| 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6 | STEPHANIE K. SESE, Counsel State Bar No. 225003  Department of Real Estate P.O. Box 187007  Sacramento, CA 95818-7007  Telephone: (916) 227-0789 (916) 227-0868 (Direct) (916) 227-9458 (Fax)  DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE  By  O'ILLIAN  O'IL |  |  |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|
| 8                          | BEFORE THE   |  |  |
| 9                          | DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE  |  |  |
| 10                         | STATE OF CALIFORNIA  |  |  |
| 11                         | * * *  |  |  |
| 12                         | In the Matter of the Accusation of   |  |  |
| 13                         | No. H-5983 SAC ROBERT WAYNE DAVIDSON,  |  |  |
| 14                         | ROBERT WATNE DAVIDSON,  Respondent.  ACCUSATION  ACCUSATION  |  |  |
| 15                         | Kespondent.  |  |  |
| 16                         | The Complainant, TRICIA SOMMERS, a Deputy Real Estate Commissioner of  |  |  |
| 17                         | the State of California, for cause of Accusation against ROBERT WAYNE DAVIDSON   |  |  |
| 18                         | (Respondent), is informed and alleges as follows:  |  |  |
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| 20                         | The Complainant, TRICIA SOMMERS, a Deputy Real Estate Commissioner of  |  |  |
| 21                         | the State of California, makes this Accusation in her official capacity.   |  |  |
| 22                         | 2  |  |  |
| 23                         | Respondent is presently licensed and/or has license rights under the Real Estate   |  |  |
| 24                         | Law, Part 1 of Division 4 of the Business and Professions Code (Code).   |  |  |
| 25                         | 3  |  |  |
| 26                         | At all times mentioned, Respondent was and is licensed by the Department   |  |  |
| 27                         | individually as a real estate broker.  |  |  |
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At all times mentioned, Respondent engaged in the business of, acted in the capacity of, advertised, or assumed to act as a real estate broker in the State of California, within the meaning of Section 10131(b) of the Code in the operation and conduct of a property management business with the public wherein, on behalf of others, for or in expectation of compensation, Respondent leased or rented and offered to lease or rent, and placed for rent, and solicited listings of places for rent, and solicited for prospective tenants of real property or improvements thereon, and collected rents from real property or improvements thereon.

At all times mentioned, while acting as a real estate broker as described in Paragraph 4, Respondent employed unlicensed individuals Joan Andrews ("Andrews") and Jolene Whitney ("Whitney").

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On or about August 27, 2012, through November 30, 2012, an audit was conducted of the records of Respondent. The auditor herein examined the records for the period of July 1, 2011, through August 31, 2012.

While acting as a real estate broker as described in Paragraph 4, Respondent accepted or received funds in trust (trust funds) from or on behalf of owners and tenants in connection with the leasing, renting, and collection of rents on real property or improvements thereon, as alleged herein, and thereafter from time to time made disbursements of said trust funds.

The trust funds accepted or received by Respondent as described in Paragraph 7 were deposited or caused to be deposited by Respondent into bank accounts which were maintained by Respondent for the handling of trust funds, and thereafter from time-to-time Respondent made disbursements of said trust funds, identified as follows:

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| TRUST ACCOUNT # 1       |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Bank Name and Location: | Bank of Marin<br>600 Trancas Street<br>Napa, CA 94558  |  |  |  |  |
| Account No.:            | XX-XX1466  |  |  |  |  |
| Account Name:           | Davidson and Bennett Realtors Rental Trust   |  |  |  |  |
| Signatories:            | Robert Wayne Davidson Joan Andrews Jolene Whitney  |  |  |  |  |
| Description:            | Trust Account #1 was used for deposits and disbursements related to the management of approximately twenty eight residential properties. Deposits included rents, security deposits, and owner contributions. Disbursements included payments of proceeds to owners, repair and maintenance expenses, management fees to salesperson Patricia Williams, and return of security deposits to vacating tenants. |  |  |  |  |

| BANK ACCOUNT #1 |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Bank Name and   | Bank of Marin  |  |  |  |  |
| Location:       | 600 Trancas Street   |  |  |  |  |
|                 | Napa, CA 94558   |  |  |  |  |
| Account No.:    | XX-XX1235  |  |  |  |  |
| Account Name:   | Davison and Bennett Realtors Property Management                 |  |  |  |  |
| Signatories:    | Robert Wayne Davidson  |  |  |  |  |
|                 | Joan Andrews   |  |  |  |  |
|                 | Jolene Whitney   |  |  |  |  |
| Description:    | Bank Account #1 was used for deposits and disbursements.         |  |  |  |  |
|                 | Deposits included rents, security deposits, owner contributions, |  |  |  |  |
|                 | and cash management transfers from Bank Account #1 to Bank       |  |  |  |  |
|                 | Account #2. Disbursements included payments of proceeds to       |  |  |  |  |
|                 | owners, repair and maintenance expenses, management fees,        |  |  |  |  |
|                 | returns of security deposits to vacating tenants, and cash       |  |  |  |  |
|                 | management transfers to Bank Account #2.                         |  |  |  |  |

