Department of Real Estate 320 West 4th Street, Ste. 350
Los Angeles, California 90013-1105

FILED

AUG | 1 2008

Telephone: (213) 576-6911 (direct) -or-; (213) 576-6982 (office)

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation of

BANKERS REALTY INC. and PETER JOSEPH MOTA, individually and as designated officer of Bankers Realty Inc.,

No. H-33857 LA

STIPULATION
AND
AGREEMENT

Respondents.

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It is hereby stipulated by and between Respondents
BANKERS REALTY INC., a corporate real estate broker, and PETER
JOSEPH MOTA, individually and as designated officer of Bankers
Realty Inc. (sometimes collectively referred to as
"Respondents"), represented by Stephanie K. Leiter, Esq. of
Friedman, Stroff & Gerard, and the Complainant, acting by and
through Elliott Mac Lennan, Counsel for the Department of Real
Estate, as follows for the purpose of settling and disposing of
the Accusation ("Accusation") filed on March 28, 2007, in this
matter:

1. 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 ("Stipulation").

2. Respondents have received, read and understand the

- 2. Respondents have received, read and understand the Statement to Respondent, the Discovery Provisions of the APA and the Accusation filed by the Department of Real Estate in this proceeding.
- pursuant to Section 11506 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 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 their defense and the right to crossexamine witnesses.
- 4. This Stipulation is based on the factual allegations contained in the Accusation. In the interest 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. This Stipulation and Respondents decision not to contest the Accusation is made for the purpose of reaching an agreed disposition of this proceeding and is expressly limited to this proceeding and any other proceeding or case in which the Department of Real Estate ("Department"), the state or federal government, or any agency of this state, another state or federal government is involved.
- Estate Commissioner may adopt this Stipulation 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 "Order" herein below. In the event that the Commissioner in his discretion does not adopt the Stipulation, it shall be void and of no effect and Respondents shall retain the right to a hearing and proceeding on the Accusation under the provisions of the APA and shall not be bound by any stipulation or waiver made herein.
  - 7. The Order or any subsequent Order of the Real

Estate Commissioner made pursuant to this Stipulation 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 but do constitute a bar, estoppel and merger as to any allegations actually contained in the Accusations against Respondent herein.

- 8. Respondents understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation, Respondents agree to pay, pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 10148, the cost of the audit (LA 050379 & LA 060003) which led to this disciplinary action. The amount of said cost for the audit is \$4,681.20.
- 9. Respondents have received, read, and understand the "Notice Concerning Costs of Subsequent Audit". Respondents further understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation, the findings set forth below in the Determination of Issues become final, and the Commissioner may charge Respondents for the cost of any subsequent audit conducted pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 10148 to determine if the violations have been corrected. The maximum cost of the subsequent audit will not exceed \$4,681.20.

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#### DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

By reason of the foregoing, it is stipulated and agreed that the following determination of issues shall be made:

I.

The conduct, acts or omissions of <u>BANKERS REALTY INC.</u>
and <u>PETER JOSEPH MOTA</u> as described in Paragraph 4, above, is in violation of Section <u>10145</u> of the Business and Professions Code ("Code") and Sections <u>2831</u>, <u>2831.1</u> and <u>2832(a)</u> and <u>2950(d)</u> of Title 10, Chapter 6 of the California Code of Regulations ("Regulations") and is a basis for the suspension or revocation of Respondent's license and license rights as a violation of the Real Estate Law pursuant to Code Section <u>10177(d)</u>.

II.

The conduct, acts or omissions of PETER JOSEPH MOTA, as described in Paragraph 4, constitutes a failure to keep BANKERS REALTY INC. in compliance with the Real Estate Law during the time that he was the officer designated by a corporate broker licensee in violation of Section 10159.2 of the Code. This conduct is a basis for the suspension or revocation of Respondent's license pursuant to Code Sections 10177(h).

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ORDER

WHEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING ORDER is hereby made:

I. ..

A. All licenses and licensing rights of Respondents

BANKERS REALTY INC. and PETER JOSEPH MOTA under the Real Estate

Law are suspended for a period of ninety (90) days from the

effective date of this Decision; provided, however, that sixty

(60) days of said suspension shall be stayed for two (2) years

upon the following terms and conditions:

1. Respondents shall obey all laws, rules and regulations governing the rights, duties and responsibilities of a real estate licensee in the State of California.

after hearing or upon stipulation, that cause for disciplinary action occurred within two (2) years of the effective date of this Decision. Should such 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.

