STATE OF ARIZONA FILED

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#### STATE OF ARIZONA

# DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

DEP	T OF INDURANCE	
BY	CB	

In the Matter of:		
GUARANTY TITLE AGENCY of ARIZONA,	)	No. 09A- <sub>079</sub> - INS
INC., Respondent.	ĺ	CONSENT ORDER
respondent.	)	

The State of Arizona Department of Insurance ("Department") has received evidence that **Guaranty Title Agency of Arizona**, **Inc.** ("Respondent") violated provisions of Title 20, Arizona Revised Statutes. Respondent wishes to resolve this matter without the commencement of formal proceedings, and admits the following Findings of Fact are true and consents to entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- Respondent is, and was at all material times, licensed as an Arizona resident title agent, Arizona license number 789238, which expires August 31, 2010.
- On or about August 14, 2001, Respondent entered into an underwriting agreement with First American Title Insurance Company (First American) to transact insurance and collect insurance premium on its behalf.
- For each month from March, 2007 to September, 2007, Respondent intentionally failed to remit the premium it collected on behalf of First American, instead converting it to its own use.
- 4. On or about March 4, 2009, First American filed a civil suit against Respondent for the non-remitted premium in case No. CV2009-007318, in the Superior Court of Arizona,

Maricopa County. First American is seeking payment of the withheld premium from Respondent.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Director has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 2. Respondent's conduct as described above constitutes improperly withholding, misappropriating or converting any monies or properties received in the course of doing insurance business within the meaning of A.R.S.§20-295(A)(4).
- 3. Grounds exist for the Director to suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew Respondents' insurance licenses, pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 20-295(A) and (B).
- 4. Grounds exist for the Director to impose, in addition to or instead of any suspension, revocation or refusal to renew, a civil penalty of not more than \$250.00 for each unintentional failure or violation, up to an aggregate civil penalty of \$2,500.00, or a civil penalty of not more than \$2,500.00 for each intentional failure or violation, up to an aggregate penalty of \$15,000.00, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-295(F).

#### **ORDER**

### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to the
  Director payable upon the entry of this Order for remission to the State Treasurer for deposit in
  the State General Fund.
- Failure to pay any restitution ordered in case No. CV2009-007318 shall result in further administrative action including revocation of Respondent's license.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE THIS 24th day of July , 2009.

CHRISTINA URIAS Director of Insurance

## **CONSENT TO ORDER**

- Respondent has reviewed the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.
- Respondent admits the jurisdiction of the Director of Insurance, State of Arizona, and admits the foregoing Findings of Fact and consents to the entry of the foregoing Conclusions of Law and Order.
- 3. Respondent is aware of its right to notice and a hearing at which it may be represented by counsel, present evidence and examine witnesses. Respondent irrevocably waives its right to such notice and hearing and to any court appeals relating to this Consent Order.
- 4. Respondent states that no promise of any kind or nature whatsoever, except as expressly contained in this Consent Order, was made to it to induce it to enter into this Consent Order and that it has entered into this Consent Order voluntarily.
- 5. Respondent acknowledges that the acceptance of this Consent Order by the Director settles this matter against it but does not preclude any other agency, officer, or subdivision of this state, including the Department, from instituting civil or criminal proceedings as may be appropriate in the future.
- 6. Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Order is an administrative action that the Department will report to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC).

1	Respondent further acknowledges that it must report this administrative action to any and all			
2	states in which it holds hold an insurance license and must disclose this administrative action			
3	on any license application.			
4	7. Rex Stephen Caldwell represents that he is the President of Guaranty Title Agency			
5	of Arizona, Inc., and as such is authorized to enter this Consent Order on its behalf.			
6	Guaranty Title Agency of Arizona, Inc., License No. 789238			
7				
8	Date Rex Stephen Caldwell, President			
9				
10	COPY of the foregoing mailed/delivered this _24th_day of, 2009, to:			
11				
12	Guaranty Title Agency of Arizona, Inc. Rex Stephen Caldwell, President			
13 14	8700 E. Vista Bonita Dr., Suite 188 Scottsdale, AZ 85255 (Respondent)			
15	Robert P. Lindfors Carson Messinger Elliot Laughlin & Ragan, P.L.L.C.			
16	3300 N. Central Ave., 19 <sup>th</sup> Floor Phoenix, AZ 85012			
17	(Attorney for Respondent)			
18	Mary Kosinski, Executive Assistant for Regulatory Affairs Catherine M. O'Neil, Consumer Legal Affairs Officer			
19	Steven Fromholtz, Licensing Supervisor Arnold Sniegowski, Investigator			
20	Arizona Department of Insurance 2910 North 44 <sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 210 Phoenix, AZ 85018			
21	R. A.			
22	Curvey Walters Burton			
23				