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BEFORE THE REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

STATE OF NEVADA

JUN 0 9 2016

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REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

JOSEPH R. DECKER, Administrator, REAL ESTATE DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS & INDUSTRY, STATE OF NEVADA,

Petitioner.

VS.

WILLIAM (BILL) WOOD,

Respondent.

Case No. 2014-4528

COMPLAINT AND NOTICE OF HEARING

The REAL ESTATE DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA ("Division"), by and through its counsel, Adam Paul Laxalt, Attorney General of the State of Nevada, and Donald J. Bordelove, Deputy Attorney General, hereby notifies RESPONDENT WILLIAM (BILL) WOOD ("RESPONDENT") of an administrative hearing before the STATE OF NEVADA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION ("Commission"). The hearing will be held pursuant to Chapters 233B and Chapter 645 of the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS") and Chapter 645 of the Nevada Administrative Code ("NAC"). The purpose of the hearing is to consider the allegations stated below and to determine if RESPONDENT should be subject to an administrative penalty as set forth in NRS 645.633 and/or NRS 645.630 and/or NRS 622.400, and the discipline to be imposed, if violations of law are proven.

JURISDICTION

RESPONDENT was at all relevant times mentioned in this Complaint licensed by the Division as a broker under license number B.0001623.LLC, property manager under permit PM.0163158.BKR, and business broker under license number BUSB.0006772.BKR, and is therefore subject to the jurisdiction of the Division and the provisions of NRS chapter 645 and NAC chapter 645.

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FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 1. At all times relevant to the Complaint, RESPONDENT was the broker, owner. and property manager for Encore Realty Group.
- 2. RESPONDENT maintained three (3) bank accounts which are the subject of this Complaint: (1) Encore Realty Business Operating Account ending 8713; (2) Encore Realty Group Client Main Trust Account ending 9068; and (3) Encore Realty Group Tenant Security Deposit Account ending 8700.
- On or about November 18, 2014, the Division sent RESPONDENT a letter 3. indicating that he did not submit his trust reconciliations for the year 2014 by the expiration date of his license and, as such, was required to pay an administrative fine of \$1,000.00.
- 4. On or about December 18, 2014, the Division received a letter from RESPONDENT along with documentation indicating there were very significant deficiencies in both the "Security Trust and Main Operating Trust accounts" of Encore Realty Group.
- 5. In that letter, RESPONDENT admitted that he was directly responsible for the shortages and that punishment was appropriate.
- 6. In that letter, RESPONDENT also requested the deferral of the \$1,000.00 fine imposed for his failure to timely submit his annual trust account reconciliation.
- 7. In the same letter, RESPONDENT made the statement that, "I believe I can repay a minimum of \$5,000.00 each month towards this recovery, but only if allowed to continue."
- 8. An audit of the bank records obtained by the Division pursuant to subpoena. received January 15, 2015, showed that during the months of January 2014 to September 2014 large amounts of client funds were being transferred from Encore Realty Group Client Main Trust Account ending 9068 into Encore Realty Group Business Operating Account ending 8713.
 - 9. Additionally, RESPONDENT made cash withdrawals from the client account.
 - 10. The total amount transferred in nine (9) months was \$229,762.56.
 - 11. The total amount of cash withdrawals in nine (9) months was \$3,552,00.

- 12. The total amount of misappropriated client funds was \$233,314.56.1
- 13. The dollar amount RESPONDENT self-reported on December 18, 2014 as missing was: (a) as of September 2014 \$318,338.32; (b) as of October 2014 \$313,982.82; (c) as of November 2014 \$329,225.14; and (d) as of mid-December 2014 \$308,593.24.
- 14. On or about September 23, 2015, the investigator sent an email to RESPONDENT requesting a copy of his annual trust account reconciliation for Encore Realty Group that would be due before October 31, 2015.
- 15. RESPONDENT replied to that email indicating that he had not yet began the repayment of client funds, and RESPONDENT implied that he had been waiting for the Division's approval to remain in business before he would attempt to make accounts whole again.
- 16. On or about October 4, 2015, RESPONDENT submitted his annual trust account reconciliations which still showed significant deficiencies.

VIOLATIONS

RESPONDENT has committed the following violations of law:

- 17. RESPONDENT violated NRS 645.630(1)(h) when he commingled and converted client funds by transferring them electronically from the client main operating trust into his firm's business operating account.
- 18. RESPONDENT violated NRS 645.630(1)(h) when he withdrew cash from the client's main operating trust.
- 19. RESPONDENT violated NRS 645.633(1)(h) by committing conduct which constitutes deceitful, fraudulent or dishonest dealing pursuant to NAC 645.605(1) by failing to do his utmost to protect the public against fraud, misrepresentation or unethical practices related to real estate.

¹ Please note that this total is only for the months audited and does not represent the total of all missing funds.

20. RESPONDENT violated NRS 645.633(1)(h) by committing conduct which constitutes deceitful, fraudulent or dishonest dealing pursuant to NAC 645.605(6) by breaching his obligation of absolute fidelity to his principal's interest.

DISCIPLINE AUTHORIZED

- 1. Pursuant to NRS 645.630 and NRS 645.633, the Commission is empowered to impose an administrative fine of up to \$10,000 per violation against RESPONDENT and further to suspend, revoke or place conditions on the license of RESPONDENT.
- Additionally, under NRS Chapter 622, the Commission is authorized to impose costs of the proceeding upon Respondent, including investigative costs and attorney's fees, if the Commission otherwise imposes discipline on Respondent.
- 3. Therefore, the Division requests that the Commission take such disciplinary action as it deems appropriate under the circumstances.

NOTICE OF HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that a disciplinary hearing has been set to consider the Administrative Complaint against the above-named Respondent in accordance with Chapters 233B and 645 of the Nevada Revised Statutes and Chapter 645 of the Nevada Administrative Code.

THE HEARING WILL TAKE PLACE on July 12, 2016 commencing at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the Commission is able to hear the matter, and each day thereafter commencing at 9:00 a.m. through July 14, 2016, or earlier if the business of the Commission is concluded. The Commission meeting will be held on July 12, 2016 at the Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Room 4412, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101. The meeting will continue on July 13, 2016 at the Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Room 4412, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101, commencing at 9:00 a.m., and on July 14, 2016, should business not be concluded, starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Room 4412, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101.

STACKED CALENDAR: Your hearing is one of several hearings scheduled at the same time as part of a regular meeting of the Commission that is expected to last from July 12 through July 14, 2016, or earlier if the business of the Commission is concluded. Thus, your hearing may be continued until later in the day or from day to day. It is your responsibility to be present when your case is called. If you are not present when your hearing is called, a default may be entered against you and the Commission may decide the case as if all allegations in the complaint were true. If you have any questions please call Rebecca Hardin, Commission Coordinator (702) 486-4074.

YOUR RIGHTS AT THE HEARING: except as mentioned below, the hearing is an open meeting under Nevada's open meeting law, and may be attended by the public. After the evidence and arguments, the commission may conduct a closed meeting to discuss your alleged misconduct or professional competence. A verbatim record will be made by a certified court reporter. You are entitled to a copy of the transcript of the open and closed portions of the meeting, although you must pay for the transcription.

As the Respondent, you are specifically informed that you have the right to appear and be heard in your defense, either personally or through your counsel of choice. At the hearing, the Division has the burden of proving the allegations in the complaint and will call witnesses and present evidence against you. You have the right to respond and to present relevant evidence and argument on all issues involved. You have the right to call and examine witnesses, introduce exhibits, and cross-examine opposing witnesses on any matter relevant to the issues involved.

You have the right to request that the Commission issue subpoenas to compel witnesses to testify and/or evidence to be offered on your behalf. In making the request, you may be required to demonstrate the relevance of the witness' testimony and/or evidence. Other important rights you have are listed in NRS 645.680 through 645.990, NRS Chapter 233B, and NAC 645.810 through 645.875.

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The purpose of the hearing is to determine if the Respondent has violated NRS 645 and/or NAC 645 and if the allegations contained herein are substantially proven by the evidence presented and to further determine what administrative penalty is to be assessed against the Respondent, if any, pursuant to NRS 645.633 and/or NRS 645.630 and/or NRS 622.400.

DATED this _____ day of June, 2016.

State of Nevada

Department of Business and Industry

Real Estate Division

By

JOSEPH R. DECKER, Administrator

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