

**BEFORE THE IOWA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION  
1920 S.E. HULSIZER  
ANKENY, IOWA**

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<b>IN RE:</b>	)	
	)	<b>CASE NUMBER: 11-289</b>
<b>Dennis Sturms</b>	)	
<b>Salesperson (S59212)</b>	)	
	)	<b>COMBINED STATEMENT OF</b>
<b>Madeline Cummins Realty Inc.</b>	)	<b>CHARGES, INFORMAL</b>
<b>315 E Maple</b>	)	<b>SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT,</b>
<b>PO Box 472</b>	)	<b>AND CONSENT ORDER IN A</b>
<b>Centerville, Iowa 52544</b>	)	<b>DISCIPLINARY CASE</b>
	)	
<b>Respondent.</b>	)	

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The Iowa Real Estate Commission (Commission) and Dennis Sturms (Respondent) enter into this Combined Statement of Charges, Informal Settlement Agreement, and Consent Order in a Disciplinary Case (Order) pursuant to Iowa Code Sections 17A.10(1) and 272C.3(4) (2011).

1. The Commission issued the Respondent real estate salesperson license number S59212 on February 25, 2008. Respondent's license is current and in full force and effect through December 31, 2013. At all times relevant to this matter, the Respondent was a licensed real estate salesperson assigned to Madeline Cummins Realty Inc., a licensed real estate firm, license number F04699, located in Centerville, Iowa.

2. The Commission has jurisdiction of this disciplinary matter pursuant to Iowa Code chapters 17A, 272C, and 543B (2011). Licenses issued by the Commission are subject to the laws of the State of Iowa and to the administrative rules of the Commission.

**STATEMENT OF CHARGES**

**COUNT 1**

3. The Respondent is charged with engaging in practices harmful or detrimental to the public, and failing to diligently exercise reasonable skill and care in providing brokerage services to all parties in violation of Iowa Code section 543B.29(1)(c), 543B.34(11), 543B56(1)(a) & (b) by failing to include in an Intent to Lease Agreement, terms under which earnest funds submitted with the Agreement would be returned to the Lessee in the event the Agreement was not consummated. See 193E Iowa Admin Code section 18.14(5)(s).

**CIRCUMSTANCES**

4. The Respondent represented both the seller and buyer in a dual agency capacity in a

transaction for a property located in Centerville, Iowa.

5. On or about August 2, 2011, the Respondent went to the hospital and had the seller sign documents related to the property while she was still sedated and not fully coherent after undergoing a major medical procedure.

### SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

6. Without admission of wrongdoing or guilt, the Respondent agrees to resolve the charge with an Informal Settlement Agreement.

7. Respondent acknowledges that he has a right to receive notice of the above-stated charges and to request a hearing before the Commission on the merits of the charges. By freely and voluntarily entering into this Order, the Respondent waives his right to notice and a hearing and all attendant rights, including the right to seek judicial review. This Order constitutes discipline against the Respondent, and is the final agency order in this contested case pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.10 and 193 Iowa Administrative Code 7.4.

8. Respondent agrees that the State's attorney and/or Commission staff may present this Order to the Commission and may have *ex parte* communications with the Commission while presenting it. Respondent waives any right of notice of this meeting or any right that the Respondent might have to participate in the discussion of this Order among the Commission, the Commission staff and the State's attorney.

9. This Order shall be part of the permanent record of Respondent and shall be considered by the Commission in determining the nature and severity of any future disciplinary action to be imposed in the event of any future violations of the laws and rules governing the practice of real estate by the Respondent.

10. Failure to comply with the terms of this Order shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of Iowa Code sections 543B.29(1)(c), 543B.34(2) and 272C.3(2)(a) (2011) and shall be grounds for further disciplinary action. However, no action may be taken against the Respondent for violations of this Order without a hearing, or waiver of hearing.

11. This Order is not binding on the Iowa Real Estate Commission until it has been formally approved by a majority of the Commission members.

(a) In the event that this Order is rejected by the Commission it shall be of no force or effect to either party, and it shall not be admissible for any purpose in further proceedings in this matter.

(b) If the Commission approves this Order, it shall fully dispose of all issues in this case.

12. Upon acceptance by both the Commission and Respondent, this Combined Statement of Charges, Informal Settlement and Consent Order shall be a public record available for inspection and copying in its entirety in accordance with the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 22 (2011).

**CONSENT ORDER**

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

13. REPRIMAND. Pursuant to 193E Iowa Administrative Code section 18.14 (1)(j), the Respondent is reprimanded.

14. EDUCATION. The Respondent shall attend the eight (8) hour Commission approved "Real Estate and Agency Law" course. These hours shall be in addition to any real estate continuing education required by law for license renewal. The original certificate of attendance must be submitted to the Iowa Real Estate Commission within twelve (12) months of the signing of this agreement by the Commission and must come under a cover letter addressed to the Commission's Executive Officer and refer to case 11-289.

15. FUTURE COMPLIANCE. The Respondent shall at all future times fully and promptly comply with all pertinent Orders of the Commission and the statutes and Commission rules regulating the practice of real estate.

**WHEREFORE**, the terms of this Combined Statement of Charges, Informal Settlement Agreement, and Consent Order are agreed to and accepted by the Iowa Real Estate Commission and the Respondent.

**FOR THE RESPONDENT:**

Voluntarily agreed to and accepted by Dennis Sturms on this 24 day of May, 2012.

  
By: Dennis Sturms, Respondent

State of Iowa)

11-289  
Dennis Sturms  
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County of Appanoose

Signed and sworn to before me on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2012, by

[Redacted Signature]

Notary Public, State of Iowa

Printed Name: Jami N. Shilling

My Commission Expires: 8-21-13



**FOR THE COMMISSION:**

Voluntarily agreed to and accepted by the IOWA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION on this 19 day of July, 2012.

[Redacted Signature]

[Signature], Chair  
Iowa Real Estate Commission