STEVE CHU, Attorney (SBN 238155) 1 Department of Real Estate 2 320 West 4th Street, Suite 350 Los Angeles, California 90013-1105 SEP 2 0 2024 3 DEPT. OF REAL ESTATE Telephone: (213) 620-6430 4 Fax: (213) 576-6917 5 6 7 8 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE 9 STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 * * * 11 In the Matter of the Accusation of No. H-05815 SD 12 HORIZON REAL ESTATE HOLDING INC. ACCUSATION 13 doing business as Joe Carta Realty, and 14 JOSEPH WILLIAM CARTA, doing business as Century 21 Horizon, 15 individually and as designated officer of Horizon Real Estate Holding Inc. 16 Respondents. 17 18 19 The Complainant, Veronica Kilpatrick, a Supervising Special Investigator of the 20 State of California, for cause of Accusation against HORIZON REAL ESTATE 21 HOLDING INC, doing business as Joe Carta Realty, and JOSEPH WILLIAM CARTA, doing 22 business as Century 21 Horizon, individually and as designated officer of Horizon Real Estate 23 Holding Inc ("Respondents"), is informed and alleges as follows: 24 1. 25 The Complainant, Veronica Kilpatrick, acting in her official capacity as a

The Complainant, Veronica Kilpatrick, acting in her official capacity as a Supervising Special Investigator of the State of California, makes this Accusation against Respondents HORIZON REAL ESTATE HOLDING INC and JOSEPH WILLIAM CARTA.

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| 2 | All references to the "Code" are to the California Business and Professions Code | | |
| 3 | and all references to "Regulations" are to Title 10, Chapter 6, California Code of Regulations. | | |
| 4 | LICENSE HISTORY | | |
| 5 | 3. | | |
| 6 | Respondent HORIZON REAL ESTATE HOLDING INC ("HORIZON") | | |
| 7 | presently has license rights under the Real Estate Law, Part 1 of Division 4 of the Code as a | | |
| 8 | corporate real estate broker. | | |
| 9 | 4. | | |
| 10 | Respondent JOSEPH WILLIAM CARTA ("CARTA") presently has license | | |
| 11 | rights as a real estate broker. | | |
| 12 | 5. | | |
| 13 | From May 12, 2016 to the present, Respondent HORIZON is licensed by the | | |
| 14 | Department of Real Estate ("Department") as a corporate real estate broker by and through | | |
| 15 | Respondent CARTA, as the designated officer and broker responsible, pursuant to Code | | |
| 16 | section 10159.2, for supervising the activities requiring a real estate license conducted on | | |
| 17 | behalf of HORIZON, or by HORIZON'S officers, agents and employees. | | |
| 18 | BROKERAGE | | |
| 19 | HORIZON REAL ESTATE HOLDING INC | | |
| 20 | 6. | | |
| 21 | At all times mentioned, in the City of San Diego, County of San Diego, | | |
| 22 | Respondent HORIZON acted as a real estate broker, conducting licensed activities within the | | |
| 23 | meaning of Code section 10131(b) (leases or rents real property for others). | | |
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AUDIT 1 2 HORIZON REAL ESTATE HOLDING INC 3 7. 4 On March 29, 2024, the Department completed audit examinations of the books 5 and records of Respondent HORIZON pertaining to the activities described in Paragraph 6 6 which require a real estate license. The audit examinations covered a period of time from 7 March 1, 2022, to February 28, 2023. The audit examinations revealed violations of the Code 8 and the Regulations as set forth in the following paragraphs, and as more fully discussed in 9 Audit Report SD220024 and the exhibits and workpapers attached to said audit report. 10 8. 11 Respondent HORIZON accepted or received funds in trust ("trust funds"). 12 Thereafter, Respondent made deposits and or disbursements of such trust funds. During the 13 examination period described in Paragraph 7 above, Respondent deposited or maintained trust 14 funds in the following bank accounts: 15 Bank Account 1: Chase Bank account ending in 435. 16 Bank Account 2: Chase Bank account ending in 331. 17 FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION 18 AUDIT VIOLATIONS OF THE REAL ESTATE LAW 19 9. 20 In the course of activities described in Paragraph 6 above and during the 21 examination period described in Paragraph 7 above, Respondents HORIZON and CARTA 22 acted in violation of the Code and the Regulations in that: 23 ///

