1	DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE
2	320 West 4th Street, Suite 350 Los Angeles, California 90013-1105 FEB 2 7 2020
3	Telephone: (213) 620-2072  DEPT. OF REAVESTATE
4	By
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8	BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE
9	STATE OF CALIFORNIA
10	In the Matter of the Accusation against  * * * *  DRE No. H-41401 LA
11	DENNIS BARROCAS, individually and as  OAH No. 2019080238  )
12	designated officer for Cornerstone R/E ) Management, Inc., ) <u>STIPULATION AND</u>
13	) <u>AGREEMENT IN SETTLEMENT</u> Respondent. ) <u>AND ORDER</u>
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15	It is hereby stipulated by and between Respondent DENNIS BARROCAS, individually,
16	and as designated officer of Cornerstone R/E Management, Inc. (collectively "Respondent"),
17	represented by Frank M. Buda, Esq., and Complainant, acting by and through Lissete Garcia,
18	Counsel for the Department of Real Estate ("Department"), as follows for the purpose of settling
19	and disposing the Accusation filed on July 10, 2019, with Department Case No. H-41401 LA
20	("Accusation") in this matter:
21	1. All issues which were to be contested and all evidence which was to be presented by
22	Complainant and Respondent at a formal hearing on the Accusation, which hearing was to be
23	held in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act ("APA"), shall
24	instead and in place thereof be submitted on the basis of the provisions of this Stipulation and

2. Respondent has received, read, and understands the Statement to Respondent, the Discovery Provisions of the APA, and Accusation filed by the Department in this proceeding.

3. Respondent filed a Notice of Defense pursuant to section 11506 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 and 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 is based on the factual allegations contained in the Accusation filed in this proceeding. In the interest of expedience and economy, Respondent chooses not to contest these factual allegations, but to remain silent and understands that, as a result thereof, these factual statements, 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 such allegations.
- 5. This Stipulation 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, or another licensing agency of this state, another state or if the federal government is involved and otherwise shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceedings.

H-41401 LA

6. It is understood by the parties that the Real Estate Commissioner may adopt the
Stipulation and Agreement as his Decision in this matter, thereby imposing the penalty and
sanctions on Respondent's 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, 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.

- 7. The Order or any subsequent Order of the Real Estate 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 of Real Estate with respect to any matters which were not specifically alleged to be causes for accusation in this proceeding.
- 9. Respondent understands that by agreeing to this Stipulation, Respondent agrees to pay, pursuant to section 10148 of the Code, the cost of the audit which resulted in the determination that Respondent committed the violations found in the "Determination of Issues" below. The amount of said cost is \$4,714.45.
- 10. Respondent understands that by agreeing to this Stipulation, the findings set forth below in the Determination of Issues become final, and the Commissioner may charge Respondent for the cost of any subsequent audit conducted pursuant to Code section 10148 to determine if the violations have been corrected. The maximum cost of the follow-up audit will not exceed one-hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the cost of the original audit; in the instant case, the cost of the original audit is \$4,714.45, and the maximum cost of the follow-up audit will not exceed \$5,893.06. Therefore, Respondents may be charged a maximum of \$5,893.06 in the event of a subsequent audit.

## **DETERMINATION OF ISSUES**

By reason of the foregoing stipulation and agreement 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:

The conduct, acts and/or omissions of Respondent DENNIS BARROCAS as set forth in Paragraphs 9 through 36 of the Accusation, constitutes cause for the suspension or revocation of all real estate licenses and license rights of Respondent under the provisions of Code section 10177, subdivision (d) for violation of Code sections 10145, 10159.5, and Title 10, Chapter 6, California Code of Regulations ("Regulation") 2832.1, 2832, 2831, 2831.2, 2831.2, 2834, and 2731.

## **ORDER**

All licenses and license rights of Respondent DENNIS BARROCAS are suspended for a period of sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Decision and Order; provided, however, said sixty (60) day suspension shall be stayed for two (2) years upon the following terms and conditions:

- 1. 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,
- 2. 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 Decision and 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.

