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CERTIFIED MAIL

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC

DEVELOPMENT

DIVISION OF INSURANCE

550 W. 7th AVENUE, SUITE 1560 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3567

In the Matter of:	
SOCALS INSURANCE BROKERS NPN# 9888328	
	9

Division of Insurance Case No. SR 23-24

STIPULATED AGREEMENT AND ORDER

The State of Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, Division of Insurance (Division), SOCALS BEST INSURANCE SERVICES, INC. (SOCALS) the producer in this case, stipulate and agree to the following:

I. BACKGROUND

A. On January 4th, 2023, SOCALS received their initial Insurance Producer license with Property and Casualty lines of authority, firm license number 3002322291, authorizing SOCALS to transact insurance business in Alaska. This license expires in January of odd numbered years.

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- B. On June 16th, 2023, in a routine review the Division discovered that SOCALS issued two (2) policies on January 3rd, 2023, before the license was issued. This activity was not reported at initial licensure.
- C. On June 26th, 2023, correspondence was issued to SOCALS requesting clarification of business transacted without a valid license. The Division requested the firm provide a complete Business Transaction Form and a response by July 14th, 2023.
- D. On June 29th, 2023, SOCALS provided the Division with a BTF indicating two (2) policies on January 3rd, 2023, were sold without a valid license in the State of Alaska. These policies totaled \$604.50 in commissions received without a valid license.
- E. On July 10th, 2023, a notice was issued to SOCALS indicating that the Division will access civil penalties for transacting insurance business without a valid license.
- F. On July 24th, 2023, a proposed agreement letter was issued to SOCALS assessing a civil penalty in the amount of \$604 with \$302 suspended. The unsuspended penalty of \$302 is payable to the Division. On the same day SOCALS accepted the proposed agreement.

II. TERMS OF AGREEMENT

A. On January 3rd, 2023, two (2) total policies were transacted prior to the license issuance of license on January 4th, 2023, and were in violation of Alaska Statute (AS) 21.27.010 which subjects **SOCALS** to civil penalties. AS 21.27.440(a)

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provides that "in addition to any other penalties provided by law, a person that the director determines under AS 21.06.170-21.06.240 has violated the provisions of this chapter is subject to (1) a civil penalty equal to the compensation promised, paid, or to be paid, directly or indirectly, to a person in regard to each violation; (2) either a civil penalty of not more than \$10,000 for each violation or a civil penalty of not more than \$25,000 for each violation if the director determines that the person willfully violated the provisions of this chapter; and (3) denial, nonrenewal, suspension, or revocation of a license." The director has the latitude to impose civil penalties against a person who has violated Alaska's insurance laws.

- B. SOCALS agrees to pay the civil penalty in the amount of \$604 for activity that occurred prior to the issuance of the firm license with \$302 suspended. The unsuspended portion of \$302 must be received by the Division within 30 days of the signature finalizing this agreement.
- C. In the event SOCALS is found to have violations of the Alaska insurance laws during the next two years, the suspended portion of the penalty of \$302 referenced in section II. B. will be reinstated. SOCALS also will be subject to any and all sanctions authorized by the insurance laws including imposition of additional penalties regarding any such violation.
- D. By signing this agreement, SOCALS understands and agrees that any failure to comply with the terms of this agreement will be grounds to revoke, suspend, or non-renew Alaska firm license number 3002322291.

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1	E. SOCALS understands that this agreement is not binding on the parties unless and		
2	until the director signs the order approving the agreement.		
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5	DATED: 19/3/2023	By:	
6		SOCALS BEST INSURANCE, INC. Licensee	
7		. ,	
8	Approved as to form and content:	N 1 TITOH	
9	DATED: 11 - 2 - 2023	By: / ha / While	
10		Susan Mitchell	
11		Assistant Attorney General	
12	ORDER		
13			
14	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Stipulated Agreement and Order is		
15	adopted in full resolution of the civil liability issues between the parties to this agreement in		
16	these cases and shall constitute the final order in these matters.		
17	DATED this 14th day of November 2023.		
18			
19	Law ledong-t-Lever		
20	LORI WING-HEIER, DIRECTOR DIVISION OF INSURANCE		
21			
22	I hereby certify that, on the day of	, 2023, I mailed copies of the accusation to:	
23	SOCALS BEST INSURANCE, INC.		
24	5015 W AVENUE L14 NO 4 QUARTZ HILL, CALIFORNIA 93536		
25	United States		
26			
27			
28			
29	SOCALS BEST INSURANCE, INC. Stipulated Agreement and Order SR23-24		