## BEFORE THE REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

伊日日日日

MAY 1 2 2021

REAL ESTATE COMMISS OF

STATE OF NEVADA

Case No. 2019-781

SHARATH CHANDRA, Administrator, REAL ESTATE DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS & INDUSTRY, STATE OF NEVADA,

Petitioner,

VS.

PHILIP M. MARCUS,

Respondent.

#### 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, Aaron D. Ford, Attorney General of the State of Nevada, and Karissa D. Neff, Senior Deputy Attorney General, hereby notifies RESPONDENT PHILIP M. MARCUS ("RESPONDENT") of an administrative hearing before the STATE OF NEVADA REAL ESTATE 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 the RESPONDENT should be subject to an administrative penalty as set forth in NRS 645.633, NRS 645.630, NRS 645.235 and NRS 622.400, and the discipline to be imposed, if violations of law are proven.

#### **JURISDICTION**

RESPONDENT at all relevant times mentioned in this Complaint was licensed as a broker salesperson by the Division, and, although not holding a property management permit from the Division, conducted activities for which such a permit is required. He is therefore subject to the jurisdiction of the Division and the Commission and the provisions of NRS chapter 645 and NAC chapter 645.

26 |

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

27 || •

28

#### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 1. RESPONDENT is licensed by the Division as a broker salesperson, BS.0044249, said license being in "active" status at the time of filing this complaint.
- 2. At all relevant times alleged in the complaint, RESPONDENT worked for RE/MAX Excellence and his broker was Steve Anderson.
- 3. On or around, July 30, 2018, RESPONDENT represented buyer Lakers 6451, LLC, a California limited liability company ("Buyer," and/or "Property Owner") in the purchase of a retail office building commonly known as 193 E. Warm Springs Road, Las Vegas, NV 89119, more particularly identified as Clark County Assessor's Parcel No. 177-09-113-005 (the "Property").
  - 4. Farid Issa ("Issa") is the manager and/or member of Buyer entity.
- 5. On or about July 10, 2019, RESPONDENT's then broker, Steve Anderson ("Complainant"), filed a complaint with the Division, stating that he had received a call from one of RESPONDENT's past clients, Issa, alleging that RESPONDENT had taken money from Issa.
- 6. Complainant stated after receiving the complaint he concluded in part, that REPONDENT: (1) failed to have Issa sign a Duties Owed form, (2) was engaging in property management without holding a permit, (3) may have comingled funds fraudulently, (4) appeared to have embezzled funds from Issa, (5) and supervised construction over \$10,000.00 without employing a licensed contractor.
- 7. Complainant stated that he asked RESPONDENT to reimburse Issa, to which RESPONDENT agreed, and also requested that RESPONDENT find another brokerage.
  - 8. On or around July 10, 2019, a complaint with the Division was filed on Issa's behalf.
- 9. In summary, the complaint alleged Issa paid RESPONDENT \$26,000.00 to remodel office space at the Property by turning a larger space into two separate ones, that RESPONDENT requested an additional \$1,800.00 to "check in" on the remodeling process, that RESPONDENT requested an additional \$350.00 per month for cleaning services at the Property (despite that the leases provided cleaning responsibilities were the tenants'), that RESPONDENT procured tenants to rent space at the Property in exchange for the landowner paying him, charged extra for doing so and kept the money

for doing so despite claiming the fee was REMAX's, and that RESPONDENT was pocketing tenant rents and deposits.

- 10. The complaint further alleged RESPONDENT was not licensed as a property manager.
- 11. The complaint further alleged RESPONDENT owed Issa approximately \$73,000.00.
- 12. On or around July 15, 2019, the Division properly notified RESPONDENT it had opened an investigation and requested a response.
  - 13. The Division again requested a response from RESPONDENT on October 18, 2019.
  - 14. On or around November 4, 2019, RESPONDENT responded to the Division.
- 15. In his response, RESPONDENT claimed that Issa bought the Property and contacted him to see if he could help him divide the large vacant suite located at the Property into two smaller suites by finding a contractor and getting estimates.
- 16. RESPONDENT claimed that he obtained three estimates from contractors and gave them to Issa, who selected one.
- 17. RESPONDENT also stated that Issa asked him to supervise the remodel and agreed to pay RESPONDENT to do so.
- 18. RESPONDENT stated that Issa wrote RESPONDENT a check for \$26,000.00 and was told to pay the contractor 50 percent when they began work and fifty percent when the work was completed.
  - 19. RESPONDENT admitted to finding tenants to occupy the Property.
- 20. In his response to the Division, RESPONDENT did not deny engaging in property management.
- 21. RESPONDENT oversaw the remodel of the Property, collected rents from the Property, and found tenants for the Property without holding a property management permit from the Division.
- 22. RESPONDENT further collected money from tenant rent payments and checks without remitting those funds to his broker.
- 23. The transaction documents obtained from the purchase and sale of the Property show that RESPONDENT failed to provide Issa with a Duties Owed form.

- 24. On or around November 19, 2019, the Division issued a Cease and Desist Order to RESPONDENT to stop engaging in property management activities.
- 25. On or around December 5, 2019, the Division properly notified RESPONDENT it was filing a complaint against him for hearing before the Nevada Real Estate Commission.

#### **VIOLATIONS**

- 26. RESPONDENT violated NRS 645.230(1)(b) by engaging in activities for which a property management permit is required from the Division.
- 27. RESPONDENT violated NRS 645.252(3)(a) by failing to present the buyer of the Property with the Duties Owed by a Nevada Real Estate Licensee form.
- 28. RESPONDENT violated NRS 645.630(1)(c) by collecting a fee from the Property Owner to place tenants without remitting those fees to his broker.
- 29. RESPONDENT violated NRS 645.633 (1)(i) pursuant to NAC 645.605(1) by collecting money from Property Owner and/or tenants without remitting those funds to his broker.

#### **DISCIPLINE AUTHORIZED**

- 30. Pursuant to NRS 645.630 and NRS 645.633, the Commission is empowered to impose an administrative fine per violation against RESPONDENT that may not exceed \$10,000, and further to suspend, revoke or place conditions on the license of RESPONDENT.
- 31. Pursuant to NRS 645.235(2), the Commission may impose an administrative fine for property management without a permit that may not exceed the amount of gain or economic benefit the RESPONDENT received or \$5,000, whichever is greater.
- 32. 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.
- 33. 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 this Administrative Complaint against the above-named RESPONDENTS 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 at the Commission meeting scheduled for June 15-17, 2021, beginning at approximately 9:00 a.m. each day, or until such time as the Commission concludes its business.

If the Governor's Emergency Directive 006 - suspending physical location requirements - is extended through the date of the meeting, then the hearing will be held via teleconference and videoconference. The Commission uses WebEx for its meetings. To join the hearing go to the website Webex.com and put in the Meeting ID and Password:

TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2021 Meeting number (Access code): 146 781 4940

Password (Attendee ID): MviU7hMsn35 (68487467635 from phones and video systems)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 2021 Meeting number (Access code): 146 558 3491

Password (Attendee ID): EQvcxcSw628 (37829279628 from phones and video systems)

THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2021 Meeting number (Access code): 146 559 3429

Password (Attendee ID): BxHjvY3b33J (29458932335 from phones and video systems)

If you do not have internet access, you may attend by phone at 1-844-621-3956 using the meeting numbers and passwords listed above. Some mobile devices may ask attendees to enter a numeric meeting password provided above. If Emergency Directive 006 is not extended and the meeting is held in person, then the meeting will be located at the following locations:

Nevada State Business Center Real Estate Division 3300 West Sahara Avenue, 4th Floor Nevada Room Las Vegas, NV 89102

If you would like an email containing this information, before the hearing, please contact Evelyn Pattee, Commission Coordinator, at (702) 486-4074 or epattee@red.nv.gov.

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 June 15, 2021, through June 17, 2021, 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 Evelyn Pattee, 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. 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 645.920.

The purpose of the hearing is to determine if the RESPONDENT has violated NRS 645 or NAC 645 and if the allegations contained herein are substantially proven by the evidence presented and to further determine what administrative penalty, if any, is to be assessed against the RESPONDENT, pursuant to NRS 645.630, NRS 645.633, NRS 645.235 or NRS 645.230.

DATED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021.

State of Nevada

Department of Business and Industry

Real Estate Division

By:

SHARATH CHANDRA, Administrator 3300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 350

Las Vegas, Nevada 89102

#### AARON D. FORD Attorney General

### By: /s/ Karissa Neff

KARISSA D. NEFF (Bar. No. 9133) Senor Deputy Attorney General 555 E. Washington Avenue, Suite 3900 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 (702) 486-3894 Attorneys for Real Estate Division