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- 9(a) As of February 28, 2023, Respondent HORIZON had a trust fund shortage in the amount of \$77,084.08 in Bank Account 1 and a trust fund shortage in the amount of \$246,363.97 in Bank Account 2. HORIZON did not have written consent from the owners of the trust funds to reduce the balance of trust funds to an amount less than the aggregate trust fund liabilities, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2832.1.
- 9(b) Respondent HORIZON did not maintain a complete and accurate control record or general ledger of all trust funds received and disbursed, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.
- 9(c) Respondent HORIZON did not maintain a complete and accurate separate record of all trust funds received and disbursed for each beneficiary in connection with HORIZON'S broker activities, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.1.
- 9(d) Respondent HORIZON did not perform and maintain a monthly reconciliation of all the separate records with the control record of all trust funds received and disbursed, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.2.
- 9(e) Bank Account 1 and Bank Account 2 used by Respondent HORIZON for trust funds were not designated as trust accounts and were not in the name of HORIZON as trustee or a fictitious name held by HORIZON'S real estate license as trustee, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2832.
- 9(f) On or about June 2, 2022, Respondent HORIZON performed unauthorized disbursements from Bank Account 2 to Bank Account 1 in the total amount of \$11,100.00, in violation of Code sections 10145 and 10176(i).
- 9(g) The conduct, acts, or omissions of Respondent CARTA, as described in Paragraph 9, in failing to ensure compliance of the Real Estate Law by Respondent HORIZON'S officers, agents and employees, is in violation of Code section 10159.2 and Regulations section 2725.

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The conduct, acts, or omissions of Respondents HORIZON and CARTA, described in Paragraph 9 above, violated the Code and the Regulations as set forth below:

| 4 | <u>PARAGRAPH</u> | PROVISIONS VIOLATED |
|----|------------------|---|
| 5 | 9(a) | Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2832.1 |
| 6 | | (HORIZON) |
| 7 | 9(b) | Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831 |
| 8 | | (HORIZON) |
| 9 | 9(c) | Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.1 |
| 10 | | (HORIZON) |
| 11 | 9(d) | Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.2 |
| 12 | | (HORIZON) |
| 13 | 9(e) | Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2832 |
| 14 | | (HORIZON) |
| 15 | 9(f) | Code sections 10145 and 10176(i) |
| 16 | | (HORIZON) |
| 17 | 9(g) | Code section 10159.2 and Regulations section 2725 |
| 18 | | (CARTA) |
| | | |

The foregoing violations constitute cause for the suspension or revocation of all the licenses, license endorsements, and license rights of Respondent HORIZON under the Real Estate Law pursuant to the provisions of Code sections 10176(i), 10177(d), and 10177(g).

The foregoing violations constitute cause for the suspension or revocation of all the licenses, license endorsements, and license rights of Respondent CARTA under the Real Estate Law pursuant to the provisions of Code sections 10177(d), 10177(g), and 10177(h).

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Code section 10148(b) provides, in pertinent part, that the Real Estate

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 Code section.

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Code Section 10106 provides, in pertinent part, that in any order issued in resolution of a disciplinary proceeding before the Department of Real Estate, 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 the investigation and enforcement of the case.

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 the licenses, license endorsements, and license rights of Respondents HORIZON REAL ESTATE HOLDING INC and JOSEPH WILLIAM CARTA under the Real Estate Law, for the cost of audit, investigation, and enforcement as permitted by law, and for such other and further relief as may be proper under other applicable provisions of law.

Dated at San Diego, California

this 12th day of September , 2024

Veronica Kilpatrick Supervising Special Investigator

HORIZON REAL ESTATE HOLDING INC JOSEPH WILLIAM CARTA Veronica Kilpatrick

Sacto. Audits