

BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
FOR THE STATE OF ARKANSAS

ARKANSAS INSURANCE DEPARTMENT)
PETITIONER)
)
VS.)
)
JOSEPH HIBBARD)
NPN 17073928)
RESPONDENT)
)

A.I.D. NO. 2020- 15

EMERGENCY SUSPENSION ORDER

On this day, the emergency matter of Joseph Hibbard (“Respondent”) came before Allen Kerr, Arkansas Insurance Commissioner (“Commissioner”). The Arkansas Insurance Department (“Department”) was represented by Gray Allen Turner, Associate Counsel, in this matter. From the facts and law before the Commissioner, he finds as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent holds Arkansas Resident Producer License No. 17073928 and resides in Pope County.
2. On or about October 8, 2019, the Pope County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office filed a criminal information charging Respondent with felony theft of property.
3. Respondent failed to disclose to the Department the filing of the felony information within thirty days as required by Ark. Code Ann. §23-64-201.
4. On December 2, 2019, Respondent entered a plea of guilty to theft of

property, Ark. Code Ann. § 5-36-103, a felony. He was placed on probation for four years and ordered to pay restitution to Allstate in the amount of \$1233.90.

5. The public health, safety, and welfare imperatively require emergency action.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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

1. The Commissioner has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 23-61-103.

2. The Commissioner has the authority to issue an emergency license suspension pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 23-64-216(e) and 25-15-211(c).

3. Under the provisions of Ark. Code Ann. § 23-64-201, the failure of a licensee to notify the Department of the filing of a criminal information is grounds for suspension of a producer's license.

4. Under the provisions of Ark. Code Ann. § 23-64-223, the failure of a licensee to maintain client funds in trust for an insurance customer is grounds for suspension or revocation of a producer's license.

5. For the public health, safety, and welfare of the people of this State, the Commissioner concludes that the Respondent's Arkansas Resident Producer License No. 17073928 is immediately and summarily suspended pending an

administrative hearing pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 23-64-216(e). A Notice of Hearing was sent to the Respondent simultaneously with this Order.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

Respondent's Arkansas Resident Producer License No. 17073928 is hereby SUSPENDED. Respondent shall not, during the term of this suspension, conduct the business of insurance in the State of Arkansas.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 13th DAY OF JANUARY 2020.



ALLEN KERR
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
STATE OF ARKANSAS