# FILED

JUL 2,2 2011

DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation of

MID-CITIES FINANCIAL INC.; and EDWARD LULET, individually and as designated officer of Mid-Cities Financial Inc.,

Respondents,

No. H-36539 LA

#### **DECISION**

This Decision is being issued in accordance with the provisions of Section 11520 of the Government Code, on evidence of compliance with Section 11505 of the Government Code and pursuant to the Order of Default filed on June 21, 2011, and the findings of fact set forth herein are based on one or more of the following: (1) Respondent MID-CITIES FINANCIAL INC.'s and EDWARD LULET's express admissions; (2) affidavits; and (3) other evidence.

#### FACTUAL FINDINGS

1.

On March 15, 2010, Maria Suarez made the Accusation in her official capacity as a Deputy Real Estate Commissioner of the State of California. The

Accusation, Statement to Respondents MID-CITIES FINANCIAL INC. and EDWARD LULET. The Accusation, Statement to Respondent, and Notice of Defense were mailed by certified mail, to Respondents' last known mailing addresses on file with the Department on March 23, 2010.

2.

On June 21, 2011, Respondents MID-CITIES FINANCIAL INC. and EDWARD LULET failed to appear at the notice hearing. Respondents MID-CITIES FINANCIAL INC.'s ("MCFI") and EDWARD LULET'S ("LULET") default was entered herein.

3.

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

4.

- A. At all times mentioned, MID-CITIES FINANCIAL INC. ("MCFI") was licensed or had license rights issued by the Department of Real Estate ("Department") as a corporate real estate broker. On May 29, 2008, MCFI was originally licensed as a real estate broker.
- At all times mentioned, EDWARD LULET ("LULET") was licensed or had license rights issued by the Department as a restricted real estate broker. On February 28, 2000, LULET was originally licensed as a real estate broker. At all times mentioned, LULET was licensed as the designated officer for MCFI. On July 5, 2005, in Case No. H-31013 LA, Respondent LULET's broker license was revoked with issuance of a restricted broker's license as more fully set forth below in Finding On November 22, 2004, in Case No. H-31013 LA, an Accusation was filed against Respondent EDWARD LULET that resulted in discipline for said respondent for violations of Code Section 10240 of the California Business and Professions Code and Sections 2725 and 2731 of Title 10, Chapter 6, California Code of Regulations, effective July 5, 2005.
- C. At all times material herein, MCFI was licensed by the Department as a corporate real estate broker by and through LULET, as the designated officer and broker responsible, pursuant to Code Sections 10159.2

and 10211 of the Business and Professions Code for supervising the activities requiring a real estate license conducted on behalf MCFI of by MCFI's officers, agents and employees, including LULET.

### Brokerage

5.

At all times mentioned, in the City of Downey, County of Los Angeles, MCFI and LULET acted as real estate brokers and conducted licensed activities including but not necessarily limited to:

- A. Code Section 10131(a). MCFI and LULET operated a residential resale brokerage and engaged in the business of, acted in the capacity of, advertised or assumed to act as real estate brokers, including the solicitation for listings of and the negotiation of the sale of real property as the agent of others; and,
- B. Code Section 10131(d). MCFI and LULET operated a mortgage and loan brokerage dba Superior Mortgage, and engaged in activities with the public wherein lenders and borrowers were solicited for loans secured directly or collaterally by liens on real property, wherein such loans were arranged, negotiated, processed and consummated on behalf of others for compensation or in expectation of compensation and for fees often collected in advance.

#### Audit

6.

On October 30, 2008, the Department attempted to conduct an audit examination of the books and records of MCFI pertaining to the activities described in Finding 4 that require a real estate license. The audit examination covered a period of time beginning on April 17, 2008 to July 31, 2008. The audit examination revealed violations of the Code and the Regulations as set forth in the following paragraphs, and more fully discussed in Audit Report LA 080010 and the exhibits and work papers attached to said audit report.

#### Trust Account

7.

