STATE OF ARIZONA

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FEB 1 7 1994

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Docket No. 8357

CONSENT ORDER

In the Matter of:

COMMERCIAL BANKERS LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Respondent.

A market conduct examination was made of Commercial Bankers Life Insurance Company, hereinafter referred to as "Commercial Bankers", by Market Conduct Examiner for the Arizona Department of Insurance ("ADOI") covering the time period from January 1, 1989 to May 31, 1992. Based upon the examination results, it is alleged that Commercial Bankers has violated the provisions of Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 20, Sections 20-311, 20-442, 20-443, 20-448.01, 20-1213 and 20-2110 and Arizona Administrative Code Rule ("A.A.C. R") 4-14-215. Commercial Bankers wishes to resolve this matter without formal adjudicative proceedings and hereby agrees to a Consent Order.

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

The Director of Insurance of the State of Arizona ("the Director") enters the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, which are neither admitted nor denied by Commercial Bankers, and the following Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Commercial Bankers is authorized to transact life and disability insurance as an insurer pursuant to a Certificate of Authority issued by the Director.
- 2. The Examiner was authorized by the Director to conduct a market conduct examination of Commercial Bankers and has

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prepared the Report of Examination of the Market Conduct Affairs of Commercial Bankers ("the Report"). The Examination included policies underwritten and/or administered by Commercial Bankers on behalf of National Home Life Assurance Company ("NHL"). The period covered by the on-site examination was concluded as of May 31, 1992.

- 3. The Examiner reviewed all fourteen (14) applications for insurance which were declined by Commercial Bankers during the time frame of the Examination. In each of the declined applications Commercial Bankers failed to inform the applicant of the specific reason for the declination or his right to receive the reason upon written request to Commercial Bankers.
- 4. Commercial Bankers contracted with a telemarketing firm to solicit applications in Arizona for the mortgage products offered by NHL. In each of the fourteen (14) Arizona applications reviewed, the agent of the telemarketing firm soliciting the application was not licensed as an insurance agent in Arizona. The Company issued the policies and paid commissions.
- 5. Commercial Bankers failed to keep a replacement register to track replacement of life insurance. Since the replacement register was not kept the Examiner was unable to determine the number of identity of policies applied for which were to replace coverage with an existing insurer.
- 6. The Examiner reviewed all twenty-five (25) NHL policies underwritten by Commercial Bankers and found that twenty (20) applicants had been tested for antibodies to the HIV virus without Commercial Bankers obtaining permission of the

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 applicant as evidenced by the applicants' signature on an HIV consent form approved by the Director as required by Circular Letter No. 90-10, promulgated by the Director pursuant to A.R.S. § 20-448.01.

- 7. Commercial Bankers sent out notices to twenty-nine (29) Universal Life insureds that their policies were in the grace period when the policies still had cash value left to pay the mortality charges and administrative expenses.
- 8. Commercial Bankers allowed the insureds of two (2) policies to continue paying premiums when their policies had technically lapsed, without informing the insureds of the current status of their policies. On Policy #C002012624 the negative cash value of the policy was \$631.37 and on Policy #C2010630 the negative cash value of the policy was \$10,901.50.
- 9. Commercial Bankers sent a letter to 155 insureds following the date the insureds' policies lapsed. The letter stated "we are offering you a one time opportunity to apply for reinstatement of your policy". The restatement provision of the policy provided the insured a five (5) year period for reinstatement.
- 10. On twenty-four (24) policies, Commercial Bankers disclosed the total premiums paid and current cash value of the policies to a person other than the policyholder. These insureds had not provided written authorization to Commercial Bankers for such disclosure.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. By failing to inform applicants of the specific reasons for declination of the applicants' right to receive the

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reasons upon written request to Commercial Bankers, Commercial Bankers violated A.R.S. § 20-2110(A).

- 2. By paying commissions to agents not licensed by the Director to solicit applications for mortgage related insurance, Commercial Bankers violated A.R.S. § 20-311(A) and the agents violated A.R.S. § 20-287(A) and (B) by soliciting insurance without being licensed to do so.
- 3. By failing to keep a replacement register, Commercial Bankers violated A.A.C. R4-14-215(F)(3)(f) and A.R.S. § 20-442.
- 4. By testing applicants for antibodies to the HIV virus without obtaining permission of the applicant on an HIV consent form approved by the Director, Commercial Bankers violated A.R.S. § 20-448.01(B).
- 5. By sending notices to policyholders that their policy was in the grace period when the policy still had a cash value left to pay the mortality charges and expenses, Commercial Bankers misrepresented the terms, benefits or advantages of the policies in violation of A.R.S. § 20-443(1).
- 6. By failing to send notices of lapse to insureds and by allowing the insureds of policies to continue paying premiums when their policies had technically lapsed, Commercial Bankers misrepresented the terms, benefits or advantages of the policies in violation of A.R.S. § 20-443(1).
- 7. By sending a letter to insureds following the date of policy lapse stating "we are offering you a one time opportunity to apply for reinstatement of your policy", Commercial Bankers misrepresented the reinstatement provision of the policy in violation of A.R.S. § 20-443(1).

