FILED DIANE LEE, Counsel (SBN 247222) Department of Real Estate 320 West 4th Street, Suite 350 JUL 0 7 2020 -Los Angeles, California 90013 DEPT. OF REAL EST Telephone: (213) 576-6982 (Direct) (213) 576-6907 8 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 11 In the Matter of the Accusation of No. H-41722 LA IRON FINANCIAL, INC.; and RON EUGENE READY, individually ACCUSATION and as designated officer of Iron Financial, Inc. Respondents. 15 16 The Complainant, Chika Sunquist, a Supervising Special Investigator of the State of California, acting in her official capacity, for cause of Accusation against Respondents 18 IRON FINANCIAL, INC. ("IFI") and RON EUGENE READY ("READY"), individually and 19 as designated officer of Iron Financial, Inc., is informed and alleges as follows: 20 1. 21 The Complainant, Chika Sunquist, acting in her official capacity as Supervising 22 Special Investigator of the State of California, makes this Accusation. 23 24 All references to the "Code" are to the California Business and Professions 25 Code, and all references to "Regulations" are to Title 10, Chapter 6, California Code of 26 Regulations unless otherwise specified.

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a. Respondent IFI is presently licensed and/or issued by the Department of Real Estate as a real estate corporation (license no. 01503100). IFI has been licensed from on or about May 26, 2005 through the present. From on or about October 10, 2012 through the present, IFI's designated officer has been READY. IFI's fictitious business name has been "Iron Properties" from on or about November 26, 2014 through the present.

b. Respondent IFI has had a mortgage loan originator ("MLO") license endorsement (NMLS ID 1005573) from on or about January 9, 2013 to August 3, 2017 and August 8, 2017 through the present.

4.

- a. Respondent READY is presently licensed and/or issued by the Department of Real Estate as a real estate broker (license no. 01277258). READY was originally licensed as a real estate broker on or about July 14, 2010. Previously, READY had a real estate salesperson license from on or about April 25, 2000 to July 13, 2010. READY's fictitious business name has been "Iron Financial" from on or about March 26, 2012 through the present.
- b. READY has had a MLO license endorsement (NMLS ID 320985) from on or about April 8, 2011 to December 31, 2017 and January 4, 2018 through the present. READY is authorized to represent IFI (license no. 01503100; NMLS ID 1005573) from on or about March 1, 2005 through the present, C2 Financial Corporation (license no. 01821025; NMLS ID 135622) from on or about January 30, 2013 through the present, and West One Capital Group, Inc. (license no. 01366098; NMLS ID 982017) from on or about July 31, 2018 through the present.

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Whenever acts referred to below are attributed to IFI and/or READY, those acts are alleged to have been done by IFI and/or READY, acting by itself/himself/themselves, or by and/or through one or more agents, associates, affiliates, and/or co-conspirators, including, but not limited to, Jose Cajahuaringa.

6.

At all times mentioned, in the County of Orange, IFI and READY were engaged in the business of a real estate broker conducting licensed activities within the meaning of Code section 10131(d) ("[s]olicits borrowers or lenders for or negotiates loans or collects payments or performs services for borrowers or lenders or note owners in connection with loans secured directly or collaterally by liens on real property or on a business opportunity").

(Trust Fund Audit)

7.

On or about July 31, 2019, the Department of Real Estate completed an audit examination of the books and records of IFI to determine whether IFI and READY handled and accounted for trust funds and conducted their mortgage loan activities in accordance with the Real Estate Law and Regulations. The audit examination covered a period of time beginning on February 1, 2016 and ending on January 31, 2019. The audit examination revealed violations of the Code and the Regulations set forth in the following paragraphs, and more fully discussed in Audit Report LA180065 and the exhibits and work papers attached to said audit report.

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In the course of activities described in Paragraph 6, above, and during the audit examination period in Paragraph 7, above, Respondents IFI and READY acted in violation of the Code and the Regulations as set forth below:

- (a) Failed to maintain a record of trust funds received and disbursed when IFI and/or READY received credit report fees through the close of escrow for most, if not all, files, including, but not limited to, borrowers Z. and T. Plonski in August 2017, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.
- (b) Failed to maintain a separate record of trust funds received and disbursed for each beneficiary or transaction, including, but not limited to, borrowers Z. and T. Plonski in August 2017, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.1.
- (c) Originated, arranged, and/or funded loans secured by real property containing one to four residential units, but failed to notify the Department of Real Estate by January 31, 2010 or within thirty (30) days of commencing that activity, whichever is later, in violation of Code section 10166.02(a).
- (d) Originated, arranged, and/or funded loans secured by real property containing one to four residential units, but failed to file a business activities report with the Department of Real Estate within ninety (90) days from December 31, 2016, IFI's fiscal year end, or on or before May 31, 2018, in violation of Code section 10166.07.
- (e) Failed to provide a Mortgage Loan Disclosure Statement ("MLDS") to borrowers in at least three (3) loan files, in violation of Code section 10240(a) and Regulations section 2840. These files include, but are not limited to, J. Devito in November 2018, M. and C. Tawil in December 2018, and M. and M. Grove in December 2018.
- (f) Misrepresented in the Fair Lending Notice ("FLN") provided to borrowers that the Department of Business Oversight was the agency that regulated the mortgage loan activities conducted by IFI when in actuality the Department of Real Estate regulated its

35800, et seq.
20 8(g) Code section 10159.2 and Regulation section 2725

The foregoing violations constitute cause for discipline of the real estate license and license rights and MLO license endorsement of Respondents IFI and READY under the provisions of Code sections 10166.051(a), 10166.051(b), 10176(a), 10177(d), 10177(g), and 10177(h).

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SECOND CAUSE OF ACCUSATION

(Misrepresentation, Fraud and/or Dishonest Dealing, Etc.)

10.

In or about December 2016 through August 16, 2017, Respondents IFI and
READY solicited, induced, and negotiated with Z. and T. Plonski (the "Plonskis") to refinance
the Plonski's real property at 24442 Chamalea Dr., Mission Viejo, CA 92691. Respondents IFI
and READY informed the Plonskis that it would be a "no cost" loan, which means, in part, they
would not be charged a loan origination fee. The Plonskis expressed to Respondents IFI and
READY that they needed at least \$10,000 from the real property loan to pay off their

motorcycle loan. Respondents IFI and READY agreed to meet this demand.

11.

On or about June 15, 2017, Respondents IFI and READY provided the Plonskis with a Loan Estimate a 30-year conventional fixed rate loan for a loan amount of \$600,000. The Loan Estimate included, in part, a loan origination fee of \$15,000. Respondents IFI and READY expressed to the Plonskis that the Plonskis would receive the loan origination fee so they could pay off their motorcycle loan. The Plonskis agreed to the Loan Estimate terms with the understanding that it was a "no cost" loan and they would receive loan origination fee to pay off their motorcycle loan.

On or about August 16, 2017, the loan closed, and Respondents IFI and READY received the \$15,000 loan origination fee.

12.

13.

Respondent IFI and/or READY transferred \$2,500 to the Plonskis on or about October 2, 2017 and another \$2,500 on or about October 11, 2017 for a total of \$5,000. To date, the Plonskis have not received any further funds from Respondents IFI and/or READY.

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The conduct, acts, and/or omissions of Respondents IFI and READY MENDOZA, as set forth above, constitute grounds for the suspension or revocation of the licenses and license rights of Respondents IFI and READY pursuant to Code sections 10166.051(b) (financial responsibility, character, and general fitness), 10176(a) (substantial misrepresentation), 10176(b) (false promises), 10176(k) (failure to disburse funds), 10177(d) (disregard and/or violation of Real Estate Law), 10177(g) (negligence and/or incompetence), 10177(h) (failure to exercise reasonable supervision), and 10176(i)/10177(j) (fraud and/or dishonest dealing).

(COSTS)

15.

Code section 10106 provides, in pertinent part, that in any order issued in resolution of a disciplinary proceeding before the Department of Real Estate, the Commissioner may request the administrative law judge to direct a licensee found to have committed a violation of this part to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of investigation and enforcement of the case.

16.

Code section 10148(b) provides, in pertinent part, that the Commissioner shall charge a real estate broker for the cost of any audit, if the Commissioner has found in a final decision following a disciplinary hearing that the broker has violated Code section 10145 or a regulation or rule of the Commissioner interpreting said section.

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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, MLO license endorsements, and license rights of IRON FINANCIAL, INC. and RON EUGENE READY under the Real Estate Law (Part 1 of Division 4 of the California Business and Professions Code), for the cost of investigation and enforcement pursuant to Code section 10106 and as permitted by law, costs of audit pursuant to Code section 10148(b), and for such other and further relief as may be proper under other applicable provisions of law.

Dated at Sacramento, California: July 6 2020.

Chika Sunquist

Supervising Special Investigator

Iron Financial, Inc.
Ron Eugene Ready
Chika Sunquist
Sacto
Enforcement
Audits — Isabel Beltran

cc: