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STATE OF ARIZONA

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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3 In the Matter of:

PACIFIC WHOLESALE INS. BROKERS, LLC.

(Arizona License # 190355)

Respondent.

No. 12A-178-INS

NUNC PRO TUNC ORDER AMENDING CAPTION AND AMENDING ORDER

On January 18, 2013, the Arizona Department of Insurance filed a Final Administrative Decision, In the Matter of: Pacific Wholesale Ins. Brokers, LLC and Harrell, Stephen Davis, Docket No. 12A-178-INS (the "Order"). The caption erroneously listed Stephen Davis Harrell as a Respondent and the Order erroneously found that Stephen Davis Harrell was the designated producer for Pacific Wholesale Ins. Brokers, LLC at all relevant times.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, NUNC PRO TUNC:

Amending the caption and the Order. The amended Order is attached and incorporated by this reference.

DATED this 13th day of February, 2013.

GERMAINE L. MARKS, Director Arizona Department of Insurance

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Scottsdale, Arizona 85253-2742

Attorneys for Respondent Pacific Wholesale Ins. Brokers, LLC

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Gerrie Marks, Director
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STATE OF ARIZONA

DEPT OF INSURANCE

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

In the Matter of:

PACIFIC WHOLESALE INS. BROKERS.

(Arizona License # 190355)

Respondent.

No. 12A-178-INS

AMENDED FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Pacific Wholesale Ins. Brokers, LLC ("Pacific Wholesale") is, and at all times material, a Georgia-domiciled company licensed in Arizona as a non-resident with authority as a property insurance producer, casualty insurance producer, and surplus lines broker, Arizona license number 190355. Pacific Wholesale's property and casualty lines of authority expired on December 12, 2012, and its surplus lines broker line of authority expired on August 21, 2012.
- Pacific Wholesale's address of record is: 4501 Circle 75 Pkwy, #F6200, 2. Atlanta, GA 30339 (business and mailing).
- 3. Jeffrey Young Martin (Arizona license number 182339) was, at all material times, the designated producer for Pacific Wholesale within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-285(C)(3).
- On or about October 19, 2012, the Surplus Lines Association of Arizona ("SLA") provided a Surplus Lines Delinquent Tax Report to the Department and to Pacific Wholesale showing that Pacific Wholesale owed \$36,661.24 in delinquent taxes and penalties ("DTR000672"). Pacific Wholesale had 30 days to appeal DTR000672.
- 5. On or about October 22, 2012, the SLA provided a Surplus Lines Delinquent Tax Report to the Department and to Pacific Wholesale showing that Pacific Wholesale

owed \$2,444.08 in delinquent taxes and penalties ("DTR000675"). Pacific Wholesale had 30 days to appeal DTR000675¹.

- 6. On or about October 25, 2012, Pacific Wholesale notified the Department of its discovery of an unintentional premium and surplus lines tax shortage in its Premium Trust Account ("Pacific Wholesale's October 25 letter"). In lieu of immediate payment of the shortage, Pacific Wholesale offered a Promissory Note and/or payment plan². Pacific Wholesale also asked the Department to waive all late fees and penalties.
- 7. On or about October 25, 2012, the Department responded to Pacific Wholesale's letter requesting full payment of DTR000672 by November 2, 2012, and payment of all other premium tax amounts owed. The Department also stated that it did not consider Pacific Wholesale's October 25, 2012 letter to constitute an appeal of the amounts owed.
- 8. As of this date, Pacific Wholesale has not appealed DTR000672 or DTR000675 and has not complied with the Department's request to pay DTR000672 and all other premium tax amounts owed.
- 9. As of this date, Pacific Wholesale owes \$50,517.06 in unpaid premium tax, inclusive of the amounts specified on DTR000672 and DTR000675, consisting of
 - a. \$1,228.83, based on 3% of the \$40,961.00 in surplus lines insurance premiums and fees for policies that Pacific Wholesale procured between January 1 and June 30, 2012, for which Pacific Wholesale did not file with the Department a statement of surplus lines insurance business ("Statement") as required by A.R.S. § 20-415 or remit premium tax as required by A.R.S. § 20-416.

¹ As of October 22, 2012, Pacific Wholesale's total surplus lines tax delinquency equaled \$39,105.32.

² Pacific Wholesale proposed a payment plan of \$500.00 per month from January, 2013 through August, 2013 and then \$1,000.00 per month until the balance was paid.