At all times mentioned, in connection with the activities described in Finding 4, above, MCFI accepted or received funds including funds in trust (hereinafter "trust funds") from or on behalf of actual or prospective parties including lenders and borrowers, for sales and loan transactions brokered by MCFI and thereafter 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 MCFI in the Comerica Bank as follows:

"Mid-Cities financial Inc. Trust Account Account No. xxxxx8852" Pacific Western Bank Downey, California 90242

(trust account)

### Violations Of The Real Estate Law

8.

In the course of activities described in Findings 6 and 7, above, Respondents MCFI and LULET, acted in violation of the Code and the Regulations in that they:

After notice and subpoena, failed to retain all records of MCFI's activity during the audit period requiring a real estate broker license, in violation of Code Section 10148.

9.

The overall conduct of Respondents MCFI and LULET constitutes negligence. This conduct and violation is cause for the suspension or revocation of the real estate license and license rights of said Respondents pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 10177(g).

10.

The overall conduct of Respondent LULET constitutes a failure on Respondent's part, as officer designated by a corporate broker licensee, to exercise the reasonable supervision and control over the licensed activities of MCFI as required by Code Section 10159.2 and Regulation 2725, and to keep MCFI in compliance with the Real Estate Law, with specific regard to trust fund handling, advance fee handling with respect to conducting

loan modification services for homeowners, and is cause for the suspension or revocation of the real estate license and license rights of LULET pursuant to the provisions of Code Sections 10177(d), 10177(g) and 10177(h).

#### DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

1.

The conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondents MID-CITIES FINANCIAL INC. and EDWARD LULET, as described in Findings 8 and 9, herein above, are in violation of Code Section 10148 and is cause for disciplinary action pursuant to Code Sections 10177(d) and 10177(g).

2.

The conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondent <u>EDWARD LULET</u>, as described in Finding 10, herein above, is in violation of Code Section <u>10159.2</u> and Regulation <u>2725</u> and is cause for disciplinary action pursuant to Code Sections <u>10177(h)</u>, 10177(d) and 10177(g).

3.

The standard of proof applied was clear and convincing proof to a reasonable certainty.

#### ORDER

The real estate broker license and license rights of Respondent MID-CITIES FINANCIAL INC. and EDWARD LULET, under the provisions of Part I of Division 4 of the Business and Professions Code are revoked.

	<u>This Deci</u>	sion shall	become	effective	at	_
12	o'clock noon	on <u>August</u>	_11			2011
	DATED:	7/,	2			2011
			RBARA J	. BIGBY al Estate	Comm	issioner

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Department of Real Estate 320 West 4th Street, Ste. 350 FILED Los Angeles, California 90013-1105 3 (213) 576-6982 JUN 2 1 2011 4 DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE 5 6 7 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE 8 STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 10 In the Matter of the Accusation of No. H-36539 LA 11 12 MID-CITIES FINANCIAL INC.; and EDWARD LULET, individually 13 and as designated officer of Mid-Cities Financial Inc., 14 Respondents, 15 16 DEFAULT ORDER Respondents MID-CITIES FINANCIAL INC. and EDWARD LULET, 17 individually and as designated officer of Mid-Cities Financial 18 Inc., failed to appear at a duly scheduled Hearing on June 13, 19 2011, after notice, are now in default. It is, therefore, 20 ordered that a default be entered on the record in this matter. 21 22 IT IS SO ORDERED 23 B≰KRBARA J. BIGBY Acting Real Estate Commissioner 25 DOLORES WEEKS By: 26 Regional Manager

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ELLIOTT MAC LENNAN, SBN 66674 Department of Real Estate 320 West 4th Street, Ste. 350 Los Angeles, California 90013-1105 3 (213) 576-6911 (direct) Telephone: (213) 576-6982 (office) 4 -or-5 6 7 8

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DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation of

MID-CITIES FINANCIAL INC.; and EDWARD LULET, individually and as designated officer of Mid-Cities Financial Inc.,

Respondents.

No. H-36539 LA

ACCUSATION

The Complainant, Maria Suarez, a Deputy Real Estate Commissioner of the State of California, for cause of Accusation against MID-CITIES FINANCIAL INC. and EDWARD LULET, individually and as designated officer of Mid-Cities Financial Inc., alleges as follows:

1.

