P.O. Box 137007

Department of Real Estate

Sacramento, CA 95813-7007

1

2

3 Telephone: (916) 576-8700

4 5

6

7 8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17 18

19

20

21 22

23

24 25

26

27



BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation of

STEP UP PM, INC., ANN THERESA BRENNAN, SHANNON P. KENT, ACCESS ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC. and JARROD VINCENT WHITEHORN,

Respondents.

No. H-7018 SAC

STIPULATION AND **AGREEMENT**

It is hereby stipulated by and between STEP UP PM, INC. (SUPM), and SHANNON P. KENT/SHANNON M. CANDELARIA (KENT) ONLY, (collectively referred to as "Respondents"), represented by Shannon B. Jones and Lindsey A. Morgan of the Shannon B. Jones Law Group, Inc., and the Complainant, acting by and through Richard Uno, Counsel for the Department of Real Estate (Department), as follows for the purpose of settling and disposing the Accusation filed on January 22, 2021, in this matter:

All issues which were to be contested and all evidence which was to be presented by Complainant and Respondents at a formal hearing on the Accusation, which hearing was to be held in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), shall instead and in place thereof be submitted solely on the basis of the provisions of this Stipulation and Agreement.

- 2. Respondents have received, read, and understand the Statement to Respondent, and the Discovery Provisions of the APA filed by the Department in this proceeding.
- 3. Respondents 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. Respondents hereby freely and voluntarily withdraw said Notice of Defense. Respondents acknowledge that Respondents understand that by withdrawing said Notice of Defense Respondents will thereby waive Respondents' rights to require the Real Estate Commissioner (Commissioner) to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a contested hearing held in accordance with the provisions of the APA, and that Respondents will waive other rights afforded to Respondents 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 and Agreement is based on the factual allegations contained in the Accusation. In the interest of expediency and economy, Respondents choose not to contest these factual allegations, but to remain silent and understand that, as a result thereof, these factual statements will serve as a prima facie basis for the "Determination of Issues" and ""Order" set forth below. The Commissioner shall not be required to provide further evidence to prove such allegations.
- 5. This Stipulation and Agreement and Respondents' decision not to contest the Accusation are made for the purpose of reaching an agreed disposition of this proceeding and are expressly limited to this proceeding and any other proceeding or case in which the Department, the state or federal government, an agency of this state, or an agency of another state is involved.
- 6. In lieu of proceeding in this matter in accordance with the provisions of the APA, SUPM wishes to voluntarily surrender its corporate real estate broker license issued by the Department, pursuant to Section 10100.2 of the Code.

7 8

9 10

11

12 13

14

15

16

17 18

19

20 21

22

23 24

25

26 27

13.

- 7. SUPM understands that by so voluntarily surrendering its license, it may be re-licensed as a broker only by petitioning for reinstatement pursuant to Section 11522 of the Government Code. SUPM also understands that by so voluntarily surrendering its license, it agrees to the following:
- The filing of this Stipulation and Agreement shall be deemed as SUPM's A. declaration and petition for voluntary surrender.
- SUPM further agrees that upon acceptance by the Commissioner, as evidenced by an appropriate order, all affidavits and all relevant evidence obtained by the Department in this matter prior to the Commissioner's acceptance, and all allegations contained in the Accusation filed in the Department Case No. H-7018 SAC, may be considered by the Department to be true and correct for the purpose of deciding whether to grant re-licensure or reinstatement pursuant to Government Code Section 11522.
- 10. SUPM freely and voluntarily surrenders all its licenses and license rights under the Real Estate Law.
- 11. KENT understands that by agreeing to this Stipulation and Agreement, KENT agrees to pay, pursuant to Section 10148 of the California Business and Professions Code (Code), a pro rata share of the cost of the audit, which resulted in the determination that Respondents committed the trust fund handling violation(s) found in the Determination of Issues. The amount of KENT's share of said costs is \$5,339.88.
- 12. KENT further understands that by agreeing to this Stipulation and Agreement, the findings set forth below in the Determination of Issues become final, and that the Commissioner may charge said KENT for the costs of any audit conducted pursuant to Section 10148 of the Code to determine if the violations have been corrected. The amount of KENT's share of said audit shall not exceed \$6,674.85.
- Stipulation and Agreement as his Decision and Order in this matter thereby imposing the penalty and sanctions on the real estate licenses and license rights of Respondents as set forth in the

