

**BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
FOR THE STATE OF ARKANSAS**

ARKANSAS INSURANCE DEPARTMENT,)
Petitioner)
)
vs.)
)
JASON R. PEDIGO,)
Respondent)

A.I.D. NO. 2011- 045

REVOCATION ORDER

On this day, the matter of Jason R. Pedigo (“Respondent”) came before Jay Bradford, Arkansas Insurance Commissioner (“Commissioner”). A hearing was held at 1:00 p.m. on June 28, 2011 in the Administrative Conference Room of the Arkansas Insurance Department (“Department”) pursuant to a Notice of Hearing dated June 3, 2011. The hearing was held before Chief Deputy Commissioner Lenita Blasingame (“Hearing Officer”) pursuant to her appointment by the Commissioner in accordance with Ark. Code Ann. § 23-61-103. The Department was represented by Amanda Capps Rose, Associate Counsel.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Commissioner has jurisdiction pursuant to the Code, specifically Ark. Code Ann. §§ 23-61-101, *et seq.*
2. Respondent holds Arkansas Resident Producer License No. 297346 and resides in Little Rock, Arkansas.
3. Respondent’s Arkansas Resident Producer License was suspended on May 11, 2011 pursuant to an Emergency Suspension Order, A.I.D. Order No. 2011-032.
4. On or about February 2, 2011, the Department’s Legal Division received information regarding the Respondent’s insurance activities from the Department’s Criminal Investigation Division.

5. Based upon the Legal Division's review of the documentation it acquired, the following appears to be the sequence of events as they relate to William N. Looney:

a. On August 31, 2009, Pacific Life Insurance Company ("Pacific Life") received a request to issue a fixed annuity contract for Mr. Looney and a wire transfer of one hundred fifty-four thousand one hundred ninety dollars and forty-five cents (\$154,190.40).

b. The contract was mailed to the Respondent's business address on September 1, 2009 for delivery to Mr. Looney.

c. On March 2, 2010, Pacific Life received a telephone call from the Respondent, who stated that Mr. Looney was deceased and requested instructions on paperwork needed to make a claim.

d. A Withdrawal Request form was received by Pacific Life on August 26, 2010, which purports to be signed by William N. Looney and is dated August 26, 2010. The form requested a full surrender of the contract.

e. Pacific Life contacted the Respondent on August 26, 2010 to inform him that a full surrender could not be processed because Mr. Looney was deceased; however, the Respondent confirmed that Mr. Looney was still alive.

f. On August 30, 2010, Pacific Life received the Annuity Contract Confirmation, which purports to be signed by William N. Looney and is dated September 8, 2009.

g. A check dated August 30, 2010 was issued from Pacific Life in the amount of one hundred fifty-four thousand one hundred ninety dollars and forty-five cents (\$154,190.40) and made payable to William N. Looney.

h. Upon receipt of the check representing the surrender value, Mr. Looney's son called Pacific Life to inform them that their father was deceased.

i. The Death Certificate of William N. Looney lists the date of his death as

August 20, 2009.

6. The certified mail receipt shows that the Respondent received notice of the hearing scheduled and held on June 28, 2011, at which time he would have been given the opportunity to respond to the allegations as set forth above.

7. Respondent failed to appear in person or through legal counsel at the hearing held on June 28, 2011.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

From the Findings of Fact contained herein, the Commissioner concludes as follows:

8. Under the provisions of Ark. Code Ann. § 23-64-512(a)(7), (8), and (10), the Commissioner may revoke a producer license for having been found to have committed any insurance unfair trade practice or fraud, using fraudulent or dishonest practices or demonstrating untrustworthiness or lack of good personal or business reputation, or for forging another's name to any document relating to an insurance transaction..

9. Respondent's failure to cooperate the Department's investigation and subsequent hearing is grounds for revocation pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 23-64-512(a)(16) and (17).

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

Respondent's Arkansas Resident Producer License No. 297346 is hereby REVOKED. Respondent shall not conduct the business of insurance in the State of Arkansas unless and until he obtains a producer license at a future date consistent with the provisions of Ark. Code Ann. § 23-64-217(b).

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 30th day of June, 2011.


LENITA BLASINGAME
CHIEF DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
STATE OF ARKANSAS