23

24

25

26

27

MAY 2 2 2008

Telephone: (916) 227-0789

DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation of)

NO. H-10094 SF

INVESTMENT GRADE LOANS, INC.,) a CORPORATION, and ANDREW A. LEWIS

STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT IN SETTLEMENT AND ORDER

Respondents.

It is hereby stipulated by and between Respondents INVESTMENT GRADE LOANS, INC. (herein "IGL"), and ANDREW A. LEWIS (herein "LEWIS") (herein jointly "Respondents") and the Complainant, acting by and through Mary F. Clarke, Counsel for the Department of Real Estate (herein "the Department"), as follows for the purpose of settling and disposing of the Accusation filed on July 27, 2007 in this matter (herein "the Accusation"):

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 in Settlement. H-10094 SF

INVESTMENT GRADE LOANS, INC. and ANDREW A. LEWIS 16.

- 3. A Notice of Defense was filed on August 5, 2007 by Respondents, 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 they understand that by withdrawing said Notice of Defense they will thereby waive their 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 they will waive other rights afforded to them 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 interests of expedience and economy, Respondents choose 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 Real Estate Commissioner shall not be required to provide further evidence to prove said factual allegations.
- 5. It is understood by the parties that the Real
 Estate Commissioner may adopt the Stipulation and Agreement in
 H-10094 SF 2 INVESTMENT GRADE LOANS, INC.
 and ANDREW A. LEWIS

Settlement as his decision in this matter thereby imposing the penalty and sanctions on Respondents' real estate licenses and license rights as set forth in the below "Order". In the event that the Commissioner in his discretion does not adopt the Stipulation and Agreement in Settlement, it shall be void and of no effect, and Respondents 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 in Settlement 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.
- 7. Respondents understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation and Agreement, Respondents jointly and severally agree to pay, pursuant to Section 10148 of the California Business and Professions Code (herein "Code"), the cost of the audit which resulted in the determination that Respondents committed the trust fund violation(s) found in paragraph I, below, of the Determination of Issues. The amount of said costs is \$7,475.38. Respondents shall pay such cost within 60 days of receiving an invoice from the Commissioner detailing the activities performed during the audit and the amount of time spent performing those activities.

8. Respondents further understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation and Agreement in Settlement, the findings set forth below in the Determination Of Issues become final, and that the Commissioner may charge said Respondents, jointly and severally, for the costs of any audit conducted pursuant to Section 10148 of the Code to determine if the trust fund violation(s) found in Paragraph I, below, of the Determination of Issues have been corrected. The maximum costs of said audit shall not exceed \$7,475.38. Respondents shall pay such cost within 60 days of receiving an invoice from the Commissioner detailing the activities performed during the audit and the amount of time spent performing those activities.

DETERMINATION OF THE ISSUES

The acts and omissions of Respondents as described in the Accusation are grounds for the suspension or revocation of the licenses and license rights of Respondents under the following provisions of the California Business and Professions Code (herein "the Code") and/or Chapter 6, Title 10, California Code of Regulations (herein "the Regulations"):

- (a) As to paragraph IX(a) and Respondent <u>IGL</u> under Section <u>10145</u> of the Code and Section <u>2831</u> of the Regulations in conjunction with Section <u>101</u>77(d) of the Code;
- (b) as to paragraph IX(b) and Respondent IGL under Section 10145 of the Code and Section 2831.1 of the Regulations in conjunction with Section 10177(d) of the Code;
- (c) as to paragraph IX(c) and Respondent IGL under

 Section 10145 of the Code and Section 2831.2 of the Regulations

 H-10094 SF

 4 INVESTMENT GRADE LOANS, INC. and ANDREW A. LEWIS

in conjunction with Section 10177(d) of the Code; and

- (d) as to Paragraph IX(d) and Respondent IGL under Section 10145 of the Code and Section 2832 of the Regulations in conjunction with Section 10177(d) of the Code;
- (e) as to Paragraph IX(e) and Respondent IGL under Section 10085 of the Code and 2970 of the Regulations in conjunction with Section 10177(d) of the Code;
- (f) as to Paragraph IX(f) and Respondent IGL under Section 10238(d) of the Code in conjunction with Section 10177d) of the Code; and
- (g) as to Paragraph X and Respondent <u>LEWIS</u> under Section 10159.2 of the Code in conjunction with Sections 10177(g), 10177(h), and 10177(d) of the Code.

ORDER

I

All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent IGL under the Real Estate Law are suspended for a period of ninety (90) days from the effective date of this Order; provided, however, that:

- 1. Forty five (45) days 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 from the effective date of H-10094 SF

 5 INVESTMENT GRADE LOANS, INC. and ANDREW A. LEWIS

б

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.