It is understood by the parties that the Commissioner may adopt the

- 14. KENT understands that by agreeing to this Stipulation, KENT agrees to pay, pursuant to Section 10106 of the Business and Professions Code (Code), a pro-rata share of the cost of the investigation which resulted in the determination that Respondent committed the violations found in the Determination of Issues. The amount of KENT's share of costs is \$2,399.50.
- 15. KENT understands that by agreeing to this Stipulation, KENT agrees to pay \$1,000 each to Robert B., Elwyn P., Jane B and Cheryl S, identified the Accusation, as restitution.
- 16. 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 Department with respect to any matters which were not specifically alleged in Accusation H-7018 SAC.

* * *

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:

I

The acts and omissions of SUPM as described in the Accusation are violations of Real Estate Law and grounds for the suspension or revocation of Respondents' licenses and license rights under the following sections of the Code and Title 10 of the California Code of Regulations (Regulations):

Sections 2731, 2831, 2832 and 2832.1 of the Regulations and Sections 10145, 10177(d) and 10177(g) of the Code.

II

The acts and omissions of KENT as described in Accusation are grounds for the suspension or revocation of KENT's licenses and license rights under Section 10177(d) and 10177(g) of the Code.

* * *

ORDER

Ι

SUPM's petition for voluntary surrender of its corporate real estate broker license is accepted as of the effective date of this Order as set forth below, based upon the understanding and agreement expressed in SUPM's Declaration incorporated herein as part of this Stipulation and Agreement. SUPM's license certificates, pocket cards and any branch office license certificates shall be sent to the below listed address so that they reach the Department on or before the effective date of this Order:

DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE Attn: Licensing Flag Section P. O. Box 137000 Sacramento, CA 95813-7000

II

All licenses and licensing rights of KENT, under the Real Estate Law are revoked; provided, however, a restricted real estate salesperson license shall be issued to KENT, pursuant to Section 10156.5 of the Code, if KENT makes application therefore and pays to the Department of Real Estate the appropriate fee for the restricted license within 90 days from the effective date of this Stipulation. The restricted license issued to KENT shall be subject to all of the provisions of Section 10156.7 of the Code and to the following limitations, conditions, and restrictions imposed under authority of Section 10156.6 of the Code:

- 1. The restricted license issued to KENT may be suspended prior to hearing by Order of the Commissioner in the event of KENT's conviction or plea of nolo contendere to a crime which is substantially related to KENTs fitness or capacity as a real estate licensee.
- 2. The restricted license issued to KENT may be suspended prior to hearing by Order of the Commissioner on evidence satisfactory to the Commissioner that KENT has violated provisions of the California Real Estate Law, the Subdivided Lands Law, Regulations of the Commissioner or conditions attaching to the restricted license.
- 3. KENT shall not be eligible to apply for the issuance of any unrestricted real estate license nor the removal of any of the conditions, limitations, or restrictions of a restricted until three (3) years have elapsed from the effective date of this Stipulation. KENT shall not be eligible to apply for any unrestricted licenses until all restrictions attaching to the license have been removed.
- 4. KENT shall submit with any application for license under an employing broker, or any application for transfer to a new employing broker, a statement signed by the prospective employing real estate broker on a form approved by the Department which shall certify:
- (1) That the employing broker has read the Decision which is the basis for the issuance of a restricted license; and
- (2) That the employing broker will carefully review all transaction documents prepared by the restricted licensee and otherwise exercise close supervision over the licensee's performance of acts for which a license is required.

Ш

1) Pursuant to Section 10148 of the Code, KENT shall pay the sum of \$5,339.88 for KENT's share of the Commissioner's cost of the audit which led to this disciplinary action.

