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Bureau of Real Estate 320 West 4th Street, Suite 350 Los Angeles, California 90013

Telephone:

(213) 576-6982

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BUREAU OF REAL ESTATE

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# BEFORE THE BUREAU OF REAL ESTATE

# STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation of

No. H-40653 LA

HOMEPATH LENDING, INC.; and WESAM H. HIJAZIN, individually and as designated officer of Homepath Lending, Inc.,

STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT

Respondents.

It is hereby stipulated by and between Respondents HOMEPATH LENDING, INC. ("HLI") and WESAM H. HIJAZIN ("HIJAZIN"), individually and as designated officer of Homepath Lending, Inc., (collectively "Respondents"), both Respondents represented by Steve Vondran, Esq., and the Complainant, acting by and through Diane Lee, Counsel for the Bureau of Real Estate, as follows for the purpose of settling and disposing of the Accusation ("Accusation") filed on or about June 22, 2017, in this matter:

1. All issues which were to be contested and all evidence which were to be presented by Complainant and Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN at a formal hearing on the Accusation, which hearing was to be held in accordance with the provisions of the California 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").

- Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN have received and read, and understand the Statement to Respondent, the Discovery Provisions of the APA, and the Accusation filed by the Bureau of Real Estate in this proceeding.
- 3. Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN filed Notices of Defense pursuant to California Government Code section 11506 for the purpose of requesting a hearing on the allegations in the Accusation. Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN hereby freely and voluntarily withdraw said Notices of Defense. Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN acknowledge that they understand that by withdrawing said Notices 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 Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN 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 cross-examine witnesses.
- 4. This Stipulation is based on the factual allegations contained in the Accusation. In the interest of expedience and economy, Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN 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 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 Bureau of Real Estate, the state or federal government, or any agency of this state, or another state or federal government is involved.
- 6. It is understood by the parties that the Real Estate Commissioner may adopt this Stipulation as his Decision in this matter thereby imposing the penalties and sanctions on the real estate licenses and license rights of Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN as set forth in the below "Order." In the event that the Commissioner in his discretion does not adopt this Stipulation, it shall be void and of no effect, and Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN shall retain the right to a

 hearing and proceeding on the Accusation under the provisions of the APA and shall not be bound by this Stipulation herein.

- 7. The Order or any subsequent Order of the Real Estate Commissioner made pursuant to this Stipulation herein shall not constitute an estoppel, merger, or bar to any further administrative or civil proceedings by the Bureau 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 specifically and actually contained in the Accusation against Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN herein.
- 8. Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation, Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN agree to pay, pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10106, the cost of the investigation and enforcement. The amount of investigation and enforcement cost is 1,367.30.
- 9. Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation and Agreement, Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN agree to pay, pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10148, the cost of the audits which led to this disciplinary action. The amount of said cost for the original audit (LA150154) is \$7,624.00.
- 10. Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation and Agreement, the findings set forth below in the Determination of Issues become final, and the Commissioner may charge Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN for the cost of any subsequent audit conducted pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10148. The maximum cost of the subsequent audit will not exceed \$9,530.00.

### **DETERMINATION OF ISSUES**

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

The conduct, acts, or omissions of Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN, as described in the Accusation and Paragraph 4, above, are in violation of California Business and Professions

Code sections 10145, 10148, and 10159.2 and Title 10, Chapter 6 of the California Code of Regulations, sections 2831.2 and 2832.1, and are a basis for discipline of Respondents' license and license rights as violation of the Real Estate Law pursuant to California Business and Professions Code sections 10177(d), 10177(g), and 10177(h).

#### **ORDER**

# WHEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING ORDER is hereby made: (HLI: SUSPENSION)

I.

All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent HLI under the Real Estate Law are suspended for a period of thirty (30) days from the effective date of this Decision:

A. Provided, however, that the initial ten (10) days of said suspension shall be

- 1. Respondent HLI pays a monetary penalty pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10175.2 at the rate of \$75.00 per day for a monetary penalty of \$750.00
- 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 Bureau of Real Estate prior to the effective date of the Decision in this matter.
- 3. No further cause for disciplinary action against the real estate license of Respondent PRC occurs within three (3) years from the effective date of the Decision in this
- 4. If Respondent HLI fails to pay the monetary penalty in accordance with the terms 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 Respondent HLI shall not be entitled to any repayment nor credit, prorated or otherwise, for money paid to the Bureau of Real Estate under the terms of this Decision.

Respondent PRC occurs within three (3) years from the effective date of the Decision in this matter.

- 4. If Respondent HIJAZIN fails to pay the monetary penalty in accordance with the terms 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 Respondent HIJAZIN shall not be entitled to any repayment nor credit, prorated or otherwise, for money paid to the Bureau of Real Estate under the terms of this Decision.
- 5. If Respondent HIJAZIN pays the monetary penalty and if no further cause for disciplinary action against the real estate license of Respondent HIJAZIN occurs within three (3) years from the effective date of the Decision, the stay hereby granted shall become permanent.
- B. The remaining twenty (20) days of the thirty (30) day suspension shall be stayed for three (3) years upon the following terms and conditions:
- 1. Respondent HIJAZIN shall obey all laws, rules, and regulations governing the rights, duties, and responsibilities of a real estate licensee in the State of California; and
- 2. That no final subsequent determination be made after hearing or upon stipulation, that cause for disciplinary action occurred within three (3) years from the effective date of this Decision. Should such a determination be made, the Commissioner may, in his discretion, vacate, and set aside the stay order and re-impose all or a portion of the stayed suspension. Should no such determination be made, the stay imposed herein shall become permanent.

