Department of Commerce Professional Licensing Bureau



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

IN RE:	)	
	)	CASE NUMBER: 21-093
Andrew A. Fatka-Westlake	)	
Broker (B56879000)	)	COMBINED STATEMENT OF
	)	CHARGES, INFORMAL
Peoples Company of Indianola	)	SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT,
12119 Stratford Drive, Suite B	)	AND CONSENT ORDER IN A
Clive, IA 50325	)	DISCIPLINARY CASE
	)	
RESPONDENT	)	

The Iowa Real Estate Commission (Commission) and Andrew A. Fatka-Westlake (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) (2022).

- 1. The Commission issued the Respondent real estate broker license number B56879000 on August 27, 2010. Respondent's license is in full force and effect until December 31, 2024. At all times relevant to this matter, the Respondent served both as the designated broker in charge and a licensed real estate broker officer of Peoples Company of Indianola, license number F01083000, located in Clive, Iowa.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction of this disciplinary matter pursuant to lowa Code chapters 17A, 272C, and 543B (2020). 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. Respondent is charged with failing to diligently exercise reasonable skill and care in supervising a licensee employed by the Respondent, by failing to properly assign a broker associate to his firm in violation of Iowa Code sections 543B.2, 543B.5(20), 543B.33, 543B.34(1), 543B.62(3)(b) (2020). See 193E Iowa Administrative Code sections 7.1(7), 7.11, 18.2(1), 18.14(5)(s).

### **CIRCUMSTANCES**

- 4. Respondent was assigned as the designated broker in charge of real estate brokerage firm Peoples Company of Indianola, at all times relevant to this matter. As the designated broker in charge of the real estate brokerage firm, the Respondent is responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable rules and regulations governing the firm's operations in the state of lowa.
- 5. Between the time period of January 2020 and December 2020, the Respondent allowed a broker associate to practice real estate for his licensed real estate firm, Peoples Company of Indianola. However, pursuant to Commission licensing records, the aforementioned licensee was assigned as a broker officer to Mid-Continent Properties, Inc., a licensed real estate firm, license number F05152000, during the time period in question.
- 6. On December 8, 2020, the Commission received written correspondence from the aforementioned broker, notifying the Commission of the cancellation of the real estate firm license F05152000. Subsequently, the broker associate then submitted an application request on December 8, 2020, requesting that his license be assigned to Peoples Company of Indianola.
- 7. Consequently, in 2020, the Respondent allowed a broker associate to conduct activities in the state of lowa requiring a real estate license outside of the licensed broker or firm that he was assigned to.

### SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

- 8. Respondent admits 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) (2022).
- 9. 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.
- 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) (2022) 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 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 (2022).

## **CONSENT ORDER**

#### IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 15. <u>REPRIMAND</u>. Pursuant to 193E Iowa Administrative Code section 18.14(1)(j), the Respondent is reprimanded.
- 16. <u>CIVIL PENALTY</u>. 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 21-093.
- 17. <u>FUTURE COMPLIANCE</u>. 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 Andrew A. Fatka-Westlake on this 18th day of		
MARCH , 2022.	By: ANDREW A. FATKA-WESTLAKE, Respondent	
State of <u>Loug</u> )		
County of Styl)		
Signed and sworn to before me on this $\frac{18}{18}$ day of $\frac{1}{18}$ , 2022, by:		
MCKENNA ILES COMMISSION NUMBER 836607 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES L/1/25 M/Lenna 103	Notary Public, State of Towa  Printed Name: Mckenna Tics  My Commission Expires: 11125	
FOR THE COMMISSION:		
Voluntarily agreed to and accepted by the <b>IOWA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION</b> on this, 2022.		
	Dennis L. Stock	
DENNIS L. STOLK, Chair		
	Iowa Real Estate Commission	