KENT shall pay such cost within sixty (60) days of receiving an invoice therefore from the Commissioner. Payment of audit costs should not be made until Respondents receive the

invoice. If KENT fails to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, KENT'S real estate license shall automatically be suspended until payment is made in full, or until a decision providing otherwise is adopted following a hearing held pursuant to this condition.

- Pursuant to Section 10148 of the Code, KENT shall pay the Commissioner's reasonable cost, not to exceed \$6,674.85, for KENT's share of an audit to determine if KENT has corrected the violation(s) found in the Determination of Issues. In calculating the amount of the Commissioner's reasonable cost, the Commissioner may use the estimated average hourly salary for all persons performing audits of real estate brokers, and shall include an allocation for travel time to and from the auditor's place of work. KENT shall pay such cost within sixty (60) days of receiving an invoice therefore from the Commissioner. Payment of the audit costs should not be made until KENT receives the invoice. If KENT fails to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, KENT's real estate license shall automatically be suspended until payment is made in full, or until a decision providing otherwise is adopted following a hearing held pursuant to this condition.
- All licenses and licensing rights of KENT are indefinitely suspended unless or until KENT pays the sum of \$2,399.50 for KENT's share of the Commissioner's reasonable cost of the investigation which led to this disciplinary action. Said payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check made payable to the Department of Real Estate. The investigative and enforcement costs must be delivered to the Department of Real Estate, Flag Section at P.O. Box 137013, Sacramento, CA 95813-7013, prior to the effective date of this Decision and Order.
- All licenses and licensing rights of KENT are indefinitely suspended unless or until Respondent provides proof that she reimbursed Robert B., Elwyn P., Jane B and Cheryl S. \$1,000.00 each, as restitution. Said proof shall be in a form satisfactory to the Real Estate Commissioner sent to the Flag Section at the same address in Paragraph 3) above. The Department of Real Estate will provide KENT's counsel with the full names and current mailing addresses of Robert B., Elwyn P., Jane B. and Cheryl S., to allow KENT to send the restitution to

the consumers. Alternatively, the Department of Real Estate may provide directions for KENT to send the restitution directly to the Department of Real Estate for disbursement to the 2 consumers, and KENT will not need to provide proof of reimbursement. 3 4 RICHARD UNO DATED 5 Counsel for Complainant 6 1 I have read the Stipulation and Agreement, discussed it with my counsel, and its 8 terms are understood by me and are agreeable and acceptable to me. I understand that I am 9 waiving rights given to me by the California Administrative Procedure Act, and I willingly, 10 intelligently and voluntarily waive those rights, including the right of requiring the 11 Commissioner to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a hearing at which I would have the 12 right to cross-examine witnesses against me and to present evidence in defense and mitigation of 13 14 the charges. Respondent and Respondent's attorney further agree to send the original signed 15 Stipulation by mail to the following address no later than one (1) week from the date the 1.6 Stipulation is signed by Respondent and Respondent's attorney: Department of Real Estate, 17 Legal Section, P.O. Box 137007, Sucramento, California 95813-7007. Respondent and 1.8 Respondent's attorney understand and agree that if they fail to return the original signed 19 Stipulation by the due date. Complainant retains the right to set this matter for hearing. 20 3/14/2022 21 Shannon (andelaria SHANNON P. KENT/SHANNON M. 22 DATED CANDELARIA, as CEO, on behalf of 23 STEP UP PM, INC. 24 3/14/2022 Shannon Candelaria 25 SHANNON P. KENT/SHANNON M. DATED 26 CANDELARIA Respondent 27

ı	

	I have reviewed the Stipulation and Agreement as to form and content and have
	advised my clients accordingly.
	May 17, 2022
	DATED LINDSIX A. MORGAN Autorney for Respondents
	* * *
	The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement is hereby adopted as my Decision and JUN 0 6 2022 Order and shall become effective at 12 o'clock noon on
	IT IS SO ORDERED H. Z9, ZZ
	DOUGLAS R. McCAULEY REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER
	Deco 85 P. milne
	· ·
	*

Department of Real Estate P.O. Box 137007

Sacramento, CA 95813-7007

Telephone: (916) 576-8700



MAY 1 6 2022

DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

By . aggar

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

* *

10

11

12

13

8

2

3

4

5

In the Matter of the Accusation of

STEP UP PM, INC., ANN THERESA BRENNAN, SHANNON P. KENT, ACCESS ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC. and JARROD VINCENT WHITEHORN,

14

15

16

17

18 19

20

2122

23

2425

26

27

No. H-7018 SAC

STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT

Respondents.

