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

In re Mortgage Loan Originator
License Renewal Application of:

CHRISTI MAE JONES,
NMLS ID No. 1951015,

Applicant.

Docket No. 2022-16-27

**ORDER DENYING MORTGAGE LOAN
ORIGINATOR LICENSE APPLICATION AND
NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO
REQUEST A HEARING**

The Director of the State of Idaho, Department of Finance (Director), pursuant to the Idaho Residential Mortgage Practices Act, Idaho Code § 26-31-101 et seq. (the Act), and in particular §§ 26-31-306(1)(d) and (h) and 26-31-313(1)(a) and (b) of the Act, hereby issues the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order Denying Mortgage Loan Originator License Application, and Notice of the Opportunity for a Hearing (Order).

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Applicant, Christi Mae Jones, a resident of the state of North Carolina, applied for an Idaho Mortgage Loan Originator (MLO) license by filing an individual Form MU4 through the online Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry (NMLSR), a.k.a. Nationwide

Multistate Licensing System (NMLS) under NMLS number 1951015. This application was attested to by the Applicant on December 9, 2021, and submitted on the same date by Amanda Wise of Cardinal Financial Company, Limited Partnership.

2. The application Form MU4 seeks information about an individual applicant's qualifications to be licensed as a mortgage loan originator. A section of the application is entitled "Disclosure Questions" and consists of a series of questions that inquire into an applicant's history regarding financial, criminal, civil, judicial, and regulatory matters.

3. Pertinent to the Applicant's qualifications is question "(D) Do you have any unsatisfied judgments or liens against you?" The applicant responded, "yes" to this question. In the Disclosure Explanations section of the application, the Applicant provided a written summary for this affirmative response pertaining to a foreclosure and a federal tax lien she had against her. No other information was provided, and no supporting documents were uploaded, as required, for this affirmative answer.

4. Consistent with normal practice, a Department examiner conducted an assessment of the Applicant using various sources of public information to determine if the Applicant demonstrates sufficient financial responsibility, character, and general fitness in order to be licensed as a mortgage loan originator.¹

5. The examiner obtained a public record background information report through LexisNexis that reflected the Applicant also has an outstanding judgment and an outstanding

¹ Conducted pursuant to Part 3 of the Act titled "The Idaho Secure and Fair Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing Act" (Idaho S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licensing Act), Idaho Code § 26-31-306.

state tax lien entered against her. Following this, the examiner obtained copies of the supporting documents issued for the lien and judgment:

- a. Warrant (ID No. E-119331037-W001-9) issued on March 28, 2016, by the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance against the Applicant in the amount of \$2,935.02. This Warrant (also known as a Judgment) was recorded on April 1, 2016, in Tompkins County, New York, No. 2016-03359;
- b. Complaint filed on December 18, 2018, and Default Judgment entered against the Applicant in favor of Discover Bank, Case No. 18 CVD 23637, for \$16,100.80, on March 8, 2019, in the General Court of Justice, District Court Division, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

6. The Department has no evidence indicating that the judgment or tax lien described above have been satisfied and/or released.

7. The Applicant's failure to provide the details of the judgment and tax lien described above, which were still outstanding as of the date of the application, constitutes a material omission.

8. On April 15, 2022, the Department provided the Applicant notice of an intent to deny the application within approximately one month based on the information set forth above unless the Applicant was able to provide documentation to satisfy the Department that the noted items had been resolved and that disclosures were not required. The notice alternatively provided the Applicant the opportunity to withdraw the application. The Applicant failed to provide the requisite documentation or withdraw the application by the stated deadline.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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

10. Idaho Code § 26-31-304 provides that an individual shall not engage in the business of a mortgage loan originator without first obtaining, and maintaining annually, a license.

11. Idaho Code § 26-31-305(1) provides that an applicant for a mortgage loan originator license must apply through the NMLSR in a form required by the Director of the Idaho Department of Finance (Director).