19.

- b. \$24,110.10, based on 3% of the \$803,670.00 in surplus lines insurance premiums and fees for policies that Pacific Wholesale procured between July 1 and December 31, 2011, for which Pacific Wholesale did not file with the Department a Statement or remit premium tax.
- c. \$3,793.44, based on 3% of the \$126,448.00 in surplus lines insurance premiums and fees for policies that Pacific Wholesale procured between January 1 and June 30, 2011, for which Pacific Wholesale did not file with the Department a Statement or remit premium tax.
- d. (\$2,850.42), based on 3% of the \$77,337.00 in surplus lines insurance premiums and fees for policies that Pacific Wholesale procured between July 1 and December 31, 2010, which resulted in \$2,320.11 of premium taxed owed for the period, less the amount of \$5,170.53, which was part of Pacific Wholesale's \$7,125.12 payment with check 17108 dated November 18, 2011, which was received by the Department on or about November 25, 2011. Pacific Wholesale's payment was not accompanied by the Statement required by A.R.S. § 20-416, but instead, was accompanied by a document entitled, "Pacific Wholesale Insurance Brokers [30]," included as **Exhibit A**. The Department allocated Pacific Wholesale's tax payment based on the transactions identified on Pacific Wholesale's document.
- e. \$181.68, based on 3% of the \$191,215.67 in surplus lines insurance premiums and fees for policies that Pacific Wholesale procured between January 1 and June 30, 2010, which resulted in \$5,736.47 in premium tax owed for the period, less the \$5,554.79 that Pacific Wholesale paid with its Statement for the period, which the Department received on August 10, 2010. On September 10, 2010, Pacific Wholesale reported to the SLA an additional transaction that was effective

during the period involving \$6,056.00 in premium for which Pacific Wholesale did not file an amended Statement or pay the additional \$181.68 in premium tax.

- f. \$18,810.00, based on 3% of the \$1,402,373.00 in surplus lines insurance premiums and fees for policies that Pacific Wholesale procured between July 1 and December 31, 2009, which resulted in \$42,071.19 of premium taxed owed for the period, less the amount of \$23,261.19 that Pacific Wholesale paid with its Statement for the period, which the Department received on March 19, 2010. On August 16, 2010, Pacific Wholesale reported to the SLA an additional transaction that was effective during the period involving \$627,000.00 in premium for which Pacific Wholesale did not file an amended Statement or pay the additional \$18,810.00 in premium tax.
- g. \$251.01, based on 3% of the \$247,244.00 in surplus lines insurance premiums and fees for policies that Pacific Wholesale procured between January 1 and June 30, 2009, which resulted in \$7,417.32 of premium taxed owed for the period, less the following amounts: \$5,162.73 that Pacific Wholesale paid with its Statement for the period, which the Department received on August 31, 2009; \$1,954.59 from Pacific Wholesale's payment dated November 18, 2011, with check 17108, for transactions detailed on **Exhibit A**; a transfer of \$48.99 from another period, which the Department entered on November 9, 2011, shown in **Exhibit B**.
- h. \$1,546.29, based on 3% of the \$845,076.00 in surplus lines insurance premiums and fees for policies that Pacific Wholesale procured between July 1 and December 31, 2008, which resulted in \$25,352.28 of premium taxed owed for the period, less \$23,982.33 that Pacific Wholesale paid with its Statement for the period, which Pacific Wholesale filed on June 11, 2009, and the Department received on June 15, 2009; \$63.75 from Pacific Wholesale's payment dated November 18, 2011,

which check 17108, for transactions detailed on **Exhibit A**; and (\$240.09), which the Department transferred to other periods as shown in **Exhibit B**.

