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STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

DEPT OF INSURANCE

Docket No. 08A-009-INS

CONSENT ORDER

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,

NAIC # 92738,

In the Matter of:

Respondent

Examiners for the Department of Insurance (the "Department") conducted a market conduct examination of American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company ("AEI" or "Company"). The Report of Examination of the Market Conduct Affairs of American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company alleges that AEI has violated A.R.S. §§ 20-1233 (A), 20-1241.05 (C), 20-1241.05 (G)(1), and 20-1242.02(A).

AEI wishes to resolve this matter without formal proceedings, admits that the following Findings of Fact are true and consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. AEI is authorized to transact life insurance and variable products pursuant to a Certificate of Authority issued by the Director.
- 2. The Director authorized the Examiners to conduct a targeted market examination of AEI. The examination covered the time period from October 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005 and concluded on October 26, 2006. Based on the examination findings, the Examiners prepared the "Report of Targeted Examination of American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company", dated March 31, 2005.

- b. AEI failed to notify the existing insurer that may be affected by the proposed replacement within five business days of the receipt of a completed application indicating replacement on seven of the 61 annuity external replacement files reviewed:
- c. AEI failed to require a statement, signed by the producer, attesting that the producer used only approved sales materials in connection with a replacement transaction on nine of 70 annuity external and internal replacement new business files reviewed;
- d. AEI failed to use a buyer's guide in the form prescribed by the director, failing to include in the buyer's guide used the NAIC identification of the Company, a description of the free look provision, a description of the Market Value Adjustment feature, the tax treatment of annuities and questions to ask the agent or Company;
- e. AEI failed, based on the procedures provided, to provide the buyer's guide at or before the time of application.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. AEI violated A.R.S. § 20-1233 (A) by using annuity contract forms that contained a free look notice that failed to state that the contract holder may return the annuity contract within 30 days, if the contract holder is sixty-five years of age or older

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on the date of application for the annuity contract, after the contract is delivered and receive a refund of all monies paid;

- 2. a. AEI violated A.R.S. § 20-1241.05 (C) by failing to notify the existing insurer that may be affected by the proposed replacement within five business days of the receipt of a completed application indicating replacement;
- b. AEI violated A.R.S. § 20-1241.05 (G)(1) by failing to require a statement, signed by the producer, attesting that the producer used only approved sales materials in connection with a replacement transaction;
- 3. AEI violated A. R. S. § 20-1242.02(A) by using a buyer's guide in the form not prescribed by the director, and by not providing a buyer's guide at the time of annuity application when the application is taken in a face-to-face meeting.

<u>ORDER</u>

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- 1. American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company shall cease and desist from:
- a. failing to use annuity contract forms that contain a free look notice that includes a statement that the contract holder may return the annuity contract within 30 days, if the contract holder is sixty-five years of age or older on the date of application for the annuity contract, after the contract is delivered and receive a refund of all monies paid;
- b. failing to notify the existing insurer that may be affected by the proposed replacement within five business days of the receipt of a completed application indicating replacement;

. . .

- c. failing to require a statement, signed by the producer, attesting that the producer used only approved sales materials in connection with a replacement transaction;
- d. failing to use a buyer's guide in the form not prescribed by the director, and failing to provide a buyer's guide at the time of annuity application when the application is taken in a face-to-face meeting.
- 2. Within 90 days of filed date of this Order, AEI shall submit to the Arizona Department of Insurance, for approval, evidence that corrections have been implemented and communicated to the appropriate personnel, regarding all of the items listed above in Paragraph 1 of the Order section of this Consent Order. Evidence of corrective action includes but is not limited to memos, bulletins, E-mails, correspondence, procedures manuals, print screens and training materials.
- The Department shall be permitted, through authorized representatives, to verify that AEI has complied with all provisions of this Order.
- 4. AEI shall pay a civil penalty of \$13,000.00 to the Director for deposit in the State General Fund in accordance with A.R.S. § 20-220(B). This civil penalty shall be provided to the Market Conduct Examinations Section of the Department prior to the filing of this Order.

The Report of Examination of the Market Conduct Affairs of American 5. Equity Investment Life Insurance Company dated March 31, 2005 including the letter submitted in response to the Report of Examination, shall be filed with the Department after the Director has filed this Order.

DATED Arizona this 28 day of January, 2008.

Christina Urias

Director of Insurance

CONSENT TO ORDER

- American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company has reviewed the foregoing Order.
- 2. American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company admits the jurisdiction of the Director of Insurance, State of Arizona, admits the foregoing Findings of Fact, and consents to the entry of the Conclusions of Law and Order.
- 3. American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company is aware of its right to a hearing, at which it may be represented by counsel, present evidence, and cross-examine witnesses. American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company irrevocably waives its right to such notice and hearing and to any court appeals related to this Order.
- 4. American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company states that no promise of any kind or nature whatsoever was made to it to induce it to enter into this Order and that it has entered into this Consent Order voluntarily.
- 5. American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company acknowledges that the acceptance of this Order by the Director of Insurance, State of Arizona, is solely to settle this matter against it and does not preclude any other agency or officer of this state or its subdivisions or any other person from any other civil or criminal proceedings, whether civil, criminal, or administrative, as may be appropriate now or in the future.

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1	6. <u>Kevin Winger</u>	rt	,	who	holds	the	office	of
2	President J	American	Equity	Inve	stment	Life	Insura	nce
3	Company, is authorized to enter in	to this Order	for it and	d on it	s behalf.			
4	AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMEN	T LIFE INSU	JRANCE	СОМ	PANY			
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1	COPY of the foregoing mailed/delivered
2	this 29th day of <u>January</u> , 2008, to:
3	Gerrie Marks Deputy Director
4	Mary Butterfield
5	Assistant Director Consumer Affairs Division
6	Paul J. Hogan
7	Market Oversight Administrator Market Oversight Division
	Dean Ehler Assistant Director
8	Property & Casualty Division
9	Steve Ferguson Assistant Director
10	Financial Affairs Division
11	David Lee Chief Financial Examiner
12	Alexandra Schafer Assistant Director
13	Life and Health Division
14	Terry L. Cooper Fraud Unit Chief
15	DEDARTMENT OF INOLIDANOE
16	DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE 2910 North 44th Street, Suite 210
17	Phoenix, AZ 85018
18	
19	
20	Libby Clark
21	Assistant Vice President
22	American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company P.O. Box 71216
23	Des Moines, IA 50325
24	De A
25	Uney Duron -8-
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