No. 2020 - 6220

## Official Order of the Texas Commissioner of Insurance

# Date: JAN 3 0 2020

**Subject Considered:** 

Texas Heritage Title, LLC 135 S Mount Fairfield, Texas 75840

Consent Order TDI Enforcement File No. 21877

## General remarks and official action taken:

This is a consent order with Texas Heritage Title, LLC. The Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) alleges that Texas Heritage Title, LLC did not timely submit its annual escrow audit reports for the years 2015 through 2018. Texas Heritage Title, LLC has agreed to pay a \$20,000 administrative penalty.

### Waiver

Texas Heritage Title, LLC acknowledges that the Texas Insurance Code and other applicable laws provide certain rights