- i. \$3,401.13, based on 3% of the \$337,068.00 in surplus lines insurance premiums and fees for policies that Pacific Wholesale procured between January 1 and June 30, 2008, which resulted in \$10,112.04 of premium taxed owed for the period, less the following amounts: \$6,454.56 that Pacific Wholesale paid with its Statement for the period, which Pacific Wholesale filed and the Department received on August 29, 2008; \$65.25 from Pacific Wholesale's payment dated November 18, 2011, which check 17108, for transactions detailed on **Exhibit A**; and, a transfer of \$191.10 from another period, which the Department entered on November 9, 2011, shown in **Exhibit B**.
- j. \$3,164.55, based on 3% of the \$426,485.00 in surplus lines insurance premiums and fees for policies that Pacific Wholesale procured between July 1 and December 31, 2007, which resulted in \$12,794.55 of premium taxed owed for the period, less \$9,630.00 that Pacific Wholesale paid with its Statement for the period, which the Department received February 26, 2008.
- k. (\$3,119.55) relating to the period of January 1 through June 30, 2007, based on 3% of a \$103,985.00 adjusting entry that Pacific Wholesale filed with the SLA on August 20, 2010.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Director has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 2. Respondent's conduct, as alleged above, constitutes failing to file with the Director on or before the date specified in A.R.S. § 20-415, subsection B, a statement of all surplus lines insurance business covering Arizona single-state risks transacted by the broker during the period for which the statement is required to be filed, in violation of A.R.S. § 20-415(A).

- 3. Respondent's conduct, as alleged above, constitutes failing to remit a tax on the premiums on surplus lines insurance covering Arizona single-state risks subject to tax transacted by the broker as shown by the statement filed with the Director, in violation of A.R.S. § 20-416(A).
- 4. Respondent's conduct, as alleged above, constitutes a violation of Title 20 or Department rule, subpoena or order of the Director, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(2).
- 5. Grounds exist for the Director to impose and collect a civil penalty of not more than twenty-five dollars against a broker for each day the report prescribed in A.R.S. § 20-408(A) is late, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-408(E).
- 6. Grounds exist for the Director to, deny, suspend for not more than twelve months, revoke or refuse to renew an insurance producer's license, or may impose a civil penalty or any combination of actions, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-295(B) and (F).
- 7. A "Final Administrative Decision" is a decision by an agency that is subject to judicial review pursuant to Title 12, Chapter 7, Article 6, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 41-1092(5).

ORDER

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

- 1. This order is a Final Administrative Decision.
- 2. Respondent shall immediately pay its surplus lines tax delinquency in the amount of \$50,517.06, and shall pay civil penalties totaling \$34,203.74, for which the calculation is shown in **EXHIBIT C**.

DATED this 13th day of February, 2013.

GERMAINE L. MARKS, Director Arizona Department of Insurance **EXHIBIT A - REDACTED.** The document contains personal information that may be inappropriate for public disclosure, including names, addresses, contract numbers, amount requested by claimant, final determinations of claim amounts and calculated distribution amounts.

EXHIBIT BAdjustments Entered November 9, 2011

Transfer from taxes due 3/1/2009 (for surplus lines insurance procured between 7/1/2008 and 12/31/2008)	(\$240.09)
Transfer to pay taxes due 9/1/2008 (for surplus lines insurance procured between 1/1/2008 and 6/30/2008)	\$191.10
Transfer to pay taxes due 9/1/2009 (for surplus lines insurance procured between 1/1/2009 and 6/30/2009)	\$48.99

EXHIBIT C: Summary of Tax and Penalties Due

Tax Due Date	Tax Due	Adj	ustments*	Adjusted Tax Due	Days Late**		Per Day Penalty	Total Penalty
8/15/2012	1,228.83			1,228.83	163	\$	2.4577	400.61
2/15/2012	24,110.10			24,110.10	345	\$	25.0000	8,625.00
9/1/2011	3,793.44			3,793.44	512	\$	7.5869	3,793.44
3/1/2011	(2,850.42)_	$\sqrt{[B]}$	45.0 0	~	•	•		-,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
		[C]	2,805.42	-				
9/1/2010	181.68	_		181.68	877	\$	0.3634	181.68
3/1/2010	18,810.00			18,810.00	1,061	\$	25.0000	18,810.00
9/1/2009	251.01			251.01	1,242	\$	0.5020	251.01
3/1/2009	1,546.29			1,546.29	1,426	\$	3.0926	1,546.29
9/1/2008	3,401.13	[C]	(2,805.42)	595.71	1,607	\$	1.1914	595.71
3/1/2008	3,164.55	√[A]	(3,119.55)		•	•		332
•		[B]	(45.00)	~	•			•
9/1/2007	(3,119.55)	[A]	3,119.55	-				
3/1/2007	-	. " -	-	-				
TOTAL	50,517.06		-	50,517.06				34,203.74

^{*} Reallocation of overpaid tax to oldest underpaid tax.

^{**} Assumes tax payment on 1/25/2013.