# STATE OF ARIZONA Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions FILED March 16 , 2023 by AS

#### **STATE OF ARIZONA**

### **DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**

In the Matter of Unlicensed Activity of:

5 ADVANCED RESOURCES LLC DBA

**PATRIOT WARRANTY** 

No. 23A-012-INS

ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST

Respondent.

The Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions ("Department") received evidence that Advanced Resources LLC dba Patriot Warranty ("Respondent") has unlawfully offered or issued service contract(s) in the state of Arizona without obtaining a service company permit. Accordingly, the Director of the Department ("Director") makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and enters the following Order pursuant to A.R.S. § 20-1095.09(B).

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent, Advanced Resources LLC dba Patriot Warranty, was a South Dakota domiciled Limited Liability Company, until December 16, 2020, when the South Dakota Secretary of State dissolved Advanced Resources LLC (DL014581) for lack of compliance.
- 2. Respondent does not currently hold nor, at any material time, held a license or permit issued by the Department.

- 3. Respondent is not registered with the Arizona Corporation Commission under "Patriot Warranty" or "Advanced Resources LLC."
- 4. On or about September 29, 2022, the Department received a complaint from an Arizona consumer B.B. alleging that Patriot failed to refund their premium after B.B. sent a written cancellation notice for a vehicle service contract initiated on January 22, 2020. B.B stated that Respondent failed to respond to correspondence and to refund the remaining service contract premium.
- 5. On or about February 23, 2023, the Department received a complaint from another Arizona consumer S.A. alleging that Respondent failed to respond to multiple claims for coverage under a service contract with Respondent, while S.A.'s vehicle has been in a "repair facility with major damage." S.A.'s purchased the vehicle service contract from Respondent on or about September 2, 2021.
- 6. The Department initiated an investigation into this matter. The Department's investigation concluded the following:
  - Respondent sold Vehicle Service Contracts in Arizona without being authorized to do so. S.A.'s contract lists Patriot Warranty as the issuing entity and states the following: "Congratulations on YOUR purchase of a VEHICLE SERVICE CONTRACTs [sic] from Patriot Warranty." The contract references Patriot Warranty as the entity handling, reviewing and reimbursing all consumer claims.

- A review of Respondent's website<sup>1</sup> revealed that Respondent continues to offer "extended auto warranty in Arizona."
- On May 12, 2022, the California Department of Insurance issued a Cease and
  Desist Order against Advanced Resources, LLC, doing business as Patriot
  Warranty directing the entity to immediately cease and desist from soliciting,
  negotiating, issuing or renewing any vehicle service contracts in California.
- 7. On March 15 and 16, 2023 the Department called Respondent's telephone number (per website) but failed to reach anyone at the company. On March 15, 2023, the Department sent a written request for response via email address listed on Respondent's website. Respondent has failed to contact the Department at the time of this Order.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 8. The Director has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 9. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes offering and issuing service contracts without a permit. A.R.S. § 20-1095.01(A).
- 10. Respondent is not exempt from the permit requirement. A.R.S. § 20-1095.02(A)
- 11. Service company contracts issued by Respondent are enforceable and valid contracts. A.R.S. § 20-1095.05
- 12. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes violations of the provisions of Title 20, Chapter 4, Article 11.
  - 13. Grounds exist for the Director to order Respondent to cease and desist from

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://patriotwarranty.com/ (visited March 16, 2023).

offering and issuing service contracts without a permit. A.R.S. § 20-1095.09(B).

#### **ORDER**

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Respondent shall immediately cease and desist from offering or issuing service contracts in Arizona without a permit.

2. Respondent shall continue to investigate and pay all claims arising out of acts covered by Respondent's service contracts issued to Arizona residents for so long as such

claims may legally be brought against the contract holders.

# the Department with a complete listing, to include contact information, of all Arizona

Respondent shall, within forty-five (45) days of receipt of this Order, furnish

residents and business who have purchased service contracts sold by Respondent and that

Respondent reports to the Department all premiums collected or charged for policies sold

covering Arizona risks.

3.

## NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

Pursuant to Title 20 of the Arizona Revised Statutes, Respondent is hereby notified that it may request a hearing pursuant to A.R.S. § 20-161 to contest the order to cease and desist. Such a request must be in writing and received at the following address within thirty (30) days from the date hereof:

Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions
Attn: Gio Espinosa, Regulatory Legal Affairs Officer
100 North 15th Avenue, Suite 261
Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2630

1	COPY of the foregoing mailed by U.S. First Class and Certified Mail, Delivery Receipt requested,
2	this 17 <sup>th</sup> day of <b>March</b> , 2023, to:
3	Advanced Resource LLC dba
4	Patriot Warranty 5519 W. 22 <sup>nd</sup> St. Ste. 100
5	Sioux Falls, SD 57105 9489 0090 0027 6486 6716 31
	Advanced Resource LLC dba
6	Patriot Warranty 1712 Pioneer Ave., Ste 7000
7	Cheyenne, WY 82001 9489 0090 0027 6486 6716 24
8	Patriot Warranty
9	101 S. Reid Street Sioux Falls, SD 57103 9489 0090 0027 6486 6716 17
10	COPY of the foregoing delivered/emailed same date, to:
11	Deian Ousounov, Assistant Director Gio Espinosa, Regulatory Legal Affairs Officer
12	Ana Starcevic, Paralegal Project Specialist
13	Catherine O'Neil, Consumer Legal Affairs Officer Steven Fromholtz, Licensing Manager
14	Linda Lutz, Legal Assistant Kyle Tapia, Investigator
	Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions
15	100 North 15th Avenue, Suite 261 Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2630
16	2 10 2 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10
17	Ana Stancevic
18	
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