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| BANK ACCOUNT #2   |  |  |  |  |  |
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| Bank of Marin   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 600 Trancas Street  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Napa, CA 94558  |  |  |  |  |  |
| XX-XX1227   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Davison and Bennett Realtors General Account  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Robert Wayne Davidson   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Joan Andrews  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jolene Whitney  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bank Account #2 was used as a general business account.   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Deposits included commissions earned from property resale activity, fees and commissions earned from property |  |  |  |  |  |
| management activity, reimbursements of repair and   |  |  |  |  |  |
| maintenance expenses, miscellaneous receivables from sales  |  |  |  |  |  |
| agents, and cash management transfers from Bank Account #1.   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Disbursements included payment of commissions earned from   |  |  |  |  |  |
| property sales activity, payment of repair and maintenance  |  |  |  |  |  |
| expenses, payment for payroll, tax payments, and other  |  |  |  |  |  |
| business expenses.  |  |  |  |  |  |
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In the course of the activities described in Paragraph 4, above, Respondent:

- (a) caused, suffered, or permitted the balance of funds in Trust Account #1 to be reduced to an amount which, as of July 31, 2012, was approximately \$33,107.60 less than the aggregate liability of Trust Account #1 to all owners of such funds in violation of Section 10145 of the Code and Section 2832.1 of Title 10 of the California Code of Regulations (Regulations);
- (b) caused, suffered, or permitted the balance of funds in Bank Account #1 to be reduced to an amount which, as of July 31, 2012, was approximately \$275,507.34 less than the aggregate liability of Bank Account #1 to all owners of such funds in violation of Section 10145 of the Code and Section 2832.1 of the Regulations;
- (c) failed to obtain the written consent of every principal who was an owner of funds in Trust Account #1 and Bank Account #1 prior to each disbursement when such

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disbursement reduced the balance of funds in Trust Account #1 and Bank Account #1 to an amount less than the aggregate trust liability of the broker to all owners of the funds in violation of Section 10145 of the Code and Section 2832.1 of the Regulations;

- (d) failed to designate Bank Account #1 as a trust account with the designation of the broker as trustee, despite the use of Bank Account #1 in the handling of trust funds in violation of Section 10145 of the Code and Section 2832 of the Regulations;
- (e) failed to designate Bank Account #2 as a trust account with the designation of the broker as trustee, despite the use of Bank Account #2 in the handling of trust funds in violation of Section 10145 of the Code and Section 2832 of the Regulations;
- (f) commingled trust funds with non-trust funds in violation of Section 10176(e) of the Code and Section 2835 of the Regulations;
- (g) transferred trust funds to Bank Account #2 and converted such funds for the payment of non-trust related expenses in violation of Section 10176(e) of the Code and Section 2835 of the Regulations;
- (h) provided unlicensed employees Andrews and Whitney signatory rights as to Trust Account #1, Bank Account #1, and Bank Account #2, without fidelity bond coverage at least equal to the maximum amount of the trust funds to which the employees had access to at any time in violation of Section 2834 of the Regulations;
- (i) failed to maintain a written control record of all trust funds received and disbursed, containing all information required by Section 2831 of the Regulations;
- (j) failed to keep accurate separate records for each beneficiary or transaction,
   accounting therein for all funds which were deposited, containing all of the information required
   by Section 2831.1 of the Regulations;
- (k) failed to reconcile the balance of separate beneficiary or transaction records with the control record of trust funds received and disbursed at least once a month, and/or failed to maintain a record of such reconciliations for each account as required by Section 2831.2 of the Regulations; and,

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(l) failed to exercise reasonable supervision over the acts of Respondent's agents and employees in such a manner as to allow the acts and omissions on the part of Respondent, described above, to occur in violation of Section 10159.2 of the Code and Section 2725 of the Regulations.

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The facts alleged above are grounds for the suspension or revocation of Respondent's license and license rights pursuant to Sections 10145, 10159.2, and 10176(e) of the Code, Sections 2725, 2831, 2831.1, 2831.2, 2832, 2832.1, 2834, and 2835 of the Regulations, in conjunction with Sections 10177(d), (g), and (j) of the Code.

## **COST RECOVERY**

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The acts and/or omissions of Respondent as alleged above, entitle the Department to reimbursement of the costs of its audit pursuant to Section 10148(b) (audit costs for trust fund handling violation) of the Code.

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Section 10106 of the Code 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 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 licenses and license rights of Respondent under the Code, for the cost of investigation and enforcement as permitted by law, and for such other and further relief as may be proper under the provisions of law.

Dated at Sacramento, California, this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2013

TRICIA SOMMERS

Deputy Real Estate Commissioner