Department of Real Estate 320 W. 4th Street, Suite 350 Los Angeles, CA 90013-1105

Telephone: (213) 576-6982



# DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation of

HOWARD BRUCE HENDLER, and
JEREMY ETHAN FEINSTEIN,

Respondents.

DRE No. H-42421 LA

STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT
IN SETTLEMENT AND ORDER

It is hereby stipulated by and between Respondents HOWARD BRUCE HENDLER and JEREMY ETHAN FEINSTEIN (collectively "Respondents") and their attorney of record, Joshua A. Rosenthal of Hargrave Rosenthal, and the Complainant, acting by and through Kevin H. Sun, Counsel for the Department of Real Estate, as follows for the purpose of settling and disposing of the Accusation filed on May 24, 2023, in Case No. H-42421 LA:

l. All issues which were to be contested and all evidence which was to be presented by Complainant and Respondents at a formal hearing on the Accusation, which hearing was to be held in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act ("APA"), shall instead and in place thereof be submitted on the basis of the provisions of this Stipulation and Agreement in Settlement and Order ("Stipulation").

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- Respondents have received, read and understand the Statement to Respondents, the Discovery Provisions of the APA and the Accusation filed by the Department of Real Estate in this proceeding.
- 3. On or about June 2, 2023, Respondents filed Notices of Defense pursuant to Section 11506 of the Government Code for the purpose of requesting a hearing on the allegations in the Accusation in Case No. H-42421 LA. Respondents hereby freely and voluntarily withdraw said Notices of Defense. Respondents acknowledge that they understand that by withdrawing said Notices of Defense they will thereby waive their rights 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 they will waive other rights afforded to them 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. In the interest of expedience and economy, Respondents 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 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 proceeding.
- 6. It is understood by the parties that the Real Estate Commissioner may adopt the Stipulation as her Decision in this matter, thereby imposing the penalty and sanctions on Respondents' real estate licenses and license rights as set forth in the below "Order". In the event that the Commissioner in her discretion does not adopt the Stipulation and Agreement, it shall be void and of no effect, and Respondents 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 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.

#### **DETERMINATION OF ISSUES**

By reason of the foregoing stipulations, admissions and waivers 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 of Respondents, as described in the Accusation, are in violation of California Business and Professions Code ("Code") 10159.5, 10163, 10232, 10232.4, 10232.45, 10232.5, 10236.4,10240, and 10240.3, and Title 10, Chapter 6, California Code of Regulations ("Regulations") Sections 2725, 2731, 2840, 2842, and 2846, and are grounds for the suspension or revocation of all of the real estate license and license rights of Respondents under the provision of Code Section 10177(d), 10177(g), and 10177(h) (as to HENDLER).

#### ORDER

WHEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING ORDER is hereby made:

I.

#### (HOWARD BRUCE HENDLER)

All licenses and license rights of Respondent HOWARD BRUCE HENDLER under the Real Estate Law are suspended for a period of sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Decision or, if the license is expired, upon renewal of the license;

A. Provided, however, that the initial thirty (30) days of said suspension shall be stayed for two (2) years upon the following terms and conditions:

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Respondent shall pay a monetary penalty pursuant to Code section 10175.2
 at the rate of \$50.00 per day for each of the thirty (30) days of suspension for a total monetary penalty of \$1,500.00.

2. Said payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check made payable to the Department of Real Estate. Said check must be delivered to the Department of Real Estate, Flag Section, P.O. Box 137013, Sacramento, CA 95813-7013, prior to the effective date of this Decision and Order or, if the license is expired, upon renewal of the license.

3. No further cause for disciplinary action against the real estate license of Respondent occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of the Decision or, if the license is expired, upon the renewal of the license in this matter.

4. If Respondent fails to pay the monetary penalty in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Decision, the suspension shall go into effect automatically with regard to said Respondent. Respondent shall not be entitled to any repayment nor credit, prorated or otherwise, for money paid to the Department under the terms of this Decision and Order.

5. All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent 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 Business and Professions Code. Proof of satisfaction of these requirements includes evidence that Respondent has successfully completed the trust fund account and handling continuing education courses, 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.

6. If Respondent pays the monetary penalty, meets all the conditions set forth above, and if no further cause for disciplinary action against the real estate license of Respondent occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of the Decision, the stay hereby granted shall

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become permanent.

- B. The remaining thirty (30) days of the sixty (60) day suspension shall be stayed for two (2) years upon the following terms and conditions:
- 1. That 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 or, if the license is expired, upon the renewal of the license. 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 under this section, the stay imposed herein shall become permanent.

H.

### (JEREMY ETHAN FEINSTEIN)

All licenses and license rights of Respondent JEREMY ETHAN FEINSTEIN under the Real Estate Law are suspended for a period of sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Decision:

- A. Provided, however, that the initial thirty (30) days of said suspension shall be stayed for two (2) years upon the following terms and conditions:
- 1. Respondent shall pay a monetary penalty pursuant to Code section 10175.2 at the rate of \$50.00 per day for each of the thirty (30) days of suspension for a total monetary penalty of \$1,500.00.
- 2. Said payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check made payable to the Department of Real Estate. Said check must be delivered to the Department of Real Estate, Flag Section, P.O. Box 137013, Sacramento, CA 95813-7013, prior to the effective date of this Decision and Order.
- 3. No further cause for disciplinary action against the real estate license of Respondent occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of the Decision in this matter.

4. If Respondent fails to pay the monetary penalty in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Decision, the suspension shall go into effect automatically with regard to said Respondent. Respondent shall not be entitled to any repayment nor credit, prorated or otherwise, for money paid to the Department under the terms of this Decision and Order.

