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AUG 2 2 2011

UTAH STATE
INSURANCE DEPT.

BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF UTAH

**COMPLAINANT:** 

UTAH INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

**RESPONDENT:** 

THE HUNTER GROUP, LLC 359 EAST MAIN, SUITE 1 AMERICAN FORK, UT 84003 License No. 4988

#### STIPULATION AND ORDER

Docket No. 2011-168 PC

Enf. Case No. 2927

## **STIPULATION**

- 1. Respondent, The Hunter Group, LLC is a resident agency in the State of Utah holding license number 4988.
- 2. Respondent stipulates with the Complainant, Utah Insurance Department, as follows:
  - a. If a hearing were held, witnesses called by the Complainant could offer and introduce evidence that would support the Findings of Fact herein;
  - b. Respondent admits the Findings of Fact and Conclusions made therefrom;

 Respondent stipulates to the summary entry of the Order herein which shall be in lieu of other administrative proceedings by Complainant in this matter; and

d. Respondent and Complainant have negotiated the terms of the Order entered herein and Respondent agrees to its entry and further agrees to be bound by all its terms.

3. Respondent is aware of its right to a hearing at which it may be represented by counsel, present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. Respondent has irrevocably waived its right to such hearing and to any appeal related thereto.

4. Respondent admits the jurisdiction of the State of Utah Insurance Commissioner as to all matters herein.

5. Respondent is acting herein free from any duress or coercion of any kind or nature, having been advised fully as to its rights set forth herein.

6. Respondent acknowledges that the issuance of this Order by the Commissioner is solely for purpose of disposition of the matter entitled herein.

DATED this 10th day of A 126 VST, 2011.

THÈ HUNTER GROUP LLC

Thomas H. Hunter, Owner

UTAH INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

M. Gale Lemmon

Assistant Attorney General

Based upon the foregoing Stipulation and information in the file, the Presiding Officer makes the following Findings of Fact:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. An employee of Respondent, The Hunter Group LLC, posted an advertisement in a local sandwich shop offering a \$20 gift card to the shop or two movie tickets in exchange for a quote and sale.
  - 2. The ad was posted for approximately one year.
  - 3. There were no quotes and sales as a result of this advertisement.
- 5. When Respondent was notified of the violation, it quickly pulled the ad and has agreed to an administrative forfeiture of \$500.00.

Based upon the foregoing Stipulation and Findings of Fact, the Presiding Officer enters the following Conclusions of Law:

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. Utah Administrative Code R590-154-11 states:
- A. A licensee may not give or offer to give any prizes, goods, wares, merchandise or item of value as an inducement to enter into any insurance or annuity contract or as an inducement to receive a quote, submit an application or in connection with any other solicitation for the sale of an insurance or annuity contract. However, anything with an acquisition cost of \$3.00 or less shall not be considered an inducement.
  - B. Subsection A of this section does not prohibit the giving of promotional gifts or merchandise that is generally available to the public and not given in a manner to constitute an inducement to receive a quote or other solicitation or to purchase any insurance or annuity contract, nor does it prohibit insurers from providing sales incentives to producers.
  - C. This section does not prohibit the usual kinds of social courtesies as long as they are not related to a particular transaction as stated in Subsection 31A-23a-402(2)(a). If the receiving of the

social courtesy is dependent on obtaining a quote, submitting an application or purchasing a policy or contract, it is related to a particular transaction.

D. This section does not apply to title insurers or producers. Rule R590-153 is the applicable rule for the marketing of title insurance.

- 2. Respondent violated the above provision by offering a gift card or movie tickets for a quote and sale.
- 3. An administrative forfeiture in the amount of \$500.00 is appropriate under the circumstances of this case.

Based upon the foregoing Stipulation, Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Presiding Officer herewith enters the following Order:

## **ORDER**

## IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

Respondent The Hunter Group LLC is hereby assessed an administrative forfeiture in the amount of \$500.00 to be paid to the Department within 30 days from the date of this Order.

DATED this 23 day of August, 2011.

NEAL T. GOOCH

Insurance Commissioner

Administrative Law Judge Utah Insurance Department

State Office Building Room 3110

Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Telephone 801-538-3800

# **NOTIFICATION**

You are hereby notified that a failure to obey an Order of Commissioner may subject you to further penalties, including forfeitures of up to \$5,000 per violation and the suspension or revocation of your license and the filing of an action in district court, which may impose forfeitures of up to \$10,000 per day for continued violation.

You are further notified that other jurisdictions in which you may be licensed may require that you report this action to them.