(HLI and HIJAZIN: INVESTIGATION AND ENFORCEMENT COSTS)

III.

Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN shall, within six (6) months from the effective date of this Decision and Order, pay the sum of \$1,367.30 with joint and several liability for the Commissioner's reasonable cost for investigation and enforcement which led to this disciplinary

action. Said payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check made payable to the Bureau of Real Estate. The investigative and enforcement costs must be delivered to the Bureau of Real Estate, Flag Section at P.O. Box 137013, Sacramento, CA 95813-7013, within six (6) months from the effective date of this Decision and Order. If the costs of investigation and enforcement are not paid within six (6) months from the effective date of this Decision and Order, the licenses and license rights of Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN shall automatically be suspended until full payment is made.

(HLI and HIJAZIN: AUDIT COSTS)

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to this condition.

IV.

Pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10148, Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN shall pay \$7,624.00 for the Commissioner's cost of the audit which led to this disciplinary action. Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN shall pay this \$7,624.00 within thirty (30) days of receiving an invoice therefore from the Commissioner. Payment of audit costs should not be made until Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN receive the invoice. If Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN fail to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, the real estate licenses of Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN shall automatically be suspended until payment is made in full, or until a decision providing otherwise is adopted following a hearing held pursuant

Pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10148, Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN shall pay the Commissioner's reasonable cost, not to exceed \$9,530.00, for an audit to determine if Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN have corrected the violations 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 broker(s), and shall include an allocation for travel time to and from the auditor's place of work. Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN shall pay such cost within thirty (30) days of receiving an invoice therefor from the Commissioner. Payment of the audit costs should not be

made until Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN receive the invoice. If Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN fail to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, the real estate licenses of Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN 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.

DATED: 12/20/2017

PANE LEE, Counsel for Bureau of Real Estate

# EXECUTION OF THE STIPULATION

I, WESAM H. HIJAZIN, individually and as designated officer of HOMEPATH LENDING, INC., have read the Stipulation and discussed it with our attorney, Steve Vondran, Esq. Its terms are understood by me and HOMEPATH LENDING, INC., and are agreeable and acceptable to me and HOMEPATH LENDING, INC. I understand that I am waiving rights given to me and HOMEPATH LENDING, INC. by the California APA (including, but not limited to, California Government Code sections 11506, 11508, 11509, and 11513), and I, individually and as designated officer of HOMEPATH LENDING, INC., and HOMEPATH LENDING, INC. willingly, intelligently, and voluntarily waive those rights, including, but not limited to, the right of requiring the Commissioner to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a hearing at which I, individually and as designated officer of HOMEPATH LENDING, INC., and HOMEPATH LENDING, INC. would have the right to cross-examine witnesses against me and HOMEPATH LENDING, INC., and to present evidence in defense and mitigation of the charges.

## MAILING AND FACSIMILE

Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN (1) shall <u>mail</u> the original signed signature page of this Stipulation herein to Bureau of Real Estate, Attention: Legal Section - Diane Lee, 320

| 1  | West Fourth Street, Suite 350, Los Angeles, California 90013-1105. Respondents HLI and            |
|----|---|
| 2  | HIJAZIN shall also (2) facsimile a copy of signed signature page, to the Bureau of Real Estate at |
| 3  | the following telephone/fax number: (213) 576-6917, Attention: Diane Lee.                         |
| 4  | A facsimile constitutes acceptance and approval of the terms and conditions of                    |
| 5  | this Stipulation. Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN agree, acknowledge, and understand that by          |
| 6  | electronically sending to the Bureau of Real Estate a facsimile copy of the actual signatures of  |
| 7  | Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN as it appear on the Stipulation that receipt of the facsimile copy    |
| 8  | by the Bureau of Real Estate shall be as binding on Respondents HLI and HIJAZIN as if the         |
| 9  | Bureau of Real Estate had received the original signed Stipulation.                               |
| 10 |   |
| 11 | DATED: 12/15/17   |
| 12 | WESAM H. HIJAZIN, individually as designated officer of HOMEPATH LENDING, INC.                    |
| 13 |   |
| 14 | DATED: 12/20/17 STEVE VONDRAN ESO   |
| 15 | ŠTEVE VONDRAN, ESQ. Attorney for Respondents HOMEPATH LENDING, INC.                               |
| 16 | and WESAM H. HIJAZIN  |
| 17 | ***   |
| 18 | The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement is hereby adopted as my Decision as to                    |
| 19 | Respondents HOMEPATH LENDING, INC. and WESAM H. HIJAZIN, and shall become                         |
| 20 | effective at 12 o'clock noon on, 201  |
| 21 | TT IS SO ORDERED, 201   |
| 22 |   |
| 23 | WAYNE S. BELL REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER  |
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|    | 11  |

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| 15 | STEVE VONDRAN, ESQ. Attorney for Respondents HOMEPATH LENDING, INC.                               |
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| 24 |   |
| 25 | Danil / Sant.   |
| 26 | By: DANIEL J. SANDRI  |
| 27 | Chief Deputy Commissioner   |