

FILED

October 1, 2015

(Date)

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

REC
Board / Commission
Signature Executive Officer

IN RE:)	
)	CASE NUMBER: 15-191
Michelle R. Paulson)	
Broker (B30339000))	COMBINED STATEMENT OF
)	CHARGES, INFORMAL
Doyle & Devoe, LLC)	SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT,
736 N 3 rd Ave E)	AND CONSENT ORDER IN A
Newton, IA 50208)	DISCIPLINARY CASE
)	
RESPONDENT)	

The Iowa Real Estate Commission (Commission) and Michelle R. Paulson (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 broker license number B30339000 on September 15, 2004. Respondent's license is in full force and effect until December 31, 2015. At all times relevant to this matter, the Respondent was a licensed real estate broker officer, assigned to Grinnell Fifth Avenue Realty, LLC, a licensed real estate firm, license number F04976000, located in Grinnell, Iowa. Respondent was assigned as the designated broker of the real estate brokerage firm at all times relevant to this matter. Grinnell Fifth Avenue Realty, LLC was cancelled on July 6, 2015.

2. The Commission has jurisdiction of this disciplinary matter pursuant to Iowa Code chapters 17A, 272C, and 543B (2015). 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 I

3. The Respondent is charged with failing to diligently exercise reasonable skill and care in supervising a licensee employed by the Respondent, by allowing the unlicensed practice of real estate in the State of Iowa in violation of Iowa Code sections 543B.1, 543B.29(1), 543B.62(3)(b) (2015) and 193E Iowa Administrative Code sections 7.11, 18.2(6), 18.14(5)(m).

CIRCUMSTANCES

4. From the time period of April 14, 2005 through July 6, 2015 the Respondent was the designated broker for Grinnell Fifth Avenue Realty, LLC.

5. On or about July 6, 2015 the Commission received a completed "Application to Transfer" form for a licensee previously assigned to Grinnell Fifth Avenue Realty, LLC. Commission records indicated the aforementioned licensee's Iowa real estate license had expired on December 31, 2014.

6. On or about July 10, 2015, the Commission received an 'Application for Reinstatement of an Individual License' from the aforementioned real estate salesperson previously assigned to the Respondent's real estate brokerage firm. The Respondent reinstated her Iowa real estate salesperson license on July 10, 2015, assigned to Doyle & Devoe, LLC, a licensed real estate firm, license number F04992000, located in Newton, Iowa.

7. Between the time period of January 1, 2015 and July 6, 2015, while her Iowa real estate salesperson license was expired, the aforementioned licensee conducted activities requiring an active real estate license in the State of Iowa.

8. As designated broker of the real estate brokerage firm, the Respondent is responsible for providing supervision of any salesperson or broker associate employed by or otherwise associated with the Respondent. The Respondent failed to provide adequate supervision over the associated real estate salesperson licensee by allowing her to continue the practice of real estate in the state of Iowa with an expired license.

9. Pursuant to Commission licensing records, on or about July 6, 2015 when Grinnell Fifth Avenue Realty, LLC was cancelled, the Respondent transferred her Iowa real estate broker license to Doyle & Devoe, LLC, a licensed real estate firm, license number F04992000, located in Newton, Iowa.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

10. 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 section 543B.29(4) (2015).

11. 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 Iowa Code section 17A.10 and 193 Iowa Administrative Code 7.4.

12. 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.

13. 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.

14. 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.

15. 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.

16. 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:

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

18. **CIVIL PENALTY.** The Respondent shall pay a civil penalty to the Commission in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) 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 15-191.

19. **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 Michelle R. Paulson on this 16th day of September, 2015.

Michelle R. Paulson
By: MICHELLE R. PAULSON, Respondent

State of Iowa

County of Linn

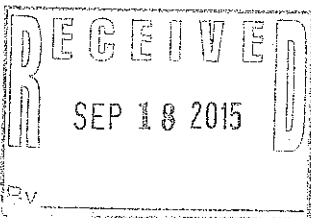
Signed and sworn to before me on this 10th day of September, 2015, by:



Tamera Kriegel
Notary Public, State of Iowa
Printed Name: Tamera Kriegel
My Commission Expires: July 11, 2018

FOR THE COMMISSION:

Voluntarily agreed to and accepted by the IOWA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION on this 15th day of OCTOBER, 2015.



Terrance M. Duggan
TERRANCE M. DUGGAN, Chair
Iowa Real Estate Commission