24

25

26

STATE OF ARIZONA FILED

JAN 7 2008

DEPT OF INSHRANCE BY

STATE OF ARIZONA

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

In the Matter of:

METROPOLITAN TITLE AGENCY LLC (License Number 868893)

No. 07A-170-INS

ORDER

Respondent.

On December 24, 2007, the Office of Administrative Hearings, through Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") Lewis Kowal, issued an Administrative Law Judge Decision ("Recommended Decision"), received by the Director of the Department of Insurance ("Director") on December 24, 2007, a copy of which is attached and incorporated by this reference. The Director of the Department of Insurance has reviewed the Recommended Decision and enters the following Order:

- 1. The Recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law are adopted.
- 2. Respondent's license is revoked immediately.

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S.") § 41-1092.09, Petitioner may request a rehearing with respect to this order by filling a written motion with the Director of the Department of Insurance within 30 days of the date of this Order, setting forth the basis for relief under A.A.C. R20-6-114(B). Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.09, it is not necessary to request a rehearing before filing an appeal to Superior Court.

Petitioner may appeal the final decision of the Director to the Superior Court of Maricopa County for judicial review pursuant to A.R.S. § 20-166. A party filing an appeal

1	must notify the Office of Administrative Hearings of the appeal within ten days after filing
2	the complaint commencing the appeal, pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-904(B).
3	DATED this Zero day of January, 2008.
4	
5	
6	CHEVETINA LIPIAS. Director
7	CHRISTINA URIAS, Director Arizona Department of Insurance
8	COPY of the foregoing mailed this
9	
10	Office of Administrative Hearings 1400 West Washington, Suite 101
11	Phoenix, Arizona 85007
12	Mary Butterfield, Assistant Director Catherine O'Neil, Comsumer Legal Affairs Officer
13	Steven Fromholtz, Licensing Supervisor Mary E. Kosinski, Executive Assistant for Regulatory Affairs
14	Arizona Department of Insurance 2910 North 44th Street, Suite 210
15	Phoenix, Arizona 85018
16	Metropolitan Title Agency LLC 2701 E. Camelback Rd., #150
17	Phoenix, Arizona 85016 Respondent
18	Company of the second of the s
19	Curvey Button
20	
21	
22	
23	

IN THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

In the Matter of:

METROPOLITAN TITLE AGENCY LLC (License Number 871898)

Respondent.

No. 07A-170-INS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

DEC 2 4 2007

STATE OF ARIZONA RECEIVED

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE INSURANCE DEPT.

HEARING: December 6, 2007

<u>APPEARANCES</u>: Special Assistant Attorney General Mary Kosinski appeared on behalf of the Arizona Department of Insurance; Metropolitan Title Agency, LLC did not appear at the hearing

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Lewis D. Kowal

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. At all times material to this matter, Metropolitan Title Agency, LLC ("Respondent") was and currently is licensed by the Arizona Department of Insurance ("Department") as a resident title agency.
- 2. On July 11, 2006, the Department issued Respondent a resident title agency license, license number 868893 ("License"), which expires on July 31, 2010.
- 3. On November 28, 2006, the Department issued a letter to Respondent that was mailed to its address of record, informing it that Jason R. Brackley's ("Mr. Brackley") fingerprint card could not be processed and was returned by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as illegible. Metropolitan Title Agency, LLC listed Mr. Brackley in the license application as a member of Metropolitan Title Agency, LLC. In the abovementioned letter, the Department requested that Respondent submit a replacement set of fingerprints for Mr. Brackley and enclosed a blank replacement fingerprint form. The Department provided a deadline of January 2, 2007 for the return of the completed replacement fingerprint form.
- 4. Because the Department did not receive the requested replacement fingerprint

Office of Administrative Hearings 1400 West Washington, Suite 101 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 (602) 542-9826

2

1

5

7

9

10 11

12

13 14

15

16 17

18

19 . 20

21 22

23

24 25

26 27

28

29 30

form for Mr. Brackley from Respondent as requested, the Department sent another letter to Respondent on February 9, 2007, certified mail, return receipt requested, giving Respondent a deadline of fifteen days from the date of the letter to file a replacement fingerprint form with the Department.

- The Department submitted as an exhibit a copy of a receipt card and envelope containing the February 9, 2007 letter that showed that the letter was returned to the Department marked by the United States Postal Service "Attempted-Not Known". See Exhibit 4.
- 6. Steven Fromholtz ("Mr. Fromholtz"), Producer Licensing Administrator for the Department, testified that, to date, the Department has not received any communication from Respondent in response to the above-mentioned letters and the Department has not received a replacement fingerprint form for Mr. Brackley from Respondent or from Mr. Brackley.
- 7. Mr. Fromhotz testified that the Department has not received any change of address notification from Respondent and that the above-mentioned letters were sent to the mailing address of record the Department had for Respondent.
- 8. Mr. Fromholtz testified that when the Department receives an application for a producer's license, it is processed. The fingerprint card is reviewed to make sure there are no blank spaces. The card is then forwarded to the Arizona Department of Public Safety for processing, which includes processing by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for criminal history background check to be conducted.
- 9. Respondent did not present any evidence to refute or rebut the evidence presented by the Department.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. This matter is a disciplinary proceeding wherein the Department must prove by a preponderance of the evidence that Respondent violated the State's Insurance Laws. See A.AC. R2-19-119.
- 2. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 20-285(E) the license application of a business entity, in this case Metropolitan Title Agency, LLC, is to include the names of all officers, director, and members and the Director has authorization to require the same information that is

30

required of an individual for licensure, such as fingerprint cards, be required of a member of a legal entity, such as Mr. Brackley.

- During the application process, the Director of the Department required 3. Respondent to submit a full set of fingerprints and Respondent's illegible fingerprint submission with respect to Mr. Brackley, a member of Metropolitan Title Agency, LLC, did not satisfy that requirement. See A.R.S. § 20-285(F)(2).
- 4. Respondent's conduct, as set forth above, constitutes a violation of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(1), by having failed to provide complete information in the license application.
- Respondent's conduct, as set forth above, constitutes the violation of a provision 5. of A.R.S., Title 20, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(2).
- Grounds exist for the Director of the Department to suspend, revoke, or refuse to 6. renew the License pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 20-295(A).

ORDER

Based upon the above, the License shall be revoked on the effective date of the Order entered in this matter.

Done this day, December 24, 2007.

Lewis D. Kowal

Administrative Law Judge

Kenoch

Original transmitted by mail this day of

Department of Insurance Christina Urias, Director 2910 North 44th Street, Ste. 210

Phoenix, AZ 85018