the restricted license will result in the suspension of the license. The suspension will remain in effect until you have passed the examination.

The Professional Responsibility course and examination are administered exclusively by the Department of Real Estate. To obtain course material and an examination admittance ticket, complete the attached Professional Responsibility Course Examination Application (RE 283) and submit it with the \$25 examination fee.

Information about the dates, time, and location of the examination are included on RE 283.

There is no limit to the number of times you may take the exam; however, a new fee is required each time an additional examination is applied for. You may take the examination either before issuance of the restricted license, during the restricted licensure period, or if the license is subsequently suspended, after the restricted licensure period.

This course carries no continuing education (CE) credit and is in addition to any other terms and conditions of your restricted license.

NOTE: Failure to take and pass the Professional Responsibility examination may result in a suspension of your restricted license.

1 TRULY SUGHRUE, Counsel State Bar No. 223266 2 Department of Real Estate DEC 2 1 2010 P. O. Box 187007 3 Sacramento, CA 95818-7007 **DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE** 4 Telephone: (916) 227-0789 (916) 227-0781 (Direct) 5 6 7 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE 8 STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 10 11 In the Matter of the Accusation of No. H-5525 SAC 12 RUBEN G. VENEGAS, **ACCUSATION** 13 Respondent. 14 15 The Complainant, Tricia Sommers, a Deputy Real Estate Commissioner of the 16 State of California, for cause of Accusation against RUBEN G. VENEGAS (hereinafter 17 "Respondent"), is informed and alleges as follows: 18 PRELIMINARY ALLEGATIONS 19 20 The Complainant, Tricia Sommers, a Deputy Real Estate Commissioner of the State of California, makes this Accusation in her official capacity. 21 2 22 Respondent is presently licensed and/or has license rights under the Real Estate 23 Law, Part 1 of Division 4 of the Business and Professions Code ("Code") as a restricted real 24 25 estate salesperson. At no time mentioned was Respondent licensed by the Department as a real estate broker. 26

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At no times mentioned was 2nd Chance Negotiations Inc. and/or 2nd Chance Legal Services, (hereinafter "2nd Chance") licensed by the Department as a real estate broker corporation.

At no times mentioned was Green Tree Lending and/or New Leaf Modifications, licensed by the Department as a real estate broker corporation.

At all times mentioned, Respondent engaged in the business of, acted in the capacity of, advertised, or assumed to act as real estate brokers in the State of California, within the meaning of Section 10131(d) of the Code, including the operation and conduct of a mortgage loan brokerage and/or loan modification business with the public wherein each of them solicited lenders and borrowers for or negotiated loans or collected payments and/or performed services for borrowers or lenders or note owners in connection with loans secured directly or collaterally by liens on real property for or in expectation of compensation.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

Each and every allegation in Paragraphs 1 through 5 is incorporated by this reference as if fully set forth herein.

Beginning on or about January 6, 2009, Respondent, in the course of the real estate activities described in Paragraph 5, on behalf of Green Tree Lending, New Leaf Modifications, and/or 2nd Chance, solicited lenders and borrowers for or negotiated loans or collected payments and/or performed services for borrowers or lenders or note owners in connection with loans secured directly or collaterally by liens on real property for or in expectation of compensation, including, but not limited to, the following:

PROPERTY OWNER PROPERTY LOCATION 2 Flor M. and Mario O. 3820 Saintsbury Drive, Sacramento 3 8 By the commission of the acts alleged above, Respondent engaged in the business 5 and acted in the capacity of a real estate broker within the State of California as defined by 6 Section 10131(b) of the Code. 7 9 The facts alleged in the First Cause of Action are grounds for the suspension or 8 9 revocation of the licenses and/or license rights of Respondent under Section 10130 of the Code 10 in conjunction with 10177(d) of the Code. 11 SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION 12 10 13 Each and every allegation in Paragraphs 1 through 9 is incorporated by this 14 reference as if fully set forth herein. 15 11 16 In connection with the operation and conduct of the real estate activities described 17 in Paragraph 5, Respondent engaged in the business of claiming, demanding, charging, receiving, 18 collecting or contracting for the collection of advance fees within the meaning of Sections 10026 19 and 10131.2 (hereinafter "advance fees") of the Code, including, but not limited to, the 20 following: 21 **PROPERTY OWNER DATE** Flor M. and Mario O 11/8/08 23 12 24 In connection with the collection and handling of said advance fee, Respondent 25 failed to cause the advance fee contract and all materials used in obtaining the advance fee 26 agreement to be submitted to the Department of Real Estate prior to use as required by Section

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ADVANCE FEE

\$3,581.00

10085 of the Code and Section 2970 of Title 10, California Code of Regulations (hereinafter "Regulations").

Beginning on or about November 2008, Respondent failed to immediately deliver said trust funds, as described in Paragraph 11, to his broker, or at the broker's direction into the hands of the broker's principal, into a neutral escrow depository, or into his broker's trust fund account in violation of Section 10145(c) of the Code, but instead delivered said funds into the hands of 2nd Chance.

The acts and/or omissions of Respondent described in Paragraphs 11 and 12, constitute violation of Section 10177(d) of the Code in conjunction with Sections 10085, and 10146 of the Code and Section 2970 of the Regulations, and are cause for the suspension or revocation of Respondent's license and license rights.

The facts alleged in Paragraph 13 is grounds for the suspension or revocation of the licenses and/or license rights of Respondent under Section 10177(d) of the Code in conjunction with Section 10145(c) the Code.

PRIOR PROCEEDING

Effective December 21, 1998, in Case No. H-4836 SAC, before the Department of Real Estate, the Real Estate Commissioner denied the real estate salesperson license of Respondent, for violation of Sections 480(a), and 10177(b) of the Code, but granted the right to a restricted real estate salesperson license, on terms, conditions, and restrictions set forth in the Order.

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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 all licenses and license rights under the Real Estate Law (Part 1 of Division 4 of the Business and Professions Code) of Respondent, and for such other and further relief as may be proper under applicable provisions of law.

TRICIA SOMMERS

Deputy Real Estate Commissioner

Dated at Sacramento, California, this ______day of December, 2010