- B. The initial thirty (30) day portion of said ninety (90) day suspension shall commence on the effective date of this Decision; provided, however, that if Respondents petition, said suspension shall be stayed upon condition that:
  - 1. Pursuant to Section 10175.2 of the Business and

Professions Code, Respondents shall pay a monetary penalty of eighty three dollars and thirty three cents(\$83.33) per day or Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) each, totaling Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for both Respondents.

- 2. 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 received by the Department prior to the effective date of the Decision.
- 3. No further cause for disciplinary action against the real estate license of Respondents occur within two (2) years from the effective date of the Decision in this matter.
- 4. If Respondents fail to pay the monetary penalty in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Decision, the Commissioner may, without a hearing, order the immediate execution of all or any part of the stayed suspension in which event Respondents shall not be entitled to any repayment nor credit, prorated or otherwise, for money paid to the Department under the terms of this Decision.
- 5. If Respondents pay the monetary penalty and provides evidence as required, above, and if no further cause for disciplinary action against the real estate licenses of Respondents occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of the Decision, the stay hereby granted shall become permanent.

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II.

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## Pursuant to Section 10148 of the Business and

Professions Code, Respondents BANKERS REALTY INC. and PETER

JOSEPH MOTA shall pay the Commissioner's reasonable cost for (a)
the audit which led to this disciplinary action (b) a subsequent
audit to determine if Respondents are now in compliance with the
Real Estate Law. The cost of the audit which led to this
disciplinary action is \$4,681.20. 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. Said amount
for the prior and subsequent audits shall not exceed \$9,362.40.

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.

The Commissioner may suspend the license of Respondents pending a hearing held in accordance with Section 11500, et seq., of the Government Code, if payment is not timely made as provided for herein, or as provided for in a subsequent agreement between the Respondent and the Commissioner. The suspension shall remain in effect until payment is made in full or until Respondents enter into an agreement satisfactory to the Commissioner to provide for payment, or until a decision providing otherwise is

adopted following a hearing held pursuant to this condition. TTT.

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All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent PETER JOSEPH MOTA are indefinitely suspended unless or until Respondent provides proof satisfactory to the Commissioner, of having taken and successfully completed the continuing education course on trust fund accounting and handling specified in paragraph (3) of 7 subdivision (a) of Section 10170.5 of the Business and Professions Code. Proof of satisfaction of this requirement 9 includes evidence that respondent has successfully completed the 10 trust fund account and handling continuing education course 11 12 within 120 days prior to the effective date of the Decision in 13 this matter.

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ELLIOTT MAC LENNAN, Counsel for the Department of Real Estate

## EXECUTION OF THE STIPULATION

We have read the Stipulation and discussed it with our Its terms are understood by us and are agreeable and counsel. acceptable to us. We understand that we are waiving rights given to us by the California Administrative Procedure Act (including but not limited to Sections 11506, 11508, 11509 and 11513 of the Government Code), and we willingly, intelligently and voluntarily waive those rights, including the right of requiring the

Commissioner to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a hearing at which we would have the right to cross-examine witnesses against us and to present evidence in defense and mitigation of the charges.

### MAILING AND FACSIMILE

Respondents (1) shall <u>mail</u> the original signed signature page of the stipulation herein to Elliott Mac Lennan: Attention: Legal Section, Department of Real Estate, 320 W. Fourth St., Suite 350, Los Angeles, California 90013-1105. Additionally, Respondents shall also (2) <u>facsimile</u> a copy of signed signature page, to the Department at the following telephone/fax number: (213) 576-6917, Attention: Elliott Mac Lennan.

A facsimile constitutes acceptance and approval of the terms and conditions of this stipulation. Respondents agree, acknowledge and understand that by electronically sending to the Department a facsimile copy of Respondents' actual signature as it appears on the stipulation that receipt of the facsimile copy by the Department shall be as binding on Respondents as if the Department had received the original signed stipulation.

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2 3 DATED: \_ BANKERS REALTY INC., a corporate real estate broker, 4 PETER JOSEPH MOTA D.O., BY: 5 Respondent 6 7 DATED: 8 individually and PETER JOSEPH as designated officer of Bankers 9 Realty Inc. / Respondent 10 11 12 DATED: STEPHANIE W. LEITER, ESQ. of Friedman, Stroff & Gerard, :13 Attorneys for Respondents 14 Approved as to form /// 15 16 /// 17 111 18 /// 19 111 20 111 21 /// 22 /// 23 /// 24 111 25 /// 26 111 27

The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement is hereby
adopted as my Decision as to Respondents BANKERS REALTY INC. and
PETER JOSEPH MOTA, individually and as designated officer of
Bankers Realty Inc., and shall become effective at 12 o'clock
noon on September 10, 2008.
IT IS SO ORDERED 7 29 , 2008.

