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10166.06(a),)

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licensed MLOs must complete 20 hours of NMLS-approved education. (Code section

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1	9.	In order to meet CE requirements contemplated under the SAFE Act, state-
2	licensed ML0	Os must complete eight (8) hours of NMLS-approved education. (Code section
3	10166.10(a).	
4		<u>REES</u>
5	10.	REES, with NMLS course provider number 1405046, was an NMLS-approved
6	course provid	der during the years 2017 to 2020.
7	11.	The NMLS had approved REES to offer one in-person 8-hour "DBO-SAFE Act
8	Comprehensi	ve: Mortgage Continuing Education" course in a classroom format located at
9	15751 Brook	hurst Street, Suite 230, Westminster, California ("Westminster address").
10	12.	REES was never approved by the NMLS to offer online or in-home / home
11	study PE or C	CE to MLOs.
12	13.	During all times relevant herein, REES had its primary place of business located
13	at 3643 Adam	ns Street, Carlsbad, California.
14	14.	During all times relevant herein, REES, by and through Danny Yen, maintained
15	with his Inter	net Service Provider an IP address at 76.88.84.139 ("the IP Address"). The IP
16	Address assig	gned to Danny Yen is associated with REES' business address, 3643 Adams
17	Street, Carlsb	pad, California.
18		REES Investigation
19	15.	The Mortgage Testing and Education Board ("MTEB"), which was created by
20	SRR, has app	proved "Administrative Action Procedures for S.A.F.E. Testing and Education
21	Requirements	s" ("AAP"), which extends administrative authority to the MTEB to investigate
22	alleged violat	tions of the NMLS student Rules of Conduct ("ROC").
23	16.	The AAP also extends administrative authority to the MTEB and SRR to
24	investigate al	leged violations of the NMLS Standards of Conduct ("SOC"), which apply to all
25	NMLS-Appr	oved course providers.
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1	17. In late 2020, SRR obtained information concerning suspicious activity and that	
2	information identified a possible MLO education cheating scheme coordinated by and	
3	implemented through REES and its owners and operators, including Danny Yen. Based on that	
4	information, and pursuant to the AAP, SRR initiated an investigation into the matter.	
5	Findings of SRR and Department Investigation	
6	18. On or about December 15, 2020, SRR staff were informed of suspected	
7	individuals completing online NMLS-approved education courses on behalf of another.	
8	19. Additional investigation revealed evidence that REES fraudulently provided	
9	course credit to MLOs who had never attended and completed REES' 8-hour in-person CE	
10	course in Westminster, California in the in-person fraud scheme.	
11	20. Respondent was identified in NMLS records as receiving course credit for	
12	REES' 8-hour in-person CE course in 2020. It was determined that this in-person course never	
13	took place and Respondent never attended an in-person course corresponding to the course	
14	credits Respondent received. Consequently, Respondent never took a knowledge examination	
15	required for course credit It was determined that Respondent had used REES to obtain one (1)	
16	year of course credits in 2020 in violation of the ROC under the in-person fraud scheme.	
17	21. The ROC provide in relevant part:	
18	ROC 3: I understand that the SAFE Act and state laws require me to spend a	
19	specific amount of time in specific subject areas. Accordingly, I will not attempt to	
20	circumvent the requirements of any NMLS approved course.	
21	ROC 5: I will not seek or attempt to seek outside assistance to complete the	
22	course.	
23	ROC 8: I will not engage in any capacity that would be contrary to good	
24	character or reputation, or engage in any behavior that would cause the public to believe that I	
25	would not operate in the mortgage loan business lawfully, honestly or fairly.	
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ROC 9: I will not engage in any conduct that is dishonest, fraudulent, or would adversely impact the integrity of the course(s) I am completing and the conditions for which I am seeking licensure or renewal of licensure.

22. By using the services of another to complete Respondent CE and receiving fraudulent course credits through a non-existent course, Respondent violated ROC 3, 5, 8, and 9, and engaged in conduct that was dishonest, fraudulent, and that adversely impacted the integrity of the courses Respondent completed and the conditions and qualifications for which Respondent sought licensure or renewal of licensure.

Financial Responsibility, Character, and General Fitness

- 23. Pursuant to Code section 10166.05(c), the Commissioner must deny a MLO license endorsement if the licensee fails to meet the minimum criteria for licensure, which includes a requirement that the applicant "has demonstrated such financial responsibility, character and general fitness as to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a determination that the [MLO] will operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the purposes of this division."
- 24. As described in paragraphs 18 through 23 above, Respondent violated ROC 3, 5, 8 and 9 by using the services of another, REES, to falsely obtain course credits through an inperson course that Respondent never attended for the year 2020.
- 25. In violating the ROC by using the services of another to falsely obtain course credits, Respondent does not meet the minimum criteria for licensure under Code section 10166.05(c). The conduct of Respondent, as alleged above, is grounds for the suspension or revocation of Respondent's license, MLO license endorsement, and license rights pursuant to the provisions of Code sections 10166.051(a), 10166.051(b), 10177(d), 10177(g) and/or 10177(j).

GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

26. Code section 10166.05 provides in pertinent part, "Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the commissioner shall not issue a license endorsement to act as a mortgage

1	loan originator to an applicant unless the commissioner makes all of the following findings:	
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3	(c) The applicant has demonstrated such financial responsibility, character, and	
4	general fitness as to command the confidence of the community and warrant a determination	
5	that the mortgage loan originator will operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the	
6	purposes of this article."	
7	27. Code section 10166.051 provides in pertinent part, "the commissioner may do	
8	one or more of the following, after appropriate notice and opportunity for hearing:	
9	(a) Deny, suspend, revoke, restrict, or decline to renew a mortgage loan	
10	originator license endorsement for a violation of this article, or any rules or regulations adopted	
11	hereunder.	
12	(b) Deny, suspend, revoke, condition, or decline to renew a mortgage loan	
13	originator license endorsement, if an application or endorsement holder fails at any time to	
14	meet the requirements of Section 10166.05 or 10166.09, or withholds information or makes a	
15	material misstatement in an application for a license endorsement or license endorsement	
16	renewal."	
17	28. Code section 10177 provides in pertinent part, "[t]he Commissioner may	
18	suspend or revoke the license of a real estate licensee, delay the renewal of a license of a real	
19	estate licensee, or deny the issuance of a license to an applicant, who has done any of the	
20	following	
21	•••	
22	(d) Willfully disregarded or violated the Real Estate Law (Part 1 (commencing	
23	with Section 10000)) or Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 11000) of Part 2 or the rules and	
24	regulations of the commissioner for the administration and enforcement of the Real Estate Law	
25	and Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 11000) of Part 2.	
26	(g) Demonstrated negligence or incompetence in performing an act for which	
27	the officer, director, or person is required to hold a license.	