12. Idaho Code § 26-31-306(1)(d) provides that the Director shall not issue a mortgage loan originator license under the Act unless the Director makes a finding that an applicant has demonstrated financial responsibility, character, and general fitness sufficient to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a determination that the mortgage loan originator will operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the purposes of the Act.

13. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 26-31-306(1)(h), before an application for license can be approved, an applicant must provide all information on the application as required per Idaho Code § 26-31-305. Idaho Code § 26-31-305(10) further provides that an applicant shall make complete disclosure of all information as set forth in the application.

14. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 26-31-313(1)(a) and (b), the Director may deny a license if an applicant violates the Act and/or withholds information or makes a material misstatement in an application for a license.

15. The Applicant made a material omission in her application, which is grounds to deny her application for licensure. She failed to disclose the judgment and State of New York tax lien.

The failure to disclose the judgment and tax lien prohibits the Director from issuing a license to the Applicant pursuant to Idaho Code § 26-31-306(1)(d) and (h) and § 26-31-313(1)(a) and (b).

16. The Director finds it appropriate to deny the application because the Applicant's failure to provide complete information on the Form MU4 regarding the judgment and tax lien demonstrates that the Applicant lacks the appropriate character and fitness sufficient to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a determination that the mortgage loan originator will operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the purposes of the Act. Because the Director cannot make the requisite findings under Idaho Code § 26-31-306(1)(d), it is appropriate to deny the Applicant's request for an Idaho mortgage loan originator license, pursuant to Idaho Code § 26-31-313(1).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, BASED ON THE FOREGOING FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND PURSUANT TO IDAHO CODE §§ 26-31-313(1)(a) and (b), IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT THE APPLICATION FOR A MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATOR LICENSE APPLICATION ATTESTED TO BY CHRISTI MAE JONES, NMLS #1951015, ON DECEMBER 9, 2021, AND SUBMITTED BY AMANDA WISE OF CARDINAL FINANCIAL COMPANY, LIMITED PARTNERSHIP ON THE SAME DATE IS DENIED.

NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST A HEARING

17. The Applicant is HEREBY NOTIFIED that the foregoing ORDER DENYING MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATOR LICENSE APPLICATION is a final order of the Director denying the license application, subject to the Applicant's right to timely file a request for a hearing on the question of her qualifications for a mortgage loan originator license under the Act, pursuant to Idaho Code

§ 26-31-305(6)(a). Such request for a hearing must be in writing and submitted to the Department within fifteen (15) days after the service of this Order. A copy of the request for hearing shall be served on the following:

Attn: Lisa Baker
Assistant to the Director
Idaho Department of Finance
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0031

A copy of the request for contested case and hearing shall also be served on the Department's counsel in this matter:

Erick M. Shaner
Deputy Attorney General
Idaho Department of Finance
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0031

Alternatively, the Applicant may email the request for hearing to: CFLegal@finance.idaho.gov.

18. If the Applicant timely requests a hearing, the Director of the Department, or a Hearing Officer acting on the Director's behalf, will notify the Applicant of further steps including the date, time, and place of the hearing.

19. Any hearing and subsequent proceedings in this matter will be conducted in accordance with the Idaho Administrative Procedure Act, Idaho Code § 67-5201 *et seq.* and the Idaho Rules of Administrative Procedure (IDAPA 04.11.01).


20. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 26-31-305(6), if a hearing is held, the Applicant shall reimburse, pro rata, the Director for her reasonable and necessary expenses incurred as a result of the hearing.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED this 6th day of June 2022.



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE




ANTHONY POLIDORI, Deputy Director

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 7th day of June 2022, I caused a true and correct fully-executed copy of the foregoing ORDER DENYING MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATOR LICENSE APPLICATION AND NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING to be served on the following by the designated means:

Christi Mae Jones
2456 Elkwood Circle
Charlotte, NC 28270

- U.S. mail, postage prepaid
- certified mail
- facsimile _____
- email: Christi.boothe@cardinalfinancial.com



Paralegal