5. All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent 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 Business and Professions Code. Proof of satisfaction of these requirements includes evidence that Respondent has successfully completed the trust fund account and handling continuing education courses, 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.

6. If Respondent pays the monetary penalty, meets all the conditions set forth above, and if no further cause for disciplinary action against the real estate license of Respondent occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of the Decision, the stay hereby granted shall become permanent.

B. The remaining thirty (30) days of the sixty (60) day suspension shall be stayed for two (2) years upon the following terms and conditions:

- That 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. 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 under this section, the stay imposed herein shall become permanent.

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### (HOWARD BRUCE HENDLER and JEREMY ETHAN FEINSTEIN)

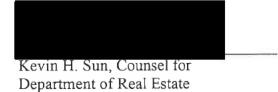
A. All licenses and licensing rights of Respondents are indefinitely suspended unless or until Respondents pay the sum of \$4,576.05 (\$2,952.45 investigation cost and \$1,623.60 for enforcement cost) for the Commissioner's reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement which led to this disciplinary action. Said payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check made payable to the Department of Real Estate. The payment for the investigative and 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. If Respondents fail to satisfy this condition, the Commissioner shall order suspension of Respondents' licenses and license rights until the sum is paid.

B. Pursuant to Code Sections 10148, Respondents shall pay the Commissioner's reasonable costs for the audit which led to this disciplinary action in the amount of \$5,889.00, or show proof of payment. Respondents shall pay such costs within sixty (60) days of receiving an invoice therefore from the Commissioner. Payment of the audit costs should not be made until Respondents receive the invoice. If Respondents fails to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, Respondents' 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.

C. Pursuant to Code section 10148 of the Code, Respondents shall pay the Commissioner's reasonable costs, not to exceed \$7,361.25, for a subsequent audit to determine if Respondents has corrected the violations found in the Determination of Issues. In calculating the amount of the Commissioner's reasonable costs, 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. Respondents shall pay such costs within sixty (60) days of receiving an invoice therefore from the Commissioner. Payment of the audit costs should not be made until Respondents receive the invoice. If Respondents fail to satisfy this

condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, Respondents' 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: 3/21/2024



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## **EXECUTION OF THE STIPULATION**

We have read the Stipulation, have discussed it with our counsel, and its terms are understood by us and are agreeable and acceptable to us. We understand that we are waiving rights given to us by the California Administrative Procedure Act (including but not limited to Sections 11506, 11508, 11509 and 11513 of the Government Code), and we 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 we would have the right to cross-examine witnesses against us and to present evidence in defense and mitigation of the charges.

Respondents shall <u>mail the original</u> signed signature page of the stipulation herein to Kevin H. Sun, Attention: Legal Section, Department of Real Estate, 320 W. Fourth St., Suite 350, Los Angeles, California 90013-1105.

In the event of time constraints before an administrative hearing, Respondents can signify acceptance and approval of the terms and conditions of this Stipulation and Agreement by emailing a scanned copy of the signature page, as actually signed by Respondents, to the Department counsel assigned to this case. Respondents agree, acknowledge and understand that by electronically sending the Department a scan of Respondents' actual signature as it appears on the Stipulation and Agreement that receipt of the scan by the Department shall be binding on Respondents as if the Department had received the original signed Stipulation. Respondents shall also mail the original signed signature page of this Stipulation to the Department counsel.

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r	Respondents' signatures below constitute acceptance and approval of the terms and
2	conditions of this Stipulation. Respondents agree, acknowledge and understand that by signing this
3	Stipulation, Respondents are bound by its terms as of the date of such signatures and that this
4	agreement is not subject to resc
5	and Order of the Real Estate Co
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7	DATED:
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10	DATED:  JEREMY ETHAN FEINSTEIN
11	Respondent
12	DATED:
13	Joshua A. Rosenthal Hargrave Rosenthal
14	Counsel for Respondents
15	Approved as to Form
16	* * *
17	The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement is hereby adopted as my Decision as to
18	Respondents HOWARD BRUCE HENDLER and JEREMY ETHAN FEINSTEIN in this matter
19	and shall become effective at 12 o'clock noon on,
20	2024.
21	IT IS SO ORDERED, 2024.
22	CHIKA SUNQUIST
23	REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER
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26	By: Marcus L. McCarther Chief Deputy Real Estate Commissioner
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Respondents' signatures below constitute acceptance and approval of the terms and l conditions of this Stipulation. Respondents agree, acknowledge and understand that by signing this 2 Stipulation, Respondents are bound by its terms as of the date of such signatures and that this 3 agreement is not subject to rescission or amendment at a later date except by a separate Decision 4 and Order of the Real Estate Commissioner. 5 6 DATED: 7 HOWARD BRUCE HENDLER Respondent 8 DATED: 3/20/24 9 10 JEREMY ETHAN FEINSTEIN Respondent Ш 12 DATED: Joshua A. Rosenthal 13 Hargrave Rosenthal Counsel for Respondents 14 Approved as to Form 15 16 The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement is hereby adopted as my Decision as to 17 Respondents HOWARD BRUCE HENDLER and JEREMY ETHAN FEINSTEIN in this matter 18 JUL 03 2024 19 and shall become effective at 12 o'clock noon on 20 2024. 5/23/2024 .2024. 21 IT IS SO ORDERED 22 CHIKA SUNQUIST REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER 23 24 25 Marcus L. McCarther By: 26 Chief Deputy Real Estate Commissioner 27

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