It is hereby stipulated by and between ACCESS ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC. (AAM), ONLY (sometimes referred to as "Respondent"), represented by Joshua A. Rosenthal, and the Complainant, acting by and through Richard Uno, Counsel for the Department of Real Estate (Department), as follows for the purpose of settling and disposing the Accusation filed on January 22, 2021, 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 (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 understand the Statement to Respondent, and the Discovery Provisions of the APA filed by the Department 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 Respondent understands that by withdrawing said Notice of Defense Respondent will thereby waive Respondent's rights to require the Real Estate Commissioner (Commissioner) to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a contested hearing held in accordance with the provisions of the APA, and that Respondent will waive other rights afforded to Respondent 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 and Agreement is based on the factual allegations contained in the Accusation. In the interest of expediency and economy, Respondent choose not to contest these factual allegations, but to remain silent and understand that, as a result thereof, these factual statements will serve as a prima facie basis for the "Determination of Issues" and "Order" set forth below. The Commissioner shall not be required to provide further evidence to prove such allegations.
- 5. This Stipulation and Agreement and Respondent's decision not to contest the Accusation are made for the purpose of reaching an agreed disposition of this proceeding and are expressly limited to this proceeding and any other proceeding or case in which the Department, the state or federal government, an agency of this state, or an agency of another state is involved.
- 6. Respondent understands that by agreeing to this Stipulation and Agreement, Respondent agrees to pay, jointly and severally, pursuant to Section 10148 of the California Business and Professions Code (Code), the pro-rata cost of the audit, which resulted in the determination that Respondents committed the trust fund handling violation(s) found in

the Determination of Issues. The amount of said costs is \$6,803.75.

- 7. Respondent further understands that by agreeing to this Stipulation and Agreement, the findings set forth below in the Determination of Issues become final, and that the Commissioner may charge said Respondent for the costs of any audit conducted pursuant to Section 10148 of the Code to determine if the violations have been corrected. The maximum costs of said audit shall not exceed \$8,506.69.
- 8. It is understood by the parties that the Commissioner may adopt the Stipulation and Agreement as his Decision and Order 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.
- 9. 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 Department with respect to any matters which were not specifically alleged in Accusation H-7018 SAC.

* * *

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:

Ι

The acts and omissions of Respondent as described in the Accusation are grounds for the suspension or revocation of Respondents' licenses and license rights under sections 2731, 2832 and 2832.1 of Title 10 of the California Code of Regulations (Regulations) and Sections 10145, 10177(d) and 10177(g) of the Code

ORDER

All licenses and licensing rights of AAM under the Real Estate Law are suspended for a period of sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Order; provided, however, that:

- Thirty (30) days of said suspension shall be stayed, upon the condition that AAM petition pursuant to Section 10175.2 of the Code and pays a monetary penalty pursuant to Section 10175.2 of the Code at a rate of \$100 for each day of the suspension for a total monetary penalty of \$3,000.
- a) Said payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check made payable to the Department of Real Estate. Said check must be delivered to the Department of Real Estate, Flag Section at P.O. Box 137013, Sacramento, CA 95813-7013, prior to the effective date of this Order.
- b) No further cause for disciplinary action against the Real Estate licenses of AAM occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of the decision in this matter.
- c) If AAM fails to pay the monetary penalty as provided above prior to the effective date of this Order, the stay of the suspension shall be vacated as to that AAM and the order of suspension shall be immediately executed, under this Order, in which event the said AAM shall not be entitled to any repayment nor credit, prorated or otherwise, for the money paid to the Department under the terms of this Order.
- d) If AAM pays the monetary penalty and any other moneys due under this Stipulation and Agreement and if no further cause for disciplinary action against the real estate license of said AAM occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of this Order, the entire stay hereby granted this Order, as to said APM only, shall become permanent.
- 2) Thirty (30) days of said suspension shall be stayed for two (2) years upon the following terms and conditions:
- a) AAM 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 from the effective date of this Order. 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.
- WHITEHORN shall jointly and severally pay pro-rata the sum of \$6,803.75 for the Commissioner's cost of the audit which led to this disciplinary action. Respondents shall pay such cost within sixty (60) days of receiving an invoice therefore from the Commissioner. Payment of audit costs should not be made until Respondents receive the invoice. If Respondents fail to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, Respondents' real estate license shall automatically be suspended until payment is made in full, or until a decision providing otherwise is adopted following a hearing held pursuant to this condition.
- 4) Pursuant to Section 10148 of the Code, AAM and WHITEHORN shall jointly and severally pay the Commissioner's reasonable cost, not to exceed \$8,506.69, for an audit to determine if Respondents have corrected the violation(s) found in the Determination of Issues. In calculating the amount of the Commissioner's reasonable cost, the Commissioner may use the estimated average hourly salary for all persons performing audits of real estate brokers, and shall include an allocation for travel time to and from the auditor's place of work. Respondents shall pay such cost within sixty (60) days of receiving an invoice therefore from the Commissioner. Payment of the audit costs should not be made until Respondents receive the invoice. If Respondents fail to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, Respondents' real estate license shall automatically be suspended until payment is made in full, or until a decision providing otherwise is adopted following a hearing held pursuant to this condition.
- 5) All licenses and licensing rights of AAM and WHITEHORN are indefinitely Suspended unless or until AAM and WHITEHORN pay, jointly and severally, the pro rata sum of \$4,799.00 for the

1	Commissioner's reasonable cost of the investigation which led to this disciplinary action. Said
2	payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check made payable to the Bureau of Real Estate.
3	The investigative costs must be delivered to the Department of Real Estate, Flag Section at P.O.
4	Box 137013, Sacramento, CA 95813-7013, prior to the effective date of this Stipulation.
5	
6	2/1/22 Munth
7	DATED RICHARD UNO
8	Counsel for Complainant
9	* * *
10	I have read the Stipulation and Agreement, discussed it with my counsel, and its
11	terms are understood by me and are agreeable and acceptable to me. I understand that I am
12	waiving rights given to me by the California Administrative Procedure Act, and I willingly,
13	intelligently and voluntarily waive those rights, including the right of requiring the
14	Commissioner to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a hearing at which I would have the
15	right to cross-examine witnesses against me and to present evidence in defense and mitigation of
16	the charges.
17	Respondent and Respondent's attorney further agree to send the original signed
18	Stipulation by mail to the following address no later than one (1) week from the date the
19	Stipulation is signed by Respondent and Respondent's attorney: Department of Real Estate,
20	Legal Section, P.O. Box 137007, Sacramento, California 95813-7007. Respondent and
21	Respondent's attorney understand and agree that if they fail to return the original signed
22	Stipulation by the due date, Complainant retains the right to set this matter for hearing.
23	1/31/2022 Qanad V (1) hitchean
24	DATED JARROD VINCENT WHITEHORN, on
25	behalf of ACCESS ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC.
26	Respondent

1	***
2	I have reviewed the Stipulation and Agreement as to form and content and have
3 4	advised my clients accordingly.
72.	1/31/22
5	DATED JOSHUA A. ROSENTHAL Attorney for Respondent
6	
7	* * *
8	The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement is hereby adopted as my Decision and
9	Order and shall become effective at 12 o'clock noon on JUN 0 6 2022
10	IT IS SO ORDERED 4, 29, 22
11	
12	DOUGLAS R. McCAULEY REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER
13	
14	Dough P. michen
15	
16	
17	" .
18	
19	e e
20	#I
21	
22	
23 .	a a
24	
25	
26	
0-	II