STATE OF ARIZONA FILED

MAY 27 2010

STATE OF ARIZONA

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

DEPT	OF INGURANCE
BY	

In the Matter of:

Docket No. 10A-075-INS

WESTERN UNITED INSURANCE COMPANY,

NAIC # 37770,

CONSENT ORDER

Respondent.

Examiners for the Department of Insurance (the "Department") conducted a target market conduct examination of Western United Insurance Company, dba AAA Members Insurance Company ("WUIC"). In the Report of Target Market Conduct Examination of the Market Conduct Affairs of Western United Insurance Company, the examiners allege that Western United Insurance Company, violated A.R.S. §§20-461, 20-462, 20-466.03, 20-1631, 20-1632, 20-1632.01, 20-2110 and A.A.C. R20-6-801.

Western United Insurance Company 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. Western United Insurance Company is authorized to transact property and casualty insurance pursuant to a Certificate of Authority issued by the Director.
- 2. The Director authorized the examiners to conduct a target market conduct examination of Western United Insurance Company. The examination covered the time period from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 and concluded on May 19, 2009. Based on their findings, the examiners prepared the "Report of Target Market Conduct Examination of Western United Insurance Company" dated June 30, 2008.
 - 3. The examiners reviewed 35 of 35 private passenger automobile policies

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non-renewed for underwriting reasons, 52 of 242 private passenger automobile policies cancelled for underwriting reasons and 6 of 6 homeowners policies non-renewed for underwriting reasons during the time frame of the examination and found that WUIC failed to provide a compliant Summary of Rights for 15 private passenger automobile non-renewals, 40 private passenger automobile cancellations and 5 homeowner non-renewals.

- 4. The examiners reviewed 35 of 35 private passenger automobile policies non-renewed during the time frame of the examination and found that WUIC failed to provide a non-renewal notice at least 45-days before the effective date of the non-renewal to 7 insureds.
- 5. The examiners reviewed 52 of 2,987 private passenger automobile policies cancelled for non-payment during the time frame of the examination and found that WUIC failed to send written notice of non-payment cancellation giving the required seven (7) day grace period to four policyholders.
- 6. The examiners reviewed 35 of 35 private passenger automobile policies non-renewed during the time frame of the examination and found that WUIC failed to provide the specific reason for the non-renewal to 8 insureds.
- 7. The examiners reviewed 5 claim forms and/or claim notices (see Exhibit A) used by the Company during the time frame of the examination that failed to contain a compliant fraud warning notice. The fraud warning was not in at least twelve point type. The Company submitted revised forms demonstrating compliant fraud warning notices.
- 8. The examiners reviewed 201 of 7,590 private passenger automobile claim files and 114 of 383 homeowner claim files settled during the time frame of the examination and found 23 private passenger automobile and 25 homeowner claims

related documents or correspondence in which the Company failed to identify the appropriate insuring company. The Company voluntarily implemented procedures to ensure that the proper insurer is identified on all correspondence with Arizona consumers.

- 9. The examiners reviewed 50 of 382 private passenger automobile total loss claim files processed by the Company during the time frame of the examination and found that WUIC failed to correctly calculate and fully pay sales tax, license registration, air quality and other fees payable in the settlement of 6 total losses. The Company unilaterally remedied this issue during the examination.
- 10. During the examination, WUIC resettled 6 claims resulting in total restitution to claimants of \$1,337.58, plus \$154.21 interest. The Company also voluntarily completed a self-audit of the remaining 332 private passenger automobile total loss files during the examination period and made additional restitution for correct taxes and fees owed of \$2,770.33, plus interest of \$385.05, to 35 claimants.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. WUIC violated A.R.S. §20-2110 by failing to send policyholders a compliant Summary of Rights in the event of an adverse underwriting decision.
- 2. WUIC violated A.R.S. §§20-1631(E) and 20-1632(A) by failing to provide a non-renewal notice at least 45-days before the effective date of the non-renewal.
- 3. WUIC violated A.R.S. §20-1632.01 by failing to provide written notice of cancellation for non-payment of premium giving the required seven (7) day grace period.
- 4. WUIC violated A.R.S. §20-1632(A)(1) by failing to provide the specific reason for private passenger automobile non-renewals.
 - 5. WUIC violated A.R.S. §20-466.03 by using claim forms that failed to

contain a compliant fraud warning notice.

