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BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF UTAH

<p>UTAH INSURANCE DEPARTMENT, Complainant, vs. DENNIS JAY BLEDSOE, Respondent.</p>	<p>FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER</p> <p>Docket No. 2021-4325</p> <p>Donald H. Hansen Administrative Law Judge/Presiding Officer</p>
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Complainant, Utah Insurance Department (“Department”), and Respondent, Dennis Jay Bledsoe (“Respondent”), by and through counsel, have stipulated to entry of the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order. Respondent does not admit or deny the factual findings or legal conclusions set forth herein and has stipulated to the following for settlement purposes. Based upon that stipulation, and good cause appearing, the Presiding Officer makes and enters the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is a resident individual producer holding Utah license number 142267.
2. Respondent began working for Allstate Insurance Company (“Allstate”) in 2003 as an

exclusive financial specialist, selling life insurance and financial services.

3. In the spring of 2018, Respondent assisted an individual (the “Insured”) in converting a term life insurance policy to an Allstate Life Insurance Company Universal Life Policy (the “Policy”).

4. In the fall of 2018, the agent who referred the Insured to Respondent notified Respondent that the Insured planned to stop paying the premium on the Policy. Thereafter, Respondent made two premium payments on the Insured’s Policy to keep the Policy in force to avoid a commission chargeback.

5. The Insured did not know that Respondent had paid the premium and did not direct Respondent to pay the premium. The Insured called Allstate on various occasions to cancel the Policy. Respondent was not aware that the Insured had called Allstate to cancel the Policy.

6. The Department and Respondent have agreed to an administrative forfeiture of \$250.00.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Utah Insurance Commissioner (“Commissioner”) has jurisdiction over the parties and this adjudicative proceeding pursuant to Utah Code §§ 31A-1-105 and 31A-2-201.

2. The Commissioner has legal authority to impose penalties on licensees who violate the Utah Insurance Code pursuant to Utah Code § 31A-2-308.

3. Based on the parties’ stipulation, the Commissioner finds that Respondent violated Utah Code § 31A-23a-111(5)(b)(xvi) when he paid a consumer’s life insurance premium to avoid a commission chargeback on the policy.

4. As penalty for the violation in this case, Respondent should be ordered to pay a

forfeiture of \$250.00.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is hereby Ordered that:

1. Respondent shall pay a forfeiture of \$250.00 for the violations described in the Conclusions of Law.
2. Respondent is ordered not to commit the violation described in the Conclusions of Law in the future.

DATED this 29th day of June, 2021.

JONATHAN T. PIKE
Utah Insurance Commissioner

/s/ Donald H. Hansen
Donald H. Hansen
Administrative Law Judge/Presiding Officer
Utah Insurance Department
4315 South 2700 West, Suite 2300
Taylorsville, UT 84129
801-957-9321
Email: uidadmincases@utah.gov

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT

Failure to obey this Order may subject you to further penalties that include forfeitures of up to \$2,500 per violation, with each day of the violation constituting a separate violation. Other penalties for failing to obey this Order may include license suspension, probation, refusal to renew, or revocation. Failure to obey this Order may also result in an action taken against you in a court of competent jurisdiction where forfeitures of up to \$10,000 for each day the failure to comply continues until judgment is rendered. If you are licensed in other jurisdictions, you may be required to report this proceeding to those jurisdictions.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that on this date a true and correct copy of the foregoing

Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order was emailed to:

Jordan C. Bledsoe
Stoel Rives LLP

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Helen A. Frohlich
Assistant Attorney General

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DATED this 29th day of June, 2021.

/s/ Jeanine Couser
Jeanine Couser
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801-957-9321