- 2. The remaining forty five (45) days of said 90-day suspension shall be stayed upon the condition that Respondent IGL petition pursuant to Section 10175.2 of the Business and Professions Code and pays a monetary penalty pursuant to Section 10175.2 of the Business and Professions Code at a rate of \$50.00 for each day of the suspension for a total monetary penalty of \$2,250.00:
- (a) Said payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check or certified check made payable to the Recovery Account of the Real Estate Fund. Said check must be delivered to the Department prior to the effective date of the Order in this matter.
- (b) No further cause for disciplinary action against the Real Estate licenses of said Respondent occurs within two

 (2) years from the effective date of the decision in this matter.
- penalty as provided above prior to the effective date of this

 Order, the stay of the suspension shall be vacated as to

 Respondent IGL and the order of suspension shall be immediately

 executed, under this Paragraph I of this Order, in which event

 Respondent IGL shall not be entitled to any repayment nor

 H-10094 SF

 6 INVESTMENT GRADE LOANS, INC.

 and ANDREW A. LEWIS

credit, prorated or otherwise, for the money paid to the Department under the terms of this Order.

1

2

3

5

6

7

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

- (d) If Respondent IGL 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 Respondent IGL occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of this Order, the entire stay hereby granted under Paragraphs I and II of this Order, as to Respondent IGL only, shall become permanent.
- Respondents IGL and LEWIS understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation and Agreement, Respondents IGL and LEWIS jointly and severally agree to pay, pursuant to Section 10148 of the California Business and Professions Code (herein "Code"), the cost of the audit which resulted in the determination that Respondents committed the trust fund violation(s) found in Paragraph I, above, of the Determination of Issues. The amount of said costs is \$7,475.38. Respondents IGL and LEWIS shall pay such cost within 60 days of receiving an invoice from the Commissioner. If Respondents fail to pay for the cost of the audit within 60 days of mailing a notice of billing, the Commissioner may suspend or revoke Respondents' licenses or deny renewal of Respondents' licenses. The suspension or denial shall remain in effect until the cost is paid or until Respondents' right to renew the licenses have expired.
- 26 Respondents IGL and LEWIS further understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation and Agreement in Settlement, the H-10094 SF INVESTMENT GRADE LOANS, INC. and ANDREW A. LEWIS

findings set above in the Determination Of Issues become final, and that the Commissioner may charge said Respondents IGL and LEWIS, jointly and severally, for the costs of any audit conducted pursuant to Section 10148 of the Code to determine if the trust fund violation(s) found in Paragraph I, above, of the Determination of Issues have been corrected. The maximum costs of said audit shall not exceed \$7,475.38. Respondents IGL and LEWIS shall pay such cost within 60 days of receiving an invoice from the Commissioner. If Respondents fail to pay for the cost of the audit within 60 days of mailing a notice of billing, the Commissioner may suspend or revoke Respondents' licenses or deny renewal of Respondents' licenses. The suspension or denial shall remain in effect until the cost is paid or until Respondents' right to renew the licenses have expired.

II

A. All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent

LEWIS under the Real Estate Law are suspended until such time as

Respondent provides proof satisfactory to the Commissioner that

Respondent has, within one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the

effective date of the Decision herein completed the continuing

education course on trust fund accounting and handling specified

in subdivision (a) of Section 10170.5 of the Business and

Professions Code.

B. All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent

LEWIS under the Real Estate Law are suspended for a period of

ninety (90) days from the effective date of this Order; provided,
however, that:

H-10094 SF

-13

- (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
- 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.
- 2. The remaining forty five (45) days of said 90-day suspension shall be stayed upon the condition that Respondent LEWIS petition pursuant to Section 10175.2 of the Business and Professions Code and pays a monetary penalty pursuant to Section 10175.2 of the Business and Professions Code at a rate of \$50 for each day of the suspension for a total monetary penalty of \$2,250.00:
- (a) Said payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check or certified check made payable to the Recovery Account of the Real Estate Fund. Said check must be delivered to the Department prior to the effective date of the Order in this matter.
- (b) No further cause for disciplinary action against
 the Real Estate licenses of said Respondent LEWIS occurs within
 H-10094 SF

 9 INVESTMENT GRADE LOANS, INC.
 and ANDREW A. LEWIS

two (2) years from the effective date of the decision in this matter.

- penalty as provided above prior to the effective date of this Order, the stay of the suspension shall be vacated as to Respondent LEWIS and the order of suspension shall be immediately executed, under this Paragraph II of this Order, in which event Respondent LEWIS 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.
- any other moneys due under this Stipulation and Agreement and if no further cause for disciplinary action against the real estate license of Respondent LEWIS occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of this Order, the entire stay hereby granted under Paragraphs I and II of this Order, as to Respondent LEWIS only, shall become permanent.
- agreeing to this Stipulation and Agreement, Respondents LEWIS and IGL jointly and severally agree to pay, pursuant to Section 10148 of the California Business and Professions Code (herein "Code"), the cost of the audit which resulted in the determination that Respondents LEWIS and IGL committed the trust fund violation(s) found in Paragraph I, above, of the Determination of Issues. The amount of said costs is \$7,475.38.