- 3. All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent DENNIS BARROCAS 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 subdivision (a) of section 10170.5 of the Code. Proof of satisfaction of this requirement includes evidence that Respondent has successfully completed the trust fund account and handling continuing education course, no earlier than 120 days prior to the effective date of the Decision and Order in this matter. Proof of completion of the trust fund accounting and handling course must be delivered to the Department of Real Estate, Flag Section at P.O. Box 137013, Sacramento, CA 95813-7013 or by fax at 916-263-8758, prior to the effective date of this Decision and Order.
- 4. All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent DENNIS BARROCAS are indefinitely suspended unless or until Respondent pays the sum of \$1,157.00 for the Commissioner's reasonable cost of the enforcement 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 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. Payment of the enforcement costs should not be made until the Stipulation has been approved by the Commissioner.
- 5. Pursuant to section 10148 of the Code, Respondent DENNIS BARROCAS shall pay the sum of \$4,714.45 for the Commissioner's cost of the audit which led to this disciplinary action. Respondent 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 Respondent receives the invoice. If Respondent fails to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, Respondent's real estate licenses 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.

shall pay the Commissioner's reasonable cost, not to exceed \$5,893.06, for any subsequent audit to determine if Respondent DENNIS BARROCAS has 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 brokers, and shall include an allocation for travel time to and from the auditor's place of work. Respondent 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 Respondent receives the invoice. If Respondent fails to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, Respondent's real estate licenses 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: 1/31/2020

Lissete Garcia, Counsel Department of Real Estate

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# EXECUTION OF THE STIPULATION

I have read this Stipulation and its terms are understood by me and are agreeable and acceptable to me. I understand that I am waiving rights given to me by the California APA (including, but not limited to, sections 11506, 11508, 11509, and 11513 of the Government Code), and I 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 I would have the right to cross-examine witnesses against me and to present evidence in defense

and mitigation of the charges.

Respondent can signify acceptance and approval of the terms and conditions of this

Stipulation and Agreement by electronically e-mailing a copy of the signature pages, as actually signed by Respondent, to the Department. Respondent agrees, acknowledges, and understands that by electronically sending to the Department an electronic copy of Respondent's actual signatures, as it appears on the Stipulation, that receipt of the emailed copy by the Department shall be as hinding on Respondent as if the Department had received the original signed Stipulation.

Respondent's signature below constitutes acceptance and approval of the terms and conditions of this Stipulation. Respondent agrees, acknowledges, and understands that by signing this Stipulation Respondent is bound by its terms as of the date of such signature and that this agreement is not subject to rescission or amendment at a later date except by a separate Decision and Order of the Real Estate Commissioner.

#### MAILING

Respondent and Respondent's counsel shall, within five (5) business days from signing the Stipulation, mail the original signed signature page(s) of the Stipulation herein to Lissete Garcia, Attention: Legal Section, Department of Real Estate, 320 W. Fourth St., Room 350, Los Angeles, California 90013-1105.

DATED: JAN 30, 2020

Respondent DENNIS BARROCAS

 $_{22}$   $\|_{\mathrm{DATED}}$ .

rark M. Buda, Esq., Attorney for Respondent

Approved as to Form

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and mitigation of the charges.

Respondent can signify acceptance and approval of the terms and conditions of this

Stipulation and Agreement by electronically e-mailing a copy of the signature pages, as actually signed by Respondent, to the Department. Respondent agrees, acknowledges, and understands that by electronically sending to the Department an electronic copy of Respondent's actual signatures, as it appears on the Stipulation, that receipt of the emailed copy by the Department shall be as binding on Respondent as if the Department had received the original signed Stipulation.

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## MAILING

Respondent and Respondent's counsel shall, within five (5) business days from signing the Stipulation, <u>mail</u> the original signed signature page(s) of the Stipulation herein to Lissete Garcia, Attention: Legal Section, Department of Real Estate, 320 W. Fourth St., Room 350, Los Angeles, California 90013-1105.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Respondent DENNIS BARROCAS

DATED:

Frank M. Buda, Esq., Attorney for Respondent *Approved as to Form* 

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1	The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement in Settlement and Order is hereby
2	adopted by me as my Decision in this matter and shall become effective at 12 o'clock noon on
3	March 27, 2020.
4	IT IS SO ORDERED 2 21 20 , 2020.
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6	SANDRA KNAU ACTING REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER
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