- 6. WUIC violated A.R.S §§20-461(A)(6), 20-462(A) and A.A.C. R20-6-801(H)(1)(b) by failing to correctly calculate and fully pay sales tax, license registration, air quality and other fees payable in the settlement of total losses.
- 7. Grounds exist for the entry of the following Order in accordance with A.R.S. §§20-220, 20-456 and 20-2117.

<u>ORDER</u>

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. WUIC Insurance Company shall:
- a. provide insureds with a compliant Summary of Rights in the event of an adverse underwriting decision.
- b. provide non-renewal notices at least 45-days before the effective date of private passenger automobile non-renewals.
- c. provide written notice of cancellation for non-payment of premium giving the required seven (7) day grace period.
- d. provide the specific reason for private passenger automobile non-renewals.
- e. use claim forms that contain a compliant fraud warning notice in at least twelve point type.
- f. correctly identify the appropriate insuring company on claims related documents and correspondence.
- g. correctly calculate and fully pay sales tax, license registration, air quality and other fees payable in the settlement of total losses.
- 2. The Department shall, through authorized representatives, verify that WUIC has complied with all provisions of this Order.

- 3. WUIC shall pay a civil penalty of \$25,000.00 to the Director for remission to the State Treasurer for deposit in the State General Fund in accordance with A.R.S. \$20-220(B). WUIC shall submit the civil penalty to the Market Oversight Division of the Department prior to the filing of this Order.
- 4. The Report of Target Market Examination of Western United Insurance Company of June 30, 2008, including the letter with their objections to the Report of Examination, shall be filed with the Department upon the filing of this Order.

DATED at Arizona this <u>27</u> day of <u>May</u>, 2010.

Christina Urias Director of Insurance

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CONSENT TO ORDER

- Western United Insurance Company has reviewed the foregoing Order. 1.
- 2. Western United 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.
- Western United Insurance Company is aware of the right to a hearing, at 3. which it may be represented by counsel, present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. Western United Insurance Company irrevocably waives the right to such notice and hearing and to any court appeals related to this Order.
- 4. Western United Insurance Company states that no promise of any kind or nature whatsoever was made to it to induce it to enter into this Consent Order and that it has entered into this Consent Order voluntarily.
- 5. Western United Insurance Company acknowledges that the acceptance of this Order by the Director of the Arizona Department of Insurance is solely for the purpose of settling this matter and does not preclude any other agency or officer of this state or its subdivisions or any other person from instituting proceedings, whether civil, criminal, or administrative, as may be appropriate now or in the future.

6.	John J. H	Richmond	,	who	holds	the	office	0
Assistant	Secretary	of Western United	d Insuran	ce Co	mpany	, is a	authoriz	zed
to enter into	this Order for th	em and on their behal	f.					

WESTERN UNITED INSURANCE COMPANY

May	18,	2010

Date

1	COPY of the foregoing mailed/delivered
2	this <u>27th</u> day of <u>May</u> , 2010, to:
3	Gerrie Marks
	Deputy Director
4	Mary Butterfield
5	Assistant Director Consumer Affairs Division
6	Helene I. Tomme Market Examinations Supervisor
7	Market Oversight Division Dean Ehler
8	Assistant Director
9	Property and Casualty Division Steve Ferguson
10	Assistant Director Financial Affairs Division
11	David Lee Chief Financial Examiner
12	Alexandra Shafer Assistant Director
13	Life and Health Division Chuck Gregory
14	Special Agent Supervisor Investigations Division
15	Invocagations Division
16	DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
17	2910 North 44th Street, Suite 210 Phoenix, AZ 85018
18	
19	
20	Douglas A. Lutgen, CPCU Manager, Regulatory Affairs
21	Western United Insurance Company
22	3055 Oak Road, M/S W280 Walnut Creek, CA 94597
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25	Uney Durton

EXHIBIT A

The Company failed to include the Fraud Warning statement in at least twelve-point type on five (5) forms/letters, an apparent violation of A.R.S. § 20-466.03.

Forms with Fraud Warning but require "12 point type" PA Acknowledgement

PA Proof of Loss Receipt and Release

HO Sworn Statement In Proof of Loss

HO Property Loss Inventory

HO Acknowledgment