 Respondents LEWIS and IGL shall pay such cost within 60 days of receiving an invoice from the Commissioner. If Respondents fail H-10094 SF

 10 INVESTMENT GRADE LOANS, INC. and ANDREW A. LEWIS

to pay for the cost of the audit within 60 days of mailing a notice of billing, the Commissioner may suspend or revoke Respondents' licenses or deny renewal of Respondents' licenses. The suspension or denial shall remain in effect until the cost is paid or until Respondents' right to renew the licenses have expired.

Respondents LEWIS and IGL further understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation and Agreement in Settlement, the findings set above in the Determination Of Issues become final, and that the Commissioner may charge said Respondents LEWIS and IGL, jointly and severally, for the costs of any audit conducted pursuant to Section 10148 of the Code to determine if the trust fund violation(s) found in Paragraph I, above, of the Determination of Issues have been corrected. The maximum costs of said audit shall not exceed \$7,475.38. Respondents LEWIS and IGL shall pay such cost within 60 days of receiving an invoice from the Commissioner. If Respondents fail to pay for the cost of the audit within 60 days of mailing a notice of billing, the Commissioner may suspend or revoke Respondents' licenses or deny renewal of Respondents' licenses. The suspension or denial shall remain in effect until the cost is paid or until Respondents' right to renew the licenses have expired.

23

1

2

3

4

5

6

8

9

10

11

12

14

15

17

18

19

20

21

22

24

25

26

27

D: 1-11-08

MARY F CLARKE, Counsel DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

H-10094 SF

1 I have read the Stipulation and Agreement and its terms 2 are understood by me and are agreeable and acceptable to me. I 3 understand that I am waiving rights given to me by the California Administrative Procedure Act (including but not limited to Sections 11506, 11508, 11509, and 11513 of the Government Code), 5 and I willingly, intelligently, and voluntarily waive those 7 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 10 present evidence in defense and mitigation of the charges. 11 INVESTMENT GRADE LOANS, ZNC. DATED Respondent 12 13 ANDREW A. LEWIS Designated Officer 14 15 ANDREW A. LEWIS Respondent 16 17 18 The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement is hereby 19 adopted by me as my Decision in this matter and shall become 20 effective at 12 o'clock noon on 2008. June 11 21 IT IS SO ORDERED 23 JEFF DAV Real Estate Commissioner 24 25 26 27

H-10094 SF

MARY F. CLARKE, Counsel (SBN 186744) 1 Department of Real Estate P. O. Box 187007 Sacramento, CA 95818-7007 3 Telephone: (916) 227-0789 -or-(916) 227-0780 (Direct) DEPARIMENT OF REAL ESTATE 5 6 BEFORE THE 8 DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 12 In the Matter of the Accusation of) 13 INVESTMENT GRADE LOANS, INC., NO. H-10094 SF a Corporation, and, 14 ANDREW A. LEWIS, ACCUSATION 15 Respondents. 16 17 The Complainant, E. J. HABERER II, a Deputy Real Estate 18 Commissioner of the State of California, for cause of Accusation 19 against INVESTMENT GRADE LOANS, INC., a Corporation (herein "IGL"), and ANDREW A. LEWIS (herein "LEWIS"), is informed and 21 alleges as follows: 22 23 The Complainant, E. J. HABERER II, a Deputy Real Estate 24 Commissioner of the State of California, makes this Accusation 25 in his official capacity. 111 26

27

///

At all times herein mentioned, Respondents IGL and LEWIS (herein "Respondents") were and now are licensed and/or have license rights under the Real Estate Law (Part 1 of Division 4 of the Business and Professions Code) (herein "the Code").

ΙI

TTT

At all times herein mentioned IGL was and now is licensed by the Department of Real Estate of the State of California (herein "the Department") as a corporate real estate broker by and through LEWIS as designated officer-broker of IGL to qualify said corporation and to act for said corporation as a real estate broker.

IV

At all times herein mentioned, LEWIS was and now is licensed by the Department as a real estate broker, individually and as designated officer-broker of IGL. As said designated officer-broker, LEWIS was at all times mentioned herein responsible pursuant to Section 10159.2 of the Code for the supervision of the activities of the officers, agents, real estate licensees and employees of IGL for which a license is required.

V

Whenever reference is made in an allegation in this

Accusation to an act or omission of IGL, such allegation shall be
deemed to mean that the officers, directors, employees, agents
and/or real estate licensees employed by or associated with IGL
committed such act or omission while engaged in the furtherance

of the business or operations of such corporate Respondent and while acting within the course and scope of their authority and employment.

1.7

VI

At all times herein mentioned Respondents engaged in the business of, acted in the capacity of, advertised, or assumed to act as real estate brokers within the State of California within the meaning of Sections 10131(b) and 10131(d) of the Code, including:

- (a) the operation and conduct of a property management business with the public wherein, on behalf of others, for compensation 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; and
- (b) the operation and conduct of a mortgage loan brokerage with the public wherein, on behalf of others, for compensation or in expectation of compensation, Respondent solicited lenders and borrowers for loans secured directly or collaterally by liens on real property, and wherein respondent arranged, negotiated, processed, and consummated such loans.

VII

In so acting as a real estate broker, as described in Paragraph VI above, Respondent accepted or received funds in trust (herein "trust funds") from or on behalf of buyers, owners, tenants, borrowers, lenders and others in connection with the

- 3 -

leasing, renting, and collection of rents on real property or improvements thereon, and in connection with the negotiating and arranging of mortgage loans, as alleged herein, and thereafter from time to time made disbursements of said funds. VIII The aforesaid trust funds accepted or received by Respondent were deposited or caused to be deposited by Respondent into one or more bank accounts (herein "trust fund accounts") maintained by Respondent for the handling of trust funds at the Los Altos, California, branch of Heritage Bank of Commerce, including but not necessarily limited to: "Investment Grade Loans, Inc. Entry Trust Account", account number 212104095 (herein "Trust #1"); "Investment Grade Loans, Inc. Loan Servicing/Trust Account", account number 212102891 (herein "Trust #2"); and, "Property Management Account," account number 212107510 (herein "Bank #1"). IX On or about between September 1, 2005 and on or about August 31, 2006, in connection with the collection and disbursement of said trust funds, Respondents: failed to keep a columnar record in chronological sequence of all trust funds received and disbursed from Trust #1 and Bank #1 containing all the information required by Section 2831 of Title 10, California Code of Regulations (herein "the Regulations");

5

6

7

10

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

- 4 -

failed to keep a separate record for each 1 (b) beneficiary or transaction, accounting therein for all funds 3 which have been deposited into Trust #1, Trust #2, and Bank #1, containing all information required by Section 2831.1 of the 5 Regulations; 6 failed to reconcile, at least once a month, the 7 balance of all separate beneficiary or transaction records with 8 Trust #1, Trust #2, and Bank #1, as required by Section 2831.2 of the Regulations; 1.0 failed to place trust funds entrusted to 11 Respondent into the hands of a principal on whose behalf the funds were received, into a neutral escrow depository, or into a trust fund account in the name of Respondent as trustee at a bank or other financial institution, in conformance with the requirements of Section 10145 of the Code and Section 2832 of the Regulations, in that Respondent placed such funds into Bank #1, 17 an account that was not in the name of Respondent as trustee; 18 failed to submit advance fee materials to the Real Estate Commissioner before they were used, as required by Section 19 10085 of the Code and 2970 of the Regulations; and, 20 secured a multi-lender loan (#0603012) with two 21 (f) 22 parcels of property that were not located in California, in 23 violation of 10238(d) of the Code. 24 25 At all times mentioned herein, Respondent LEWIS failed 26 to exercise reasonable supervision over the acts of Respondent IGL and its agents and employees in such a manner as to allow

- 5 -

the acts and omissions on the part of IGL, described above, to 2 occur. 3 XΤ The facts alleged above are grounds for the suspension or revocation of the licenses and license rights of Respondents 5 under the following provisions of the Code and/or the Regulations: (a) As to paragraph IX(a) and Respondent IGL under 7 8 Section 10145 of the Code and Section 2831 of the Regulations in 9 conjunction with Section 10177(d) of the Code; 10 as to paragraph IX(b) and Respondent IGL under 11 Section 10145 of the Code and Section 2831.1 of the Regulations in conjunction with Section 10177(d) of the Code; 13 as to paragraph IX(c) and Respondent IGL under Section 10145 of the Code and Section 2831.2 of the Regulations 14 15 in conjunction with Section 10177(d) of the Code; 16 as to Paragraph IX(d) and Respondent IGL under (d) 17 Section 10145 of the Code and Section 2832 of the Regulations in 18 conjunction with Section 10177(d) of the Code; 19 as to Paragraph IX(e) and Respondent IGL under 20 Section 10085 of the Code and 2970 of the Regulations in 21 conjunction with Section 10177 (d) of the Code; 22 as to Paragraph IX(f) and Respondent IGL under (f) 23 Section 10238(d) of the Code in conjunction with Section 10177d) of the Code; and, 24 25 as to Paragraph X and Respondent LEWIS under 26 Section 10159.2 of the Code in conjunction with Sections

10177(g), 10177(h), and 10177(d) of the Code.

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

_____(

J. HABERER II

Dated at Oakland, California this 25th day of July, 2007.

__