Department of Commerce Professional Licensing Bureau

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

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IN RE:)
) CASE NUMBER: 15-016
Farmers National Company)
Firm (F00421000)) COMBINED STATEMENT OF
) CHARGES, INFORMAL
11516 Nicholas Street #100) SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT,
Omaha, NE 68154) AND CONSENT ORDER IN A
) DISCIPLINARY CASE
RESPONDENT)

The Iowa Real Estate Commission (Commission) and **Farmers National Company** (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) (2015).

- 1. The Commission issued the Respondent real estate firm license number F00421000 on January 30, 2008. Respondent's firm license is now current and in full force and effect through December 31, 2015. At all times relevant to this matter, Lee A. Vermeer, broker license number B43183000, was the designated broker of the Respondent real estate brokerage firm, located in Omaha, Nebraska.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction of this disciplinary matter pursuant to lowa Code chapters 17A, 272C, and 543B (2015). 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

COUNT I

3. The Respondent is charged with failing to comply with all procedures mandated by statute to effectuate a change of employment by a salesperson then employed by the Respondent's brokerage in violation of Iowa Code section 543B.33 (2013) and 193E Iowa Administrative Code sections 6.1(1), 6.1(2), 18.14(5)(c)(2).

CIRCUMSTANCES

4. In November of 2014, a licensee in the employment of the Respondent was sent a random audit by the Commission for compliance with the mandatory errors and omissions insurance requirement.

IREC Case No. 15-016 Farmers National Company

- 5. On or about January 21, 2015, the Respondent provided a copy of a letter to the Commission dated November 21, 2013, notifying the aforementioned licensee of their termination with Farmers National Company effective November 22, 2013.
- 6. Commission licensing records indicate the aforementioned licensee was assigned to the Respondent brokerage firm until December 31, 2014, at which time their salesperson license expired.
- 7. The Respondent failed to comply with all procedures mandated by statute to effectuate a change of employment of an affiliated licensee.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

- 8. Respondent admits to each and every allegation in the above-stated Statement of Charges.
- 9. Respondent acknowledges that it 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 its 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.
- 10. 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.
- 11. 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.
- 12. 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) (2015) 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.
- 13. 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.
- 14. 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 (2015).

CONSENT ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 15. <u>REPRIMAND</u>. Pursuant to 193E lowa Administrative Code section 18.14(1)(j), the Respondent is reprimanded.
- 16. <u>CIVIL PENALTY</u>. The Respondent shall pay a civil penalty to the Commission in the amount of two hundred 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 Number 15-016.
- 17. <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, and Consent Order are agreed to and accepted by the lowa Real Estate Commission and the Respondent.

FOR THE RESPONDENT:

By: SAMUEL E. KAIN, Designated Broker

IREC Case No. 15-016 Farmers National Company				
State of)			
County of)			
Signed and sworn	to before me	on this day of	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	2015, by:
			•	
		Notary Public, State of Iowa Printed Name:		-
		My Commission Expires:		
FOR THE COMMISSIO	N:			
Voluntarily agreed	to and accep	ted by the IOWA REAL ESTATE C, 2015.	COMMISSION on	this
		TERRANCE M. DUGGAN, Chair lowa Real Estate Commission		