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STATE OF ARIZONA

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	DEPARTMENT O	F INCLIDANCE	DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
T	DELIMINENT O		By CLC
In the Matter of)	Docket No.	8297
LUIS ALVAREZ, III,	ý	ORDER	DENIAL
Respo	ondent.)		

On February 24, 1994, a hearing was held in the above-captioned matter. Applicant was present in <u>propria</u> <u>persona</u>. The Arizona Department of Insurance ("Department") was represented by Mr. Gregory Y. Harris, Assistant Attorney General.

Based upon the testimony, evidence and arguments presented at the hearing, the Director and the Hearing Officer make the following findings of fact and conclusions of law and enter the following order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Notice of this hearing was mailed to Applicant at his last address of record.
- 2. In the course of the hearing and in his written answer, Applicant stipulated to the truth and accuracy of the facts alleged in the Notice of Hearing issued on December 16, 1993. Applicant contested the Department's right to deny him a license and denied that his crime was a crime of moral turpitude.
- 3. On August 13, 1992, Applicant was arrested and found to be in possession of more than 8 pounds of marijuana. Applicant testified that a friend had asked him to deliver a package for him in exchange for paying Applicant \$500. Applicant admitted that although he did not know the contents of the contents.

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package, he had reason to believe that the transaction was illegal. The package contained approximately 25 pounds of marijuana.

- 4. On February 26, 1993, Applicant entered into a plea agreement filed February 26, 1993 in State of Arizona v.

 Luis Alvarez, III, Maricopa County Superior Court No. CR

 92-07010, in which he pled guilty to a charge of "Possession of Marijuana over 8 pounds, a Class 4 felony, involving approximately 25 pounds of Marijuana, in violation of A.R.S.

 §§13-3405, 13-3401, 13-701, 13-702, 13-801, 13-812 and 13-3418."
- 5. On June 18, 1993, Maricopa County Superior Court Judge B. Michael Dann accepted the plea agreement and entered a final judgment. Applicant was sentenced to be incarcerated in the Maricopa County Jail for twelve months beginning June 20, 1993 and ending June 18, 1994. The sentence was suspended and Applicant was placed on probation for four years beginning June 18, 1993. Applicant was ordered to pay miscellaneous fees and a fine of \$4,900, payable in monthly payments commencing December 18, 1993.
- 6. The Department denied Applicant's application pursuant to A.R.S. §20-290(B). Applicant requested a hearing on the denial by letter dated November 15, 1993.
- 7. Applicant did not present any witness testimony other than his own. Applicant testified that he did not believe his crime was a crime of moral turpitude and that breaking the law was "out of character" for him. Applicant submitted copies of diplomas from Arizona State University and New Mexico

Military Institute. He also submitted a copy of his License Examination Score Report indicating a passing score on his insurance exam and several letters of recommendation to law school written for Applicant prior to his arrest. We believe the crime to be a crime of moral turpitude.

8. Applicant testified that he delivered the package because he needed the money and that in his opinion breaking the law for financial gain does not indicate dishonesty or immoral character. We find that such actions do indicate dishonesty and immoral character.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Director has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to A.R.S. §20-142.
- 2. Notice of this hearing was proper pursuant to A.R.S. §§20-163 and 41-1061.
- 3. The Supreme Court of Arizona in Dean v. Dolny, 161 Ariz. 297, 778 P.2d 1193 (Ariz. 1989) defined moral turpitude as acts adversely reflecting on one's honesty, integrity or personal values. Applicant intentionally acted dishonestly for personal financial gain by delivering the marijuana for the promised \$500. Applicant intentionally broke the law for profit. Therefore, Applicant has a record of conviction by final judgment of a felony involving moral turpitude, within the meaning of A.R.S. §20-290(B)(6).
- 4. The Department's denial was proper pursuant to A.R.S. §20-290(B)(6).
- 5. Applicant has just begun his probation and has only made a few payments toward his fine. Also, Applicant is

not willing to acknowledge that breaking the law for one's own financial benefit is a dishonest act. Applicant has failed to meet his burden to overcome the grounds for denial of this application.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

Denying Applicant's application for an agent's license.

The aggrieved party may request a rehearing with respect to this Order by filing a written petition with the Hearing Officer within 30 days of the date of this Order, setting forth the basis for such relief pursuant to A.A.C. R4-14-114(B).

DATED this 2nd day of March, 1994.

CHRIS HERSTAM
Director of Insurance

KATRINA ROGERS \(\frac{\lambda}{\text{Chief Hearing Officer}}\)

COPY of the foregoing mailed/delivered this 2nd day of March, 1994, to:

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