JEFF DAVI Real Estate Commissioner than

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ELLIOTT MAC LENNAN, SBN 66674 Department of Real Estate 320 West 4th Street, Ste. 350 Los Angeles, California 90013-1105 MAR 2 8 2007

DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

Telephone: (213) 576-6911 (direct) -or- (213) 576-6982 (office)

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# BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

#### STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation of

No. H-33857 LA

BANKERS REALTY INC. and PETER JOSEPH MOTA, individually and as designated officer of Bankers Realty Inc., ACCUSATION

Respondents.

The Complainant, Janice Waddell, a Deputy Real Estate Commissioner of the State of California, for cause of Accusation against BANKERS REALTY INC. and PETER JOSEPH MOTA, individually and as designated officer of Bankers Realty Inc. alleges as follows:

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The Complainant, Janice Waddell, acting in her official capacity as a Deputy Real Estate Commissioner of the State of California, makes this Accusation against BANKERS REALTY INC. and PETER JOSEPH MOTA.

2.

All references to the "Code" are to the California
Business and Professions Code and all references to "Regulations"
are to Title 10, Chapter 6, California Code of Regulations.

#### LICENSE HISTORY

3.

- A. At all times mentioned, BANKERS REALTY INC. ("BRI") was licensed or had license rights issued by the Department of Real Estate ("Department") as a real estate broker. On March 25, 2003, BRI was originally licensed as a real estate broker.
- B. On August 29, 1995, in Case No. H-26290 LA, an Accusation was filed against Respondent PETER JOSEPH MOTA, that resulted in discipline as set forth below in Paragraph 11.
- C. At all times mentioned, PETER JOSEPH MOTA ("MOTA") was licensed or had license rights issued by the Department as a real estate broker. On November 28, 1996, MOTA was originally licensed as a real estate broker. On March 25, 2003, MOTA became the designated officer of BRI.
- D. At all times material herein, BRI was licensed by the Department as a corporate real estate broker by and through MOTA, as the designated officer and broker responsible, pursuant to Code Section 10159.2 of the Business and Professions Code for supervising the activities requiring a real estate license conducted on behalf BRI of by BRI's officers, agents and employees, including MOTA.

#### LICENSED ACTIVITIES AND BROKERAGE

4.

At all times mentioned, in the City of Torrance, County of Los Angeles, BRI acted as a real estate broker and conducted licensed activities within the meaning of:

- A. Code Section 10131(a). BRI operated a residential resale brokerage; and
- B. In addition, BRI conducted broker-controlled escrows through its escrow divisions, under the exemption set forth in California Financial Code Section 17006(a)(4) for real estate brokers performing escrows incidental to a real estate transaction where the broker is a party and where the broker is performing acts for which a real estate license is required.

AUDIT

5.

On September 15, 2006, the Department completed an audit examination of the books and records of BRI pertaining to the (1) residential resale and (2) broker-escrow activities described in Paragraph 4, that require a real estate license. The audit examination covered a period of time beginning on May 1, 2005 to May 31, 2006. The audit examination revealed violations of the Code and the Regulations as set forth in the following paragraphs, and more fully set forth in Audit Report LA 050379 and LA 060003 and the exhibits and workpapers attached thereto.

#### TRUST ACCOUNT

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б.

At all times mentioned, in connection with the activities described in Paragraph 4, above, BRI accepted or received funds including funds in trust (hereinafter "trust funds") from or on behalf of actual or prospective parties to transactions including buyers, sellers, lenders and escrowholders handled by BRI.

Thereafter BRI made deposits and or disbursements of such funds.

From time to time herein mentioned during the audit period, said trust funds were deposited and/or maintained by BRI in the bank account as follows:

"Bankers Realty Inc. Escrow Division Account 1892385277"

Comerica Bank

El Segundo, California

("escrow trust account")

#### VIOLATIONS OF THE REAL ESTATE LAW

7.

