STATE OF ARIZONA

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JAN 6 2015

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE DEPT OF THE

BY MS

In the Matter of:

Docket No.15A-001-INS

ARIZONA HOME INSURANCE COMPANY,

NAIC # 38490.

**CONSENT ORDER** 

Respondent.

Examiners for the Department of Insurance (the "Department") conducted a target market conduct examination of Arizona Home Insurance Company ("AHC"). In the Report of Target Market Conduct Examination of the Market Conduct Affairs of Arizona Home Insurance Company, the examiners allege that AHC violated A.R.S. §§20-443, 20-444, 20-466.03, 20-1653, 20-2104 and 20-2106.

Arizona Home 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

- Arizona Home 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 Arizona Home Insurance Company. The examination covered the time period from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 and concluded on September 24, 2014. Based on their findings, the examiners prepared the "Report of Target Market Conduct Examination of Arizona Home Insurance Company" dated December 31, 2013.
  - 3. The examiners reviewed the Company's marketing and sales materials

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and found the *Preferred Homeowners Insurance* brochure contained deceptive and misleading content, in that it implied an endorsement by the Arizona Department of Insurance and referenced the parent company of Arizona Home Insurance Company that does not write homeowner insurance business in Arizona.

- 4. The examiners reviewed 19 dwelling fire and 23 homeowner new business applications processed during the timeframe of the examination and found that AHC failed to provide all 42 applicants with a *Notice of Insurance Information Practices* at the time personal information was first collected from a source other than the applicant or public records. The Company contacted the 42 applicants and provided the appropriate Notice of Insurance Information Practices when the Company delivered the relevant policies.
- 5. The examiners reviewed 9 dwelling fire and 38 homeowner new and renewal policies from a population of 14,190 processed during the time frame of the examination and found that 47 declarations pages made reference to incorrect "New Loan" premium discounts used to determine the policy premium.
- 6. The examiners reviewed 75 of 251 homeowner and dwelling fire policies non-renewed for underwriting reasons during the time frame of the examination and found that AHC failed provide the specific reason for the non-renewal to 38 policyholders.
- 7. The examiners reviewed 84 of 308 dwelling fire and homeowner cancellation notices sent for underwriting reasons during the timeframe of the examination and found that 2 dwelling fire and 3 homeowner cancellations failed to provide notice at least thirty (30) days prior to the cancellation effective date.
- 8. The examiners found one claim authorization disclosure form, *Medical Information Release Authorization* (CL037Rev1) used during the time frame of the

examination that failed to specify that the authorization remains valid for no longer than the duration of the claim and advise the individual or a person authorized to act on behalf of the individual that they are entitled to receive a copy of the authorization form.

- 9. The examiners found 4 claim forms used by the Company during the time frame of the examination that failed to contain a compliant fraud warning notice in at least 12-point type. (see Exhibit A)
- 10. Following examiner review of the Company's homeowner claim settlement practices, AHC resettled the one (1) homeowner first party real property claim which resulted in a restitution payment of \$1,124.38, plus \$124.38 interest.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. AHC violated A.R.S. §§20-443(A)(5) and 20-444(A) by distributing deceptive and misleading sales material.
- 2. AHC violated A.R.S. §20-2104 by failing to provide applicants with a Notice of Insurance Information Practices at the time personal information was first collected from a source other than the applicant or public records.
- 3. AHC violated A.R.S. §20-443(A)(1) by using declarations pages that made reference to incorrect premium discounts used to compute policy premium.
- 4. AHC violated A.R.S. §20-1653(2) by failing to provide homeowner and dwelling fire policyholders with the specific reason for policy non-renewal.
- 5. AHC violated A.R.S. §20-443(A)(1) by failing to provide 30-day notice prior to cancellation, as required by the terms of the policy.
- 6. AHC violated A.R.S. §20-2106(8)(b) and (9) by using a claim authorization form that failed to contain a compliant *Authorization for the Release of Information*.

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- 7. AHC violated A.R.S. §20-466.03 by using claim forms that failed to contain a compliant fraud warning notice.
- 8. Grounds exist for the entry of the following Order in accordance with A.R.S. §§20-220 and 20-456 and 20-2117.

