

APR 2 0 2023

DEPT. OF REAL ESTATE

By\_\_\_\_\_

# BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation of:

EASTWEST FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.; and

TIFFANY P. LE, individually and as
Designated officer of Eastwest Financial
Group, Inc.,

Respondents.

#### DECISION

This Decision is being issued in accordance with the provisions of Section 11520 of the Government Code, on evidence of compliance with Section 11505 of the Government Code and pursuant to the Order of Default filed on March 22, 2023, and the Findings of Fact set forth herein, which are based on one or more of the following: (1) The express admissions of Respondents, EASTWEST FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. ("EFGI") and TIFFANY P. LE (TIFFANY LE") (collectively "Respondents"), individually and as designated officer of Eastwest Financial Group, Inc. (2) affidavits; and (3) other evidence.

This Decision revokes one or more real estate licenses on the grounds of the violation of the Real Estate Law, Part 1 commencing with Section 10000 of the Business and Professions Code ("Code") and/or the Regulations of the Real Estate Commissioner, Title 10, Chapter 6 of the California Code of Regulations ("Regulations").

Pursuant to California Government Code section 11521, the California Department of Real Estate ("the Department") may order reconsideration of this Decision on petition of any party. The party seeking reconsideration shall set forth new facts, circumstances, and evidence, or errors in law or analysis, that show(s) grounds and good cause for the Commissioner to reconsider the Decision. If new evidence is presented, the party shall specifically identify the new evidence and explain why it was not previously presented. The Department's power to order reconsideration of this Decision shall expire 30 days after mailing of this Decision, or on the effective date of this Decision, whichever occurs first. The right to reinstatement of a revoked real estate license, or to the reduction of a penalty, is controlled by California Government Code section 11522. A copy of California Government Code sections 11521 and 11522 and a copy of the Commissioner's Criteria of Rehabilitation are attached hereto for the information of respondent.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

1.

On February 24, 2023, Jason Parson made the Accusation in his official capacity as a Supervising Special Investigator of the Department. The Accusation, Statement to Respondent, and Notice of Defense were mailed, by certified mail, return receipt requested, to Respondents' last known mailing addresses on file with the Department on February 28, 2023.

2.

On March 22, 2023, no Notice of Defense having been received or filed herein within the time prescribed by Section 11506 of the Government Code, Respondents' default was entered herein.

(License History: EFGI and TIFFANY LE)

3.

a. Respondent EFGI presently has license rights with the Department Real Estate as a real estate corporation (license no. 02075891). EFGI was originally licensed as a real estate corporation on or about September 19, 2018. EFGI's license expired on or about September 18, 2022. The Department of Real Estate retains jurisdiction over the license pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10103. At no time has EFGI had a fictitious business name. At all pertinent times, TIFFANY LE was EFGI's designated officer, chief executive officer ("CEO"), and sole owner.

b. Respondent TIFFANY LE presently has license rights issued by the Department of Real Estate as a real estate broker (license no. 01773537). LE was originally licensed as a real estate broker on or about June 12, 2014, and was so licensed until on or about June 11, 2022. LE's license expired on or about June 11, 2022. The Department of Real Estate retains jurisdiction over the license pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10103. Previously, LE was licensed as a salesperson from on or about April 21, 2007 to April 20, 2011. At no time has LE had a fictitious business name.

4.

At all times mentioned, in Orange County and Los Angeles County, EFGI and TIFFANY LE 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").

5.

Attached as Exhibit "A" is a true and correct copy of the Accusation filed on February 28, 2023, which is incorporated herein as part of this Decision.

#### **DETERMINATION OF ISSUES**

1.

The conduct, acts, and/or omissions of Respondents, as set forth in the Accusation, incorporated herein by reference made in Paragraph 6, above, are in violation of California Business and Professions Code sections 10137 (retaining or compensating unlicensed individual for licensed activities), 10148 (failure to retain documents and records), 10176(a) (substantial misrepresentation), 10177(b) (false promises), 10176(i) (fraud or dishonest dealing), 10177(d) (willful disregard or violation of real estate law), 10177(g) (negligence or incompetence), 10177(h) (failure to supervise), and 10177(j) (fraud or dishonest dealing) and Regulations sections 2725, 2731 (use of unregistered fictitious business name), 2834 (unlicensed and unbonded individual), 2950(e) (failure to retain books and records for broker escrow activities), 2950(g) (withdrawal from trustee or escrow account without written instruction), 2950(h) (failure to advise all parties in writing of licensee's interest in escrow company), 2950(j) (delivery or recording of instrument that transfers party's title or interest without written consent), and 2951 (record keeping of broker escrow activities).

