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# BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the Matter of the Application of:

LEONEL LOPEZ,

Respondent.

No. H-42483-LA

STATEMENT OF ISSUES

Complainant, Maria Suarez, a Supervising Special Investigator for the Department of Real Estate ("Department" or "DRE") of the State of California, for cause of Statement of Issues against LEONEL LOPEZ, also known as Leonel Madrid Lopez, also known as Lee Lopez, also known as Leonel M. Lopez ("Respondent"), is informed and alleges in her official capacity as follows:

1. On or about April 12, 2021, Respondent made application to the Department for a real estate broker license.

## PREVIOUS LICENSE HISTORY

2. Respondent was previously licensed by the Department as a restricted real estate salesperson ("RRES"), License ID 01906699, from on or about April 9, 2012, through on or about April 8, 2016, at which time Respondent's license expired. Respondent also held a restricted Mortgage Loan Originator ("MLO") license endorsement with the Department with National Mortgage Licensing System and Registry ("NMLS") No. 312825, which MLO license endorsement was terminated on or about January 1, 2015, after Respondent failed to renew it by December 31, 2014.

#### PRIOR DISCIPLINE: DRE CASE NO. H-38019 LA

3. By a Stipulation and Waiver filed on April 5, 2012, in DRE Case No. H-38019 LA, the Acting Real Estate Commissioner ordered that a RRES license be issued to Respondent, which license was ordered limited, conditioned, and restricted as specified in the Stipulation and Waiver filed on April 5, 2012. In the Stipulation and Waiver filed on April 5, 2012, Respondent agreed that there were grounds to deny the issuance of an unrestricted real estate salesperson license to him pursuant to California Business and Professions Code sections 480, 10177(a), and 10177(b) for his failure to disclose a violation of California Penal Code section 460.2 (second degree burglary), a misdemeanor, on his license application.

#### PRIOR DISCIPLINE: DRE CASE NO. H-38817 LA

4. On April 18, 2013, the Department filed a Statement of Issues against Respondent in DRE Case No. H-38817 LA, regarding his application to the DRE for an individual MLO license endorsement. In his application for an individual MLO license endorsement, Respondent answered "No" in response to Disclosure Question number K(1), which provided:

Has any State or federal regulatory agency or foreign financial regulatory authority or self-regulatory organization (SRO) ever:

- (1) found you to have made a false statement or omission or been dishonest, unfair or unethical?
- 5. The Statement of Issues alleged that Respondent's conduct in answering "No" to Disclosure Question number K(1) constituted withholding information and/or making a material misstatement as to the existence of the DRE's regulatory action in DRE Case No. H-38019 LA.
- 6. By a Stipulation and Waiver filed on July 30, 2013, the Chief Deputy Commissioner ordered that a restricted MLO license endorsement be issued to Respondent, which MLO license endorsement was ordered limited, conditioned, and restricted as specified in the Stipulation and Waiver filed on July 30, 2013. In the Stipulation and Waiver filed on July 30, 2013, Respondent understood that he was stipulating that the Real Estate Commissioner found that Respondent had failed to make a satisfactory showing that he met all the requirements for issuance of an MLO license endorsement, and also admitted that the allegations of the Statement of Issues filed against him on April 18, 2013, were true and correct.

#### CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION

### (LICENSE DISCIPLINE BY AGENCY OF ANOTHER STATE)

- 7. On or about November 9, 2019, in the Matter of Montana Licensed Mortgage Loan Originator, Leonel Madrid Lopez, NMLS #312825, Case No. M2019-4, the Commissioner of the Montana Division of Banking and Financial Institutions ("Division") of the Montana Department of Administration issued an Order of Suspension of License ("Order"), suspending the MLO license of Respondent pursuant to the Montana Mortgage Act, Montana Code Annotated section 32-9-101 et seq. The Order adopted the Fact Assertions and Conclusions of Law set forth in the Notice of Suspension of License and Opportunity for Administrative Hearing ("Notice") issued to Respondent, which Notice was issued and served on October 7, 2019. The Order found that the Notice gave Respondent 14 days after service to file a request for hearing, but the Division did not receive a request from Respondent.
- 8. In the Notice, the Fact Assertions found that on February 28, 2019, Respondent entered into an Agreement of Conditional MLO License and Consent to Entry of Agreement ("Agreement") with the Division, in which Respondent agreed to, among other things: authorize a credit report through the NMLS every six months; notify the Division of any delinquent debts, judgments, tax liens, foreclosures, charged-off accounts, or collection accounts that were not reflected on the credit report authorized at the time of the application before the execution of the Agreement; provide a copy of an installment agreement and proof of payments every six months to a specified creditor; establish a repayment agreement and provide proof of payments every six months to a specified creditor; and notify the Division if contacted by any person seeking to collect on a specified account. The Fact Assertions further found that the Division made attempts to contact Respondent to collect the information required by the Agreement, but Respondent neither responded to the Division nor submitted the requirements of the Agreement.
- 9. In the Notice, the Conclusions of Law determined, among other things, that: pursuant to the Administrative Rules of Montana, Rule 2.59.1742(4)(a), a license may be suspended when the licensee has not responded to the Division's request for information; and Respondent had not complied with the requirements of the Agreement.