Department of Commerce Professional Licensing Bureau

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

D.	Mary 5, 2020	(Date)
distant	MEC	-
	Board / Commission	
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IN RE:)	
)	CASE NUMBER: 19-187
Golden Circle Real Estate Group II)	
Firm (F05715000))	COMBINED STATEMENT OF
)	CHARGES, INFORMAL
2325 SW State Street, Suite D)	SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT,
Ankeny, IA 50023)	AND CONSENT ORDER IN A
)	DISCIPLINARY CASE
RESPONDENT)	

The Iowa Real Estate Commission (Commission) and **Golden Circle Real Estate Group II** (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) (2020).

- 1. The Commission issued the Respondent real estate firm license number F05715000 on September 26, 2014. The Respondent firm license is current and in full force and effect through December 31, 2022. At all times relevant to this matter, Kyra C. Bell, additional broker officer license number B61748200, served both as the designated broker in charge and a licensed real estate broker officer for the Respondent real estate brokerage firm, located in Ankeny, lowa.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction of this disciplinary matter pursuant to lowa Code chapters 17A, 272C, and 543B (2019). 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. Respondent is charged with advertising real estate under an unlicensed trade name in violation of Iowa Code section 543B.34(1) (2019). See 193E Iowa Administrative Code sections 10.1, 10.1(2), 10.1(3), 18.14(5)(s).

CIRCUMSTANCES

- 4. The Respondent is responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable rules and regulations governing its operations in the state of lowa.
 - 5. In 2018, a mailing postcard was sent out by a licensed real estate salesperson assigned

to the Respondent real estate brokerage firm. On the mailing postcard, it was promoting a new listing in Altoona, Iowa; adverting real estate in Iowa as "Key2Houses Real Estate."

- 6. In 2019, it was discovered that "Key2Houses Real Estate" was being used by the aforementioned affiliated licensee in their Internet advertising.
- 7. Consequently, in 2018 and 2019 the Respondent was advertising real estate in lowa with an unlicensed trade name. "Key2Houses Real Estate" was licensed as a tradename (T06052000) with the Commission on September 19, 2019.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

- 8. Without admission of wrongdoing or guilt, the Respondent does not contest the violations alleged 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) (2020) 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 lowa 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 Agreement 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 (2020).

CONSENT ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 15. <u>CIVIL PENALTY</u>. The Respondent shall pay a civil penalty to the Commission in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) no later than six (6) months 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 19-187.
- 16. <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 Iowa Real Estate Commission and the Respondent.

FOR THE RESPONDENT:

TOR THE REST CREEKT.	
day of Jebruary, 2020	d by Golden Circle Real Estate Group II on this
State of <u>Llowa</u>)	
County of Policy)	
Signed and sworn to before me or	this 4th day of February, 2020, by:
My Commission Expires	Notary Public, State of Nowa Printed Name: Danielle Schmidt My Commission Expires: 10-20-22

IREC Case No. 19-187 Golden Circle Real Estate Group II

FOR THE COMMISSION:

Voluntarily agreed to	o and accepted	l by the IOWA REAL	. ESTATE COMMISSION on this
th day of MAR		, 2020.	

TERRANCE M. DUGGAN, Chair lowa Real Estate Commission