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**FILED**

**FEB 18 2021**

**DEPT. OF REAL ESTATE**

By *John Aguirre*

10 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE  
11 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

12 \* \* \*

13 In the Matter of the Application of ) No. H-41888 LA  
14 )  
15 RALPH ADAME, ) STATEMENT OF ISSUES  
16 )  
17 Respondent. )  
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17 The Complainant, Maria Suarez, a Supervising Special Investigator of the State of  
18 California, for Statement of Issues against RALPH ADAME ("Respondent"), is informed and  
19 alleges in her official capacity as follows:

20 1.

21 On or about April 27, 2020, Respondent made application to the Department of Real  
22 Estate ("Department") of the State of California for a real estate salesperson license.

23 (DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS)

24 2.

25 On or about December 23, 2016, before Financial Industry Regulatory Authority  
26 ("FINRA") in Matter No. 2016049931401, pursuant to the Letter of Acceptance, Waiver and  
27 Consent ("AWC"), Respondent was suspended for two (2) months from associating with any

STATEMENT OF ISSUES

1 FINRA member firm in any and all capacities and ordered to pay a deferred fine of \$5,000.<sup>1</sup>  
2 The two-month suspension from this disciplinary action ("FINRA disciplinary action") was  
3 effective from January 3, 2017 to March 2, 2017.

4 Respondent was subject to disciplinary action for violating FINRA Rule 3240 in that in  
5 or about 2014, Respondent, while registered with FINRA through First Brokerage America,  
6 LLC ("FBA") as a General Securities Representative ("GSR"), improperly borrowed  
7 approximately \$1,400 from a firm customer.

8 Respondent was subject to disciplinary action for violating FINRA Rule 2010 in that by  
9 violating FINRA Rule 3240 when he improperly borrowed money from a firm customer in or  
10 about 2014, Respondent failed to conduct business with high standards of commercial honor  
11 and/or failed to adhere to just and equitable principles of trade.

12 3.

13 On or about December 10, 2018, before the California Department of Insurance in File  
14 No. OBS3517A, pursuant to an Order of Summary Suspension issued by the Commissioner of  
15 the California Department of Insurance ("Insurance Commissioner"), the Resident Insurance  
16 Producer License number 0B46250 issued to Respondent to act as a Life-Only Agent and  
17 Accident and Health Agent was suspended for fifteen (15) days. The 15-day suspension was  
18 effective from February 3, 2019 through February 17, 2019.

19 Respondent was subject to disciplinary action for violating Insurance Code sections  
20 1729.2(a) and 1729.2(d) in that Respondent failed to notify and/or disclose to the Insurance  
21 Commissioner of a change in background information, which includes any "administrative  
22 action regarding a professional or occupational license" under Insurance Code section  
23 1729.2(c)(2), within thirty (30) days of the date Respondent learned of the said change in  
24 background information.

25  
26  
27 <sup>1</sup> The \$5,000 deferred fine was due and payable either immediately upon reassociation with a member firm, or prior to any application or request for relief from any statutory disqualification resulting from this or any other event or proceeding, whichever is earlier.

1 Respondent failed to independently notify and/or disclose to the Insurance Commissioner about  
2 his FINRA disciplinary action and, instead, acknowledged the FINRA disciplinary action only  
3 after an inquiry from the Insurance Commissioner.

4 Respondent was subject to disciplinary action under Insurance Code section 1669(c), in  
5 conjunction with Insurance Code section 1738, in that the Insurance Commissioner may  
6 suspend or revoke without hearing, the license and licensing rights of a person who has had a  
7 previously issued professional, occupation, or vocational license suspended or revoked for  
8 cause by any licensing authority, within five (5) years of the date of the filing of the application  
9 to be acted upon on grounds that should preclude the granting of a license by the Insurance  
10 Commissioner.

11 Respondent was subject to disciplinary action under Insurance Code section 1668(b) in  
12 that the FINRA disciplinary action showed that it would be against the public interest to permit  
13 Respondent to continue transacting insurance.

14 Respondent was subject to disciplinary action under Insurance Code section 1668(d) in  
15 that the FINRA disciplinary action showed that Respondent was not of good business  
16 reputation.

17 Respondent was subject to disciplinary action under Insurance Code section 1668(e) in  
18 that the FINRA disciplinary action showed that Respondent was lacking in integrity.

19 Respondent was subject to disciplinary action under Insurance Code section 1668(f) in  
20 that the FINRA disciplinary action showed that Respondent had his professional, occupational,  
21 or vocational license suspended or revoked by a FINRA for reasons that should have precluded  
22 the granting of his Resident Insurance Producer License.

23 Respondent was subject to disciplinary action under Insurance Code section 1668(j) in  
24 that the FINRA disciplinary action showed that Respondent showed incompetency or  
25 untrustworthiness in the conduct of any business, or had, by commission of a wrongful act or  
26 practice in the course of any business, exposed the public or those dealing with him to the  
27 danger of loss.

1 Respondent was subject to disciplinary action under Insurance Code section 1668(l) in  
2 that the FINRA disciplinary action showed that Respondent failed to perform a duty expressly  
3 enjoined by him by a provision of the Insurance Code or committed an act expressly forbidden  
4 by such a provision.

5 4.

6 The allegations set forth in Paragraphs 2 and 3 above constitute cause under Code  
7 section 10177(f) for the denial of license to Respondent.


8 5.

9 These proceedings are brought under the provisions of section 10100, Division 4 of the  
10 Business and Professions Code of the State of California and sections 11500 through 11528 of  
11 the Government Code.

12 WHEREFORE, the Complainant prays that the above-entitled matter be set for hearing  
13 and, upon proof of the charges contained herein, that the Commissioner refuse to authorize the  
14 issuance of, and deny the issuance of, a real estate salesperson license to Respondent RALPH  
15 ADAME and for such other and further relief as may be proper under other applicable  
16 provisions of law.

17  
18 Dated at Los Angeles, California

19 this 12th day of February, 2021.

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22 \_\_\_\_\_  
23 Maria Suarez  
24 Supervising Special Investigator

25  
26 cc: RALPH ADAME  
27 Maria Suarez  
Sacto.