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#### BEFORE THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

### OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

In re Mortgage Loan Originator License Application of:

HEIDI ANNE LAURSEN, NMLS ID No. 100475,

Applicant.

Docket No. 2019-16-52

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE ORDER OF DENIAL OF MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATOR LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

AND

NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST A HEARING

The Director of the 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 Notice of Intent to Issue Order of Denial of Mortgage Loan Originator License Application and Notice of the Opportunity to Request a Hearing (Notice).

Pursuant to Idaho Code § 26-31-305(6), HEIDI ANNE LAURSEN, NMLS ID No. 100475 (the Applicant) has the right to a hearing on the question of her qualifications, but to do so she must make a written request for a hearing within fifteen (15) days after the date of mailing of this Notice. If the written request is not timely made, the Director shall issue a Final Order of Denial of Mortgage Loan Originator License Renewal Application.

The Notice is based on the following:

### **MATTERS ASSERTED**

- 1. The Applicant, a resident of the state of Idaho, has held Idaho Mortgage Loan Originator License No. MLO-17441 (NMLS No. 100475) to conduct business in the state of Idaho as a mortgage loan originator since November 1, 2014. She has renewed this license each year since 2014.
- 2. On December 5, 2019, the Applicant applied for a renewal of her Idaho Mortgage Loan Originator license through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry (NMLSR). While her renewal application form MU4 affirmatively indicated in Disclosure question (A) that she had filed for bankruptcy within the last ten years, the disclosure information referenced a closed bankruptcy in approximately 2007 and an existing bankruptcy that was filed in 2011 as of 2014.
- 3. The loan originator license renewal process requires applicants to submit an affirmation stating whether there have been any changes to their originally filed Form MU4, and if so to update the relevant information. The renewal process affirmation contains the following language: "...to the best of my knowledge and belief the information contained in my online record, including jurisdiction specific requirements where I am licensed or registered, is true,

accurate and complete in accordance with the appropriate jurisdiction's law. Additionally, I acknowledge that I have a duty and agree to expediently update and correct the information as it changes." The affirmation further states that "I understand that submitting any false or misleading information, or omitting pertinent or material information, may be grounds for administrative action and/or criminal action."

- 4. Specifically, for item #5 of the affirmation, the Applicant must attest that she has "updated the documents on file with the jurisdiction(s) to disclose any new event or proceeding requiring an affirmative answer to any Disclosure Question which has occurred since submission of [her] license/registration application or renewal application to the applicable jurisdiction(s)."
- 5. The examiner obtained a public record background information report through LexisNexis. Following this, the examiner obtained a current Case Summary showing that the Applicant filed a Chapter 7 bankruptcy in the United States Bankruptcy Court, District of Idaho, Case Number 19-01087 TLM on September 20, 2019.
- 6. The examiner determined that the Applicant had failed, as required, to update/correct her online record in the NMLS to reflect the bankruptcy the Applicant filed on September 20, 2019, thus rendering the Applicant's affirmation on this renewal application false.
- 7. The failure to disclose the above-described bankruptcy is a relevant, pertinent, or material omission in the Applicant's responses to the Form MU4 application disclosure question (A)(1).

### **LEGAL CONCLUSIONS**

8. Paragraphs 1 through 7 above are fully incorporated herein by this reference.

- 9. 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.
- 10. Idaho Code § 26-31-305(1) provides that an applicant for a license shall apply through the NMLS in a form prescribed by the Director and that "Each form shall include such content as the director may reasonably require," and "shall be updated as necessary to keep the information current..." (Emphasis added.)
- 11. Idaho Code § 26-31-309(1)(c) provides that a licensee shall file through the NMLSR, on or before December 31 of each year, a renewal application containing such information as the director may require.
- 12. 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.
- 13. 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.
- 14. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 26-31-313(1)(b), the Director may decline to renew a license if an applicant withholds information or makes a material misstatement in an application for a license.

- 15. The Applicant made a material misstatement of fact in her application, which is grounds to deny her application for licensure. She failed to disclose the existence of a personal bankruptcy in the United States Bankruptcy Court, District of Idaho within a mere three months prior to the submission of the renewal application, and which bankruptcy case is not even closed as of this date. The failure to disclose the bankruptcy prohibits the Director from issuing a license to the Applicant pursuant to Idaho Code § 26-31-306(1)(h).
- 16. The Director finds it appropriate to deny the renewal application because the Applicant's failure to disclose on the Form MU4 the bankruptcy 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 renewal of her Idaho mortgage loan originator license, pursuant to Idaho Code § 26-31-313(1).
- 17. The Applicant did not update her Form MU4 information regarding the September 2019 bankruptcy, and she submitted a false affirmation in her renewal application. Both of these prohibit the Director from issuing a renewed license to the Applicant pursuant to Idaho Code § 26-31-306(1)(h).

## NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST A HEARING

The Applicant is HEREBY NOTIFIED that the foregoing NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE ORDER OF DENIAL OF MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATOR LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION will result in a final order of the Director, unless the Applicant timely submits a request for hearing as provided

for in Idaho Code § 67-5254. Such request for a hearing must be in writing and submitted to the Department within twenty-one (21) days after the service of this NOTICE. A copy of the request for contested case and hearing shall be served on the Department's counsel in this matter:

Thomas A. Donovan
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 Department will notify the Applicant of the date, time and place of the hearing, as well as the name and contact information of the presiding officer.
- 19. Any hearing and subsequent proceedings in this matter will be conducted in accordance with the Act and the Idaho Administrative Procedure Act, Idaho Code § 67-5201 et seg. and the Idaho Rules of Administrative Procedure (IDAPA 04.11.01).

20.

DATED this 18th day of December, 2019.

STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

MARY E. HUGHES, Acting Directo

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

true and correct fully-executed copy of the DENIAL OF MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATOR I	day of <u>December</u> , 2019, I caused as foregoing NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE ORDER OF CICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION AND NOTICE OF THE perserved on the following by the designated means:
1619 S Michigan Ave Boise, ID 83706	<ul> <li>[×] U.S. mail, postage prepaid</li> <li>[✓] certified mail</li> <li>[ ] facsimile</li> <li>[ ∠] email: heidi.laursen@pmrloans.com</li> </ul>
	Paralegal