## <u>ORDER</u>

## IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Arizona Home Insurance Company shall:
  - a. use and distribute sales material that are not deceptive or misleading.
- b. provide applicants with a Notice of Insurance Information Practices at the time personal information is first collected from a source other than the applicant or public records.
- c. use dwelling fire and homeowner declarations pages that include the correct premium discounts used to determine policy premium.
- d. provide the specific reason for non-renewal on dwelling fire and homeowner non-renewal notices.
- e. provide 30 day notice to dwelling fire and homeowner policyholders cancelled for underwriting reasons.
- f. use claim authorization disclosure forms that contain a compliant Authorization for the Release of Information.
  - g. use claim forms that contain a compliant fraud warning notice.
- 2. Within 90 days of the filed date of this Order, Arizona Home Insurance Company shall submit to the Arizona Department of Insurance, for approval, evidence that AHC implemented corrections and communicated these corrections to the appropriate personnel, regarding the issues outlined in Paragraph 1 of the Order

section of this Consent Order. Evidence of corrective action and communication thereof includes, but is not limited to, memos, bulletins, E-mails, correspondence, procedures manuals, print screens, and training materials.

- 3. The Department shall, through authorized representatives, verify that AHC has complied with all provisions of this Order.
- 4. Arizona Home Insurance Company 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). AHC shall submit the civil penalty to the Market Oversight Division of the Department prior to the filing of this Order.
- 5. The Report of Target Market Examination of Arizona Home Insurance Company of December 31, 2013, 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 5th day of January

, 2015.

Germaine L. Marks
Director of Insurance

#### **CONSENT TO ORDER**

- 1. Arizona Home Insurance Company has reviewed the foregoing Order.
- Arizona Home 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. Arizona Home Insurance Company is aware of the right to a hearing, at which it may be represented by counsel, present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. Arizona Home Insurance Company irrevocably waives the right to such notice and hearing and to any court appeals related to this Order.
- 4. Arizona Home 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. Arizona Home 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. <u>CATHERINE L. CRAIL</u>, who holds the office of VICE PRESIDENT of Arizona Home Insurance Company, is authorized to enter into this Order for them and on their behalf.

#### ARIZONA HOME INSURANCE COMPANY

| 12 · 29 · 2014<br>Date | Ву | Calriel |  |
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## **EXHIBIT A**

# Fraud Warning Statement

The Company failed to provide a fraud warning statement on the four (4) claims forms shown in the table below. These represent four (4) violations of A.R.S. § 20-466.03.

| Form Description / Title                     | Form #    |
|--|-----------|
| Medical Information Release Authorization    | CL037Rev1 |
| Chain of Evidence Statement                  | CL230     |
| Non-Waiver Agreement                         | CL083Rev1 |
| Assignment of Subrogation Rights of Recovery | Cl205     |

| 1   | COPY of the foregoing mailed/delivered                       |
|-----|--|
| 2   | this 6th day of January , 2015, to:                          |
| 3   | Germaine L. Marks  |
|     | Director of Insurance  |
| 4   | Darren Ellingson   |
| 5   | Deputy Director  |
| 2   | Director's Office  |
| 6   | Yvonne R. Hunter   |
|     | Assistant Director Consumer Affairs Division                 |
| 7   | Dean Ehler   |
| 8   | Assistant Director   |
| ١   | Property and Casualty Division                               |
| 9   | Kurt Regner  |
| 1   | Assistant Director   |
| 10  | Financial Affairs Division                                   |
| 11  | David Lee  |
| 11  | Chief Financial Examiner                                     |
| 12  | Chuck Gregory  |
|     | Special Agent Supervisor Investigations Division             |
| 13  | Helene I. Tomme  |
| 14  | Market Examinations Supervisor                               |
| ''  | Market Oversight Division                                    |
| 15  |  |
| 16  | DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE                                      |
|     | 2910 North 44th Street, Suite 210                            |
| 17  | Phoenix, AZ 85018  |
| 18  |  |
| 19  | J. Michael Low, Esq.   |
| 19  | Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard & Smith LLP                        |
| 20  | 2929 N. Central Avenue, Suite 1700<br>Phoenix, Arizona 85012 |
|     | THOUGH, PRIZORA GOOTZ  |
| 21  | Cathy Crail, Vice President                                  |
| 22  | Arizona Home Insurance Company PO Box 19626                  |
| 23  | Irvine, CA 92623-9626  |
| 20  |  |
| 24  | .g   |
| 25  | Maidene Scheine  |
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