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8. By disclosing to a person other than the insured the total premiums paid and the current cash value of policies without the express written permission of the insureds, Commercial Bankers violated A.R.S. § 20-1213.

- 9. Grounds exist for the Director to revoke or suspend Commercial Bankers's Certificate of Authority pursuant to A.R.S. § 20-220(A)(1).
- 10. Grounds exist for the entry of all other provisions of the following order.

ORDER

Commercial Bankers having admitted the jurisdiction of the Director to enter the Order set forth herein, having waived the Notice of Hearing and the hearing, having waived any and all rights to appeal this Order, and having consented to the entry of the Order set forth hereinafter, and there being no just reason for delay:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

Commercial Bankers shall cease and desist from failing 1. to the give specific reason for the declination of application and informing the applicant of his right to receive the reason upon written request to Commercial Bankers; from unlicensed agents to solicit applications for insurance and paying commissions thereto; from failing to keep a replacement register cross indexed by replacing existing insurer to be replaced; from failing permission of the applicant prior to HIV testing and using a consent form approved by the Director; from sending notices to insureds that their policies are in the grace period when the

policies still had cash value left to pay mortality charges and expenses; from sending letters to insureds after policy lapse in variance to the reinstatement provision of the policy and from disclosing to another, without the express written authorization of the insured, the total premiums paid and the current cash value of the insured's policy.

- 2. The ADOI shall be permitted, through an authorized representative, to verify that Commercial Bankers has complied with all provisions of this Order, and the Director may separately order Commercial Bankers to comply.
- 3. Commercial Bankers shall pay a civil penalty of Eleven Thousand Dollars (\$11,000.00) 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). Said Eleven Thousand Dollars (\$11,000.00) shall be provided to the Hearing Division of the ADOI on or before February 16, 1994.
- 4. The Report of Market Conduct Examination as of May 31, 1992, to include the objections to the Report by Commercial Bankers, shall be filed with the ADOI.

DATED at Phoenix, Arizona this 17 day of February , 1994.

Chris Herstam
Director of Insurance

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CONSENT TO ORDER

- 1. Respondent, Commercial Bankers Life Insurance Company, has reviewed the foregoing Order.
- 2. Respondent is aware of its right to a hearing at which hearing Respondent may be represented by counsel, present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. Respondent has irrevocably waived its right to such public hearing and to any court appeals relating thereto.
- 3. Respondent admits the jurisdiction of the Director of Insurance, State of Arizona, and consents to the entry of this Order.
- 4. Respondent states that no promise of any kind or nature whatsoever was made to induce it to enter into this Order and that it has entered into this Order voluntarily.
- 5. Respondent acknowledges that the acceptance of this Order by the Director of Insurance, State of Arizona, is solely for the purpose of settling this litigation against it and does not preclude any other agency or officer of this state or subdivision thereof from instituting other civil or criminal proceedings as may be appropriate now or in the future.
- Assistant Secretary he is an officer of Commercial Bankers Life Insurance Company, and that as such, he has been authorized by it to enter into this Order for and on its behalf.

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February 14, 1994 (DATE)

COPY of the foregoing mailed/delivered 1 17th day of February , 1994, to: Katrina Rogers 2 Hearing Officer Deloris E. Williamson 3 Assistant Director Rates & Regulations Division 4 *Saul R. Saulson Supervisor 5 Examinations Section Mary Butterfield 6 Manager Health Policy Division 7 Earl Brown Supervisor 8 Life and Disability Section Jay Rubin 9 Assistant Director Consumer Affairs & Investigations Division 10 Gary Torticill Assistant Director and Chief Financial Examiner 11 Corporate Affairs & Financial Division DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE 12 2910 N. 44th Street, Suite 210 Phoenix, AZ 85018 13 Alan W. Faigin, Esq. 14 Associate General Counsel Fremont General 15 2020 Santa Monica Boulevard Santa Moniga, California 90404 16 Wis Crawford 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

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