Department of Commerce Professional Licensing Bureau

# BEFORE THE IOWA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION FILE 200 EAST GRAND, SUITE 350 DES MOINES, IOWA 50309

IN RE:	Signature Executive Officer
	) CASE NUMBER: 14-248
Gloria Escarza	
Salesperson (S59943000)	) COMBINED STATEMENT OF
	) CHARGES, INFORMAL
Blank and McCune, The Real Estate Co. LLC	) SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT,
506 East College Street	) AND CONSENT ORDER IN A
Iowa City, IA 52240	) DISCIPLINARY CASE
	)
RESPONDENT	

The Iowa Real Estate Commission (Commission) and Gloria Escarza (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) (2013).

- 1. The Commission issued the Respondent a real estate salesperson license number S59943000 on May 7, 2009. Respondent's license is active and in full force and effect until December 31, 2017. At all times relevant to this matter, the Respondent was a licensed real estate salesperson assigned to Blank and McCune, The Real Estate Company LLC, a licensed real estate firm, license number F05549000, located in lowa City, lowa.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction of this disciplinary matter pursuant to lowa Code chapters 17A, 272C, and 543B (2013). Licenses issued by the Commission are subject to the laws of the State of lowa and to the administrative rules of the Commission.

#### STATEMENT OF CHARGES

#### COUNTI

3. The Respondent is charged with submitting, or causing to be submitted; whether intentional or otherwise, incorrect information on a renewal application. <u>See</u> lowa Code sections 272C.10(1), 543B.15(5), 543B.29(1), 543B.34(1), 543B.34(1)(k) (2013); and 193E lowa Administrative Code sections 16.4(2), 16.5, 16.5(4), 18.14(5)(s).

#### **CIRCUMSTANCES**

4. On December 4, 2014, the Respondent submitted her on-line renewal application for an lowa real estate salesperson license. On the renewal, the Respondent attested that she had completed the required thirty-six hours (36) of continuing education required by 193E lowa Administrative Rule § 16.4(2).

- 5. The Respondent included as a part of her renewal, the following courses: eight (8) hour "Law Update" and four (4) hour "Ethics"; which were both taken after the submission of her renewal application.
- 6. Accurate and truthful attestation of one's continuing education history is essential to the Commission's determination of whether an applicant meets all requirements for renewing an lowa real estate broker license. See lowa Code § 543.15(5) (2013). The Respondent's failure to accurately report her continuing education history as attested on her lowa real estate salesperson license renewal application constituted a false statement of material fact.

#### SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

- 7. Respondent admits to each and every allegation in the above-stated Statement of Charges. This case shall constitute one violation for purposes of Iowa Code § 543B.29(4) (2013).
- 8. Respondent acknowledges that she 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 her 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 lowa Code section 17A.10 and 193 lowa Administrative Code 7.4.
- 9. 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.
- 10. 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.
- 11. Failure to comply with the terms of this Order shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of Iowa Code sections 543B.29(1)(d), 543B.34(1) and 272C.3(2)(a) (2013) 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.
- 12. 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.
- 13. 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 lowa Code chapter 22 (2013).

### **CONSENT ORDER**

- 14. <u>CIVIL PENALTY</u>. The Respondent shall pay a civil penalty to the Commission in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) no later than thirty (30) calendar days after acceptance of this Order by the Commission. The civil penalty must come under a cover letter addressed to the Commission's Executive Officer, referencing Case 14-248.
- 15. <u>FUTURE COMPLIANCE</u>. 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 is agreed to by the Iowa Real Estate Commission and the Respondent.

#### FOR THE RESPONDENT:

TON THE NEST CONSERVATION
Voluntarily agreed to and accepted by Gloria Escarza on this 27 day of January 2015.  By: GLORIA ESCARZA, Respondent
State of <u>Towa</u> )
County of Johnson
Signed and sworn to before me on this $\frac{27}{37}$ day of $\frac{1}{3}$ day of $\frac{1}{3}$ day of $\frac{1}{3}$
JANE OSWEILER Commission Number 725839
My Commission Expires (Notary Public, State of Iowa
Printed Name: <u>Vane () sweiter</u> Nu Commission Expires: 12/4/15

## FOR THE COMMISSION:

Voluntarily agreed to and accepted by the IOWA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION on this 5th day of FEBRUARY \_\_\_\_, 2015.

TERRANCE M. DUGGAN, Chair

Iowa Real Estate Commission