

LAWRENCE WASDEN
ATTORNEY GENERAL

JOSEPH B. JONES – I.S.B. #2768
Deputy Attorney General
State of Idaho
Department of Finance
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0031
Telephone: (208) 332-8091
Facsimile: (208) 332-8016
joseph.jones@finance.idaho.gov

**BEFORE THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
OF THE STATE OF IDAHO**

STATE OF IDAHO, DEPARTMENT OF
FINANCE, CONSUMER FINANCE BUREAU,

Complainant,

vs.

INTERMOUNTAIN CREDIT SERVICES, LLC,
and AKBERET MEHERTAB, individually,

Respondents.

Docket No. 2015-9-09

CONSENT ORDER

The Director of the Idaho Department of Finance (Director) has conducted a review of the Idaho collection activities of INTERMOUNTAIN CREDIT SERVICES, LLC, and AKBERET MEHERTAB (Respondents). Pursuant to said review, it appears to the Director that Respondents have violated provisions of the Idaho Collection Agency Act, Idaho Code § 26-2221 *et seq.* (the Act). The Director and Respondents have agreed to resolve this matter through this Consent Order rather than through an adversarial hearing in a formal administrative or civil action. Therefore, the Director deems it appropriate and in the public interest that this Consent Order be entered. Respondents consent to the entry of this Consent Order.

FACTS

1. Respondents have operated as a collection agency, within the meaning of Idaho Code § 26-2223(1), since July 10, 2015. Respondents have operated their collection agency from their office at 10624 West Executive Drive, Boise, Idaho.

2. On July 10, 2015, Respondents purchased a collection agency from Ferguson Collections and Recovery, LLC (FCR). At the time of the sale of the collection agency, neither Respondents or FCR notified the Idaho Department of Finance (Department) that the collection agency was being sold to Respondents.

3. At the time of the sale of the collection agency to Respondents, Respondents did not hold a collection agency license issued to them pursuant to the Act.

4. Since July 10, 2015, Respondents have operated a collection agency without first obtaining a collection agency license from the Director in violation of Idaho Code § 26-2223(1).

5. On September 15, 2015, the State of Idaho, Department of Finance, Consumer Finance Bureau (Department) received a license application from Respondents. The license application listed Akberet Mehertab as the collection agency's president and documents were also included indicating that Ronald Ferguson had sold the collection agency business which was owned by his company, FCR, to Ms. Mehertab on July 10, 2015.

6. After review of Respondents' September 15, 2015, license application, and information submitted in connection therewith, the Department determined that beginning July 10, 2015, Respondents had engaged in collection activities in Idaho without a license required by the Act.

7. Respondents' collection activities in Idaho, as described above, constitute violations of the Act.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND VIOLATIONS

8. The allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 7 above are fully incorporated herein by this reference.

9. Idaho Code § 26-2223 provides as follows, in pertinent part:

26-2223. Collection agency, debt counselor, credit counselor, or credit repair organization -- License required. No person shall without complying with the terms of this act and obtaining a license from the director:

(1) Operate as a collection agency, debt counselor, credit counselor, or credit repair organization in this state.

(2) Engage, either directly or indirectly, in this state in the business of collecting or receiving payment for others of any account, bill, claim or other indebtedness.

10. The Respondents' collection activity in Idaho, as referenced above, while the Respondents failed to hold a license under the Act authorizing them to engage in collection activities in Idaho, constituted violations of Idaho Code § 26-2223(1) and -(2).

REMEDIES

11. Respondents admit to the allegations contained in this Consent Order.

12. Respondents admit to violations of Idaho Code § 26-2223(1) and (2), by engaging in collection activities in Idaho while not licensed under the Act, as referenced above.

13. Respondents agree to pay to the Department the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) as an administrative penalty in settlement of the violations referenced herein, and an additional amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) constituting investigative expenses and attorney fees incurred by the Department in pursuing this matter, for a total payment to the Department of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500).

14. Beginning on November 1, 2015, Respondents will pay the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) per month, every month, until the full balance referenced in paragraph 16 is paid.

15. When Respondents have executed this Consent Order, the Department agrees to accept and consider the license application already submitted by Respondents, and that it will not use this Consent Order as a basis for denial of Respondents' license application.

16. In the event Respondents' license application is approved, should Respondents fail to fully perform their payment obligations as set forth above, this fact will establish sufficient grounds and cause to revoke Respondents' collection agency license.

17. Respondents agree to comply with the provisions of the Act and relevant federal laws and regulations at all times in the future.

18. The Department agrees not to seek further penalties or fees from Respondents for the violations addressed in this Consent Order, other than as set forth in paragraph 13 above, if Respondents timely and fully comply with all provisions of this Consent Order.

19. Respondents acknowledge and understand that this Consent Order is an administrative action that must be disclosed to the Department on future licensing and renewal forms. The disclosure requirements of other states may also require disclosure of the same.

20. Respondents acknowledge and understand that should the Department learn of additional violations by Respondents of the Act, or applicable federal laws and regulations relating to Respondents' collection activities in Idaho, the Department may pursue further legal action and seek additional remedies.

DATED this 15 day of October, 2015.

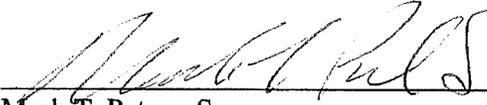
INTERMOUNTAIN CREDIT SERVICES, LLC.

By: Kheret Meherata

Title: Sole Member

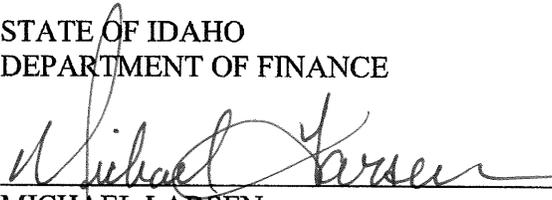
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT.

DATED this 15th day of October, 2015.



Mark T. Peters, Sr.
PETERS LAW PLLC
Counsel for Respondents

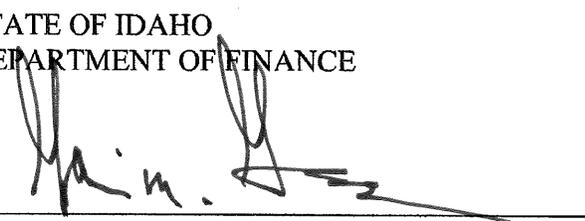
DATED this 15th day of OCTOBER, 2015.

STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE


MICHAEL LARSEN
Consumer Finance Bureau Chief

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED this 15th day of OCTOBER, 2015.

STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE


GAVIN M. GEE, Director



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 15th day of October, 2015, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing fully-executed CONSENT ORDER to be served on the following by the designated means:

Intermountain Credit Services, LLC
Attn: Akberet Mehertab, President
10624 W Executive Dr.
Boise, ID 83713

U.S. mail, postage prepaid
 certified mail
 facsimile:
 email:

Mark T. Peters, Sr.
Peters Law, PLLC
1111 S. Orchard St., Ste. 200
Boise, ID 83705

U.S. mail, postage prepaid
 certified mail
 facsimile:
 email: mark@peterslawpllc.com

Paralegal