In the course of activities described in Paragraphs 4 and 6, above, and during the examination period described in Paragraph 5, Respondents BRI and MOTA, acted in violation of the Code and the Regulations in that they:

(a) Permitted, allowed or caused the disbursement of trust funds from the escrow trust account where the disbursement of funds reduced the total of aggregate funds in escrow trust account, to an amount which, on May 31, 2006, was \$3,937.88, less

than the existing aggregate trust fund liability of BRI to every 1 principal who was an owner of said funds, without first obtaining the prior written consent of the owners of said funds, as ٦ required by Code Section 10145 and Regulations 2832.1, 2950(d), 4 2950(g) and 2951. 5 (b) Permitted escrow officer Elaine O'Brian and escrow 6 assistant Gus Saenz, unlicensed and unbonded persons, to be 7 authorized signatories on the escrow trust account, in violation of Code Section 10145 and Regulation 2834. 10 (c) Failed to maintain a control record in the form of 11 a columnar record in chronological order of all trust funds 12 received, deposited and disbursed by the escrow trust account, in 13 violation of Code Section 10145 and Regulations 2831, 2950(d) and 14 2951. 15 (d) Failed to maintain a separate record for each 16 beneficiary or transaction, thereby failing to account for all 17 trust funds received, deposited and disbursed for by the escrow 18 trust account, as required by Code Section 10145 and Regulation 19 2831.1, 2950(d) and 2951. 20 (e) Failed to maintain a control record in the form of 21 a columnar record in chronological order of all "Trust Funds 22 Received, Not Placed Broker's Trust Account", in violation of 24 Code Section 10145 and Regulations 2831, 2950(d) and 2951. 25 (f) The escrow trust account was designated as a trust 26 account, in violation of Code Section 10145 of the Code and 27 5 -

Regulations 2832(a), 2950(d) and 2951. (g) Failed to notify the Department of the termination 2 of three salesperson James Ashbrook Tull, Peter Tsu-Hsin Wang and 3 Byron Alan Clark, as required by Code Section 10161.8 and Regulation 2752. (h) Misrepresentated to sellers that BRI held five 6 Earnest Money Deposits totaling \$48,000 for buyers Quizon, 7 Martinez, Bombarda, Choon and Singh, in violation of Code Section 10176(a) and/or 10177(g). 10 8. 11 The conduct of Respondents BRI and MOTA, described in 12 Paragraph 7, above, violated the Code and the Regulations as set 13 forth below: 14 PARAGRAPH PROVISIONS VIOLATED 15 7(a) Code Section 10145 and Regulations 16 2832.1, 2950(d), 2950(g) and 2951 17 18 7 (b) Code Section 10145 and Regulations 19 2834 20 21 7(c) Code Section 10145 and Regulations 22 2831, 2950(d) and 2951 23 24 25 7 (d) Code Section 10145 and Regulations 26 2831.1, 2950(d) and 2951 27.

Code Section 10145 and Regulations 7(e) 2831, 2950(d) and 2951 Code Section 10145 and Regulations 7(f) 2832(a), 2950(d) and 2951 6 7 Code Section 10161.8 and Regulation 7 (g) 9 2752 10 11 7(h) Code Section 10176(a) and 10177(g) 12 13 The foregoing violations constitutes cause for the suspension or 14 revocation of the real estate license and license rights of BRI 15 and MOTA under the provisions of Code Sections 10176(a), 10177(d) 16 and/or 10177(g). NEGLIGENCE 18 9. 19 The overall conduct of Respondents BRI and MOTA 20 constitutes negligence or incompetence especially in regard to 21 trust fund handling. This conduct and violation are cause for 22 the suspension or revocation of the real estate license and 23 license rights of said pursuant to Code Section 10177(g). 25 111 26

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#### SUPERVISION AND COMPLIANCE

10.

The overall conduct of Respondent MOTA constitutes a failure on his part, as officer designated by a corporate broker licensee, to exercise the reasonable supervision and control over the licensed activities of BRI as required by Code Section 10159.2, and to keep BRI in compliance with the Real Estate Law, and is cause for the suspension or revocation of the real estate license and license rights of MOTA pursuant to the provisions of Code Sections 10177(d), 10177(g) and 10177(h).

#### PRIOR DEPARTMENTAL ACTION

11.

On August 29, 1995, in Case No. H-26290 LA, an Accusation was filed against Respondent MOTA, that resulted in discipline after hearing including revocation of license with right to a restricted broker license on terms and conditions for violations of Code Sections 10145, 10159.5, 10160 and 10240 and Regulations 2725, 2726, 2753, 2830, 2831, 2831.1, 2831.2, 2950(h). Effective August 7, 1996, said license was revoked and a restricted broker license was issued. On October 19, 1999, MOTA was re-licensed as a real estate broker.

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 the license and license rights of Respondents

BANKERS REALTY INC. and PETER JOSEPH MOTA, 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.

Dated at Los Angeles, California

this 26 Marsk 1807

Deputy Real Estate Commissioner

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cc: Bankers Realty Inc. c/o Peter Joseph Mota D.O. Janice Waddell

> Sacto Audits - Godswill Kerarou