2.

The standard of proof applied was clear and convincing evidence to a reasonable certainty.

## **ORDER**

All licenses and licensing rights of Respondents EASTWEST FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. ("EFGI") and TIFFANY P. LE ("TIFFANY LE") (collectively "Respondents"), individually and as designated officer of Eastwest Financial Group, Inc., under the provisions of Part I of Division 4 of the Business and Professions Code are revoked.

This Decision shall become effective at 12 o'clock noon on May 10, 2023

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

DOUGLAS R. McCAULEY REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER

By: MARCUS L. MCCARTHER
Chief Deputy Real Estate Commissioner



MAR 2 2 2023

MAN Z Z ZUZS

DEPT. OF REAL ESTATE
By\_

Department of Real Estate 320 West Fourth St, Ste 350 Los Angeles, CA, 90013

3

1

2

5

6 7

8

9

10

. .

11

12

13

14 15

16

17

18

19

20

21

23

24

25

26 27 \*\*\*
Acquestion of:

DDE NO. ##42

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation of:	DRE NO. <i>H-42544 LA</i>
EASTWEST FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.; and	DEFAULT ORDER
TIFFANY P. LE, individually and as Designated officer of Eastwest Financial Group, Inc.,	
Respondents.	

Respondents EASTWEST FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. ("EFGI") and (TIFFANY P. LE ("TIFFANY LE") (collectively "Respondents"), individually and as designated officer of Eastwest Financial Group, Inc., having failed to file a Notice of Defense within the time required by Section 11506 of the Government Code, are now in default. It is, therefore, ordered that a default be entered on the record in this matter.

IT IS SO ORDERED MARCH 22, 2023.

DOUGLAS R. McCAULEY REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER

By:

CHIKA SUNQUIST Assistant Commissioner, Enforcement

# **EXHIBIT "A"**

FILED

DIANE LEE, Counsel (SBN 247222) Department of Real Estate 320 West 4th Street, Suite 350 Los Angeles, California 90013

FEB 2 8 2023

DEPT OF REAL ESTATE

By\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (Direct) (213) 576-6982

(DI

(213) 576-6907

6

1

2

3

4

5

7

8

9

10

TC

11

12

14

15

16 17

18

19

21

22

24

25

26

111

27

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

\* \* \*

In the Matter of the Accusation of

EASTWEST FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.; and

TIFFANY P. LE, individually and as designated officer of Eastwest Financial Group, Inc.,

Respondents.

The Complainant, Jason Parson, a Supervising Special Investigator of the State of California, acting in her official capacity, for cause of Accusation against Respondents EASTWEST FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. ("EFGI") and TIFFANY P. LE ("TIFFANY LE") (collectively "Respondents"), individually and as designated officer of Eastwest Financial Group, Inc., is informed and alleges as follows:

1.

The Complainant, Jason Parson, acting in his official capacity as Supervising Special Investigator of the State of California, makes this Accusation.

-1-

Accusation re: Eastwest Financial Group, Inc. and Tiffany Le (H-42544 LA)

 All references to the "Code" are to the California Business and Professions Code, and all references to "Regulations" are to Title 10, Chapter 6, California Code of Regulations unless otherwise specified.

(License History: EFGI, TIFFANY LE, and Lan Le)

3.

- a. Respondent EFGI presently has license rights with the Department Real Estate as a real estate corporation (license no. 02075891). EFGI was originally licensed as a real estate corporation on or about September 19, 2018. EFGI's license expired on or about September 18, 2022. The Department of Real Estate retains jurisdiction over the license pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10103. At no time has EFGI had a fictitious business name. At all pertinent times, TIFFANY LE was EFGI's designated officer, chief executive officer ("CEO"), and sole owner.
- b. Respondent TIFFANY LE presently has license rights issued by the Department of Real Estate as a real estate broker (license no. 01773537). LE was originally licensed as a real estate broker on or about June 12, 2014, and was so licensed until on or about June 11, 2022. LE's license expired on or about June 11, 2022. The Department of Real Estate retains jurisdiction over the license pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10103. Previously, LE was licensed as a salesperson from on or about April 21, 2007 to April 20, 2011. At no time has LE had a fictitious business name.
- c. Brooke Ngo ("Ngo") was licensed as a salesperson (license no. 01512384) from on or about July 19, 2005 to July 18, 2021. Ngo's sponsoring broker was EastWest Lending, Inc. (license no. 01837306) from or about July 15, 2013 to January 7, 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> EastWest Lending, Inc.'s real estate license was revoked effective January 8, 2019 pursuant to Department of Real Estate case no. H-41179 LA. As more fully set forth in the Accusation and

d. Lan U. Le ("Lan Le") is not now, and has never been, licensed by the Department of Real Estate in any capacity. Lan Le was an employee and/or agent of

e. Tony Tuan Nguyen ("Tony Nguyen") is not now, and has never been licensed by the Department of Real Estate in any capacity. At all pertinent times herein, Tony Nguyen was commissioned as a California notary public (commission no. 2418390) with Blue Sky T &

Whenever acts referred to below are attributed to EFGI, TIFFANY LE, and/or Lan Le, those acts are alleged to have been done by EFGI, TIFFANY LE, and/or Lan Le, acting by itself/herself/himself/themselves, or by and/or through one or more agents, associates,

At all times mentioned, in Orange County and Los Angeles County, EFGI and TIFFANY LE 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

24

Decision, EastWest Lending, Inc. and its designated officer, Sang Thanh Tieh, had a shortage of at least \$1,560,604.33 on July 31, 2017 and converted at least \$871,875.00 from January 1, 2015 to July 31, 2017. Linh Van Le, a co-owner of EastWest Lending, Inc., had access to these funds. 27

(Trust Fund Audit	ľ	T	r	ust	F	und	A	٩u	di	t
-------------------	---	---	---	-----	---	-----	---	----	----	---

6.

On or about November 30, 2022, the Department of Real Estate completed an audit examination of the books and records of EFGI to determine whether EFGI and TIFFANY LE handled and accounted for trust funds and conducted their real estate activities in accordance with the Real Estate Law and Regulations. The audit examination covered a period of time beginning on September 1, 2019 and ending on February 28, 2022. The audit examination revealed violations of the Code and the Regulations set forth in the following paragraphs, and more fully discussed in Audit Report LA210105 and the exhibits and work papers attached to said audit report.

11

12

10

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

# **Bank Accounts**

13

14

15

16

17

18

At all times mentioned, in connection with the activities described in Paragraph 5, above, EFGI and TIFFANY LE accepted or received funds including funds in trust ("trust funds") from or on behalf of actual or prospective parties, such as owners of real property, and thereafter made deposits and/or disbursements of such funds. From time to time herein mentioned, during the audit period, said trust funds were deposited and/or maintained by EFGI and TIFFANY LE in the following bank account:

7.

20

21

22

19

"Eastwest Financial Group, Inc."
\*\*\*\*\*6640

337.11. 5

Wells Fargo Bank

P.O. Box 8995

Portland, OR 97228-8995

BA 1

23

24

"DBA West Team Escrow"

\*\*\*\*\*6616

25 | Wells Fargo Bank

P.O. Box 8995

Portland, OR 97228-8995

BA 2

27

26

1	"Eastwest Financial Group, Inc."  *****8109
2	Wells Fargo Bank
3	P.O. Box 8995 Portland, OR 97228-8995 BA 3
4	
5	"West Team Escrow" *****6901
6	Bank of America BA 4
7	
8	8.
9	In the course of activities described in Paragraphs 5 and 7, above, and during the
10	audit examination period in Paragraph 6, above, Respondents EFGI and TIFFANY LE acted in
11	violation of the Code and the Regulations as set forth below:
12	(a) Permitted, allowed, or caused the disbursement of trust funds from the trust
13	account BA 1 where the disbursement of funds reduced the total of aggregate funds in BA 1, to
14	an amount which, on August 31, 2020, was a minimum shortage of \$234,000.00 without first
15	obtaining the prior written consent of the owners of said funds, in violation of Code section
16	10145 and Regulations section 2832.1.
17	(b) Failed to refund trust funds in according with the instructions from the
18	persons entitled to the funds, in violation of Code section 10145.
19	(c) Converted trust funds, in violation of Code sections 10176(i) and/or
20	10177(j).
21	(d) Commingled trust funds, in violation of Code sections 10145 and 10176(e)
22	and Regulations sections 2832 and 2835.
23	(e) Permitted Lan Le, an unlicensed individual, to conduct activities which
24	require a real estate license, and compensated Lan Le at least \$47,470.23, in violation of Code
25	section 10137.
26	<i>///</i>
	1

(f) Permitted Lan Le, an unlicensed and unbonded individual, be an authorized
signatory and make withdrawals from BA 1, in violation of Code section 10145 and
Regulations section 2834.

- (g) Used the fictitious business name of "West Team Escrow" to conduct licensed activities, including broker-controlled escrows, without holding a license bearing said fictitious business name, in violation of Code section 10159.5 and Regulations section 2731.
- (h) Failed to disclose in writing to all parties of Respondents' financial interest and ownership of Respondents' escrow company, in violation of Code sections 10145 and 10176(g) and Regulations section 2950(h).
- (i) Failed to provide proof of retention of books, records, and bank account related to activities that require a license for BA 1, BA 2, BA 3, and BA 4, in violation of Code section 10148
- (j) TIFFANY LE failed to exercise reasonable supervision and control over the licensed activities of EFGI, Lan Le, and its employees and/or agents to ensure full compliance with the Real Estate Laws and Commissioner's Regulations, and failed to establish policies, rules, procedures, and systems to review, oversee, and manage transactions, in violation of Code section 10159.2 and Regulations section 2725.

9.

The conduct of Respondents EFGI and TIFFANY LE, as described in Paragraph 8, above, violated the Code and the Regulations as set forth below:

	<u>PARAGRAPH</u>	PROVISIONS VIOLATED
22	8(a)	Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2832.1
23	8(a) 8(b) 8(c) 8(d)	Code section 10145
24	8(c)	Code sections 10176(i) and/or 10177(j).
25	8(d)	Code sections 10145 and 10176(e) and Regulations sections 2832 and
26		2835

1	8(e)	Code section 10137
2	8(f)	Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2834
3	8(g)	Code section 10159.5 and Regulations section 2731
4	8(h)	Code sections 10145 and 10176(g) and Regulations section 2950(h)
5	8(i)	Code section 10148
6	8(j)	Code section 10159.2 and Regulations section 2725
7	The foregoing violati	ons constitute cause for discipline of the real estate license and license
8	rights of Respondents	s EFGI and TIFFANY LE under the provisions of Code sections 10137
9	(retaining or compens	sating unlicensed individual for licensed activities), 10176(a) (substantial
10	misrepresentation), 1	0177(b) (false promises), 10176(e) (commingling funds), 10176(i) (fraud
11	or dishonest dealing)	, 10177(d) (willful disregard or violation of real estate law), 10177(g)
12	(negligence or incom	petence), 10177(h) (failure to supervise), and 10177(j) (fraud or dishonest
13	dealing).	
- 1	1	
14		
14 15		(Real Estate Transactions)
		(Real Estate Transactions)
15	Lotus St. Property an	(Real Estate Transactions) ad Lampson Ave. Property
15 16	Lotus St. Property an	
15 16 17		nd Lampson Ave. Property
15 16 17	From	nd Lampson Ave. Property 10.
15 16 17 18	From represented prospecti	ad Lampson Ave. Property  10.  at least September 7, 2019 to December 2019, Respondents and Lan Le
15 16 17 18 19	From represented prospecti	10. at least September 7, 2019 to December 2019, Respondents and Lan Le ive buyer, L. T. N., in the purchase of 12939 Lotus St., Garden Grove, CA
15 16 17 18 19 20	From represented prospecti 92840 ("Lotus St. Pro	10. at least September 7, 2019 to December 2019, Respondents and Lan Le ive buyer, L. T. N., in the purchase of 12939 Lotus St., Garden Grove, CA
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	From represented prospection 92840 ("Lotus St. Prospection \$900,957.00.	10. at least September 7, 2019 to December 2019, Respondents and Lan Le ive buyer, L. T. N., in the purchase of 12939 Lotus St., Garden Grove, CA operty") from the builder/seller, Shea Homes, LLP, for a purchase price of
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	From represented prospection 92840 ("Lotus St. Prospection \$900,957.00.	10. at least September 7, 2019 to December 2019, Respondents and Lan Le ive buyer, L. T. N., in the purchase of 12939 Lotus St., Garden Grove, CA operty") from the builder/seller, Shea Homes, LLP, for a purchase price of
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	From represented prospection 92840 ("Lotus St. Prospection \$900,957.00.	10. at least September 7, 2019 to December 2019, Respondents and Lan Le ive buyer, L. T. N., in the purchase of 12939 Lotus St., Garden Grove, CA operty") from the builder/seller, Shea Homes, LLP, for a purchase price of 11.  er to pay for the Lotus St. Property, L. T. N. with the help of Respondents

1	Property"), and received a cash-out loan for \$448,000.00. Respondents and Lan Le were
2	supposed to forward these funds to Shea Homes, LLP, but failed to do so.
3	12.
4	From in or about September 2019 to November 2019, L. T. N. gave \$470,000 to
5	Respondents and Lan Le to hold in escrow to pay for the Lotus St. Property. However,
6	Respondents and Lan Le failed to forward the money to the builder/seller, Shea Homes, LLP.
7	13.
8	In or about January 2020, Shea Homes, LLP notified L. T. N. that the purchase
9	contract was cancelled because it had not received sufficient funds for the purchase of the
10	Lotus St. Property.
11	14.
12	In or about March 2020, Respondents gave three (3) checks totaling \$236,000.00
13	to L. T. N.
14	15.
15	To date, Respondents still owe at least \$674,000.00 to L. T. N.
16	
17	Wilson St. Property and West Alton Ave. Property
18	16.
19	On or about May 5, 2021, borrower M. Q. D. retained Respondents and Lan Le
20	to refinance 631 West Alton Ave., Unit B, Santa Ana, CA 92707 ("West Alton Ave. Property")
21	to pay off the mortgage for 13591 Wilson St., Westminster, CA 92683 ("Wilson St. Property").
22	17.
23	However, later in May 2021, Respondents, Lan Le, Ngo, and Tony Nguyen, in
24	his capacity as a notary public, used M. Q. D.'s identity without M. Q. D.'s knowledge or
25	permission, obtained a loan \$285,000 on the Wilson St. Property, and filed a fraudulent Deed
26	of Trust.

///

This scheme resulted in Respondents defrauding \$157,000.00 from M. Q. D. West Cedarbrook Ln. Property

19.

From at least October 2019 to December 2019, TIFFANY LE was the seller's agent in the sale of 631 West 524 Cedarbrook Ln., Corona, CA 92879 ("West Cedarbrook Ln. Property").

20.

In or about December 2019, the lender for the buyer, C. A. J., required that the homeowner's insurance policy premium of \$1,520.00 be paid in full prior to the close of escrow.

21.

In or about December 2019 and prior to close of escrow, EFGI, who provided the escrow service for this transaction, stated in a Closing Disclosure that homeowner's insurance policy premium of \$1,520.00 was paid in full to Amguard.

22.

On or about December 23, 2019, escrow closed, and the West Cedarbrook Ln. Property was sold to C. A. J.

23.

On or about September 2, 2020, C. A. J. attempted to file a claim with Amguard insurance company, but it was declined because the insurance premium, as described above, had not been paid. Instead, the \$1,520.00 remained in escrow with EFGI.

24.

On or about September 9, 2020, EFGI and TIFFANY LE issued a \$1,527.00 check to C. A. J., but the check was returned due to insufficient funds.

**-9-**

ĺ	
1	Burkett Rd. Property
2	25.
3	From on or about August 2020 to September 2020, Respondents and Lan Le
4	helped P. D. refinance 2508-2510 Burkett Rd., El Monte, CA 91732 ("Burkett Rd. Property").
5	26.
6	During the refinance process, TIFFANY LE instructed P. D. to wire a total of
7	\$83,825.00 to "West Team Escrow," which was EFGI's unregistered fictitious business name.
8	27.
9	Respondents promised P. D. a \$14,487.83 refund at the close of escrow.
10	28.
11	On or about September 1, 2020, escrow closed.
12	29.
13	On or about October 29, 2020, Respondents issued a \$14,487.83 check to P. D.,
14	but the check was returned due to insufficient funds on or about November 28, 2020 and
15	November 24, 2020. To date, Respondents has failed to give a \$14,487.83 refund to P. D.
16	
17	North Jackson St. Property
18	30.
19	In or about December 2019, Respondents represented L. N., the seller of 1119
20	North Jackson St., Santa Ana, CA 92703 ("North Jackson St. Property"). N. T. and S. N. as
21	potential buyers of 11582 Ellery Dr., Garden Grove, CA 92841 ("Ellery Dr. Property").
22	31.
23	On or about December 20, 2019, escrow closed, and L. N. was to receive
24	\$136,025.03.
25	32.
26	On or about November 5, 2020, Respondents wired \$38,000 to L. N.
27	
- 1	I

1

3

4

5

6

7

Ellery Dr. Property

9

10

11

12 13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

22

23

2425

26 27 On or about December 23, 2020, Respondents told L. N. they would wire another \$40,000, but did not do so.

34.

To date, Respondents still owe L. N. \$98,025.03.

35.

In or about June 2021, Respondents represented N. T. and S. N. as potential buyers of 11582 Ellery Dr., Garden Grove, CA 92841 ("Ellery Dr. Property").

36.

N. T. and S. N. gave \$339,600 to Respondents toward the \$729,000 purchase price of the Ellery Dr. Property.

37.

Respondents informed N. T. and S. N. that the purchase fell through, but did not return the potential buyers' \$339,600.

Lakeside Drive South Property

38.

In or about August 13, 2020, Respondents brokered a \$200,000 loan secured by 10521 Lakeside Drive South, Unit P, Garden Grove, CA 92840 ("Lakeside Drive South Property").

39.

Unbeknownst to the owner of the Lakeside Drive South Property, on or about August 13, 2020, lender Darrell Altermatt funded this \$200,000 loan. The funds were wired to Respondents. Respondents did not forward this money to the owner of Lakeside Drive South.

-11-

On or about February 28, 2022, foreclosure proceedings were initiated on the Lakeside Drive South Property.

41.

To date, Respondents have not forwarded the \$200,000 to the owner of the Lakeside Drive South Property.

Fulton Way Property

On or about March 1, 2021, the seller of 7066 Fulton Way, Stanton, CA 90680 ("Fulton Way Property") accepted an offer from buyers represented by Respondents with a closing date of April 15, 2021.

43.

42.

However, escrow did not close by April 15, 2021, and Respondents did not request an extension.

Respondents represented to the seller's agent that escrow would close by May 7, 2021, but escrow did not close by May 7, 2021.

45.

The seller's agent put the Fulton Way Property back on the market. In response, Respondents threatened to file a lis pendens on the Fulton Way Property if the Fulton Way Property was not sold to Respondents' buyers.

46.

Respondents represented to the seller's agent that escrow would close by June 3, 2021. The buyers agreed to pay \$2,000 plus \$200 per day if escrow did not close by June 3, 2021.

///

On or about June 11, 2021, Respondents represented to the seller's agent that they would wire appropriate funds to escrow because escrow still had not closed.

48.

On or about June 16, 2021, after the seller had not received the funds, Respondents represented they had the wrong escrow bank number.

49.

On or about June 17, 2021, Respondents represented to the seller's agent that they attempted to wire the funds to escrow again, and provided a false confirmation number as proof.

50.

On or about June 18, 2021, the seller issued a cancellation of contract or escrow.

51.

The conduct, acts, and/or omissions of Respondents, as set forth above, are in violation of Code sections 10137 (retaining or compensating unlicensed individual for licensed activities), 10148 (failure to retain documents and records), 10176(a) (substantial misrepresentation), 10177(b) (false promises), 10176(i) (fraud or dishonest dealing), 10177(d) (willful disregard or violation of real estate law), 10177(g) (negligence or incompetence), 10177(h) (failure to supervise), and 10177(j) (fraud or dishonest dealing) and Regulations sections 2725, 2731 (use of unregistered fictitious business name), 2834 (unlicensed and unbonded individual), 2950(e) (failure to retain books and records for broker escrow activities), 2950(g) (withdrawal from trustee or escrow account without written instruction), 2950(h) (failure to advise all parties in writing of licensee's interest in escrow company), 2950(j) (delivery or recording of instrument that transfers party's title or interest without written consent), and 2951 (record keeping of broker escrow activities).

-13-

(1	Costs)
----	--------

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.

52.

41.

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.

13 | | ///

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

14

II //.

15 | | //

16 | 1//

17 | //

18 | //

- 11

19 || //

20 | //

21 ||/

22 | | ///

23 11/

24 ///

25 | //

26 11/

27

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 and license rights of EASTWEST FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. and TIFFANY LE, individually and as designated officer of Eastwest Financial Group, Inc., 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, and for such other and further relief as may be proper under other applicable provisions of law, including, but not limited to, costs of audit pursuant to Code section 10148(b).

Dated at Los Angeles, California: February 24, 2023

Jašon Parson

Supervising Special Investigator

cc: Eastwest Financial Group, Inc.
Tiffany Le
Jason Parson

Sacto

Enforcement

Audits - Anna Hartoonian

- 15 -