The Complainant, Maria Suarez, acting in her official capacity as a Deputy Real Estate Commissioner of the State of California, makes this Accusation against MID-CITIES FINANCIAL INC. and EDWARD LULET.

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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, MID-CITIES FINANCIAL INC.

("MCFI") was licensed or had license rights issued by the

Department of Real Estate ("Department") as a corporate real

estate broker. On May 29, 2008, MCFI was originally licensed as
a real estate broker.

- B. At all times mentioned, EDWARD LULET ("LULET") was licensed or had license rights issued by the Department as a restricted real estate broker. On February 28, 2000, LULET was originally licensed as a real estate broker. At all times mentioned, LULET was licensed as the designated officer for MCFI. On July 5, 2005, in Case No. H-27638, Respondent LULET's broker license was revoked with issuance of a restricted broker's license as more fully set forth below in Paragraph 9.
- C. At all times material herein, MCFI was licensed by the Department as a corporate real estate broker by and through LULET, as the designated officer and broker responsible, pursuant to Code Sections 10159.2 and 10211 of the Business and Professions Code for supervising the activities requiring a real

estate license conducted on behalf MCFI of by MCFI's officers, agents and employees, including LULET.

# Brokerage

4.

At all times mentioned, in the City of Downey, County of Los Angeles, MCFI and LULET acted as real estate brokers and conducted licensed activities including but not necessarily limited to:

A. Code Section 10131(a). MCFI and LULET operated a residential resale brokerage and engaged in the business of, acted in the capacity of, advertised or assumed to act as real estate brokers, including the solicitation for listings of and the negotiation of the sale of real property as the agent of others; and,

B. Code Section 10131(d). MCFI and LULET operated a mortgage and loan brokerage dba Superior Mortgage, and engaged in activities with the public wherein lenders and borrowers were solicited for loans secured directly or collaterally by liens on real property, wherein such loans were arranged, negotiated, processed and consummated on behalf of others for compensation or in expectation of compensation and for fees often collected in advance.

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Audit

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5.

On October 30, 2008, the Department attempted to conduct an audit examination of the books and records of MCFI pertaining to the activities described in Paragraph 4 that require a real estate license. The audit examination covered a period of time beginning on April 17, 2008 to July 31, 2008. The audit examination revealed violations of the Code and the Regulations as set forth in the following paragraphs, and more fully discussed in Audit Report LA 080010 and the exhibits and work papers attached to said audit report.

# Trust Account

6.

At all times mentioned, in connection with the activities described in Paragraph 4, above, MCFI accepted or received funds including funds in trust (hereinafter "trust funds") from or on behalf of actual or prospective parties including lenders and borrowers, for sales and loan transactions brokered by MCFI and thereafter 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 MCFI in the Comerica Bank as follows:

"Mid-Cities financial Inc. Trust Account Account No. 1000268852" Pacific Western Bank Downey, California 90242

(trust account)

Violations Of The Real Estate Law

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7.

In the course of activities described in Paragraphs 4 and 5, above, Respondents MCFI and LULET, acted in violation of the Code and the Regulations in that they:

After notice and subpoena, failed to retain all records of MCFI's activity during the audit period requiring a real estate broker license, in violation of Code Section 10148.

# Discipline

8.

The conduct of Respondents MCFI and LULET, described in Paragraph 7, above, violated the Code and the Regulations as set forth below:

# PARAGRAPH

PROVISIONS VIOLATED

Code Section 10148

The foregoing violation constitutes cause for discipline of the real estate license and license rights of MCFI and LULET under the provisions of Code Section 10148 and 10177(d) and/or 10177(g).

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# PRIOR DEPARTMENT ACTION

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On November 22, 2004, in Case No. H-31013 LA, an Accusation was filed against Respondent EDWARD LULET that resulted in discipline for said respondent for violations of Code Section 10240 of the California Business and Professions Code and Sections2725 and 2731 of Title 10, Chapter 6, California Code of Regulations, effective July 5, 2005

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 MID-CITIES FINANCIAL INC. and EDWARD LULET, individually and as designated officer of Mid-Cities Financial Inc. 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

Mid-Cities Financial Inc. cc: c/o Edward Lulet D.O.

Maria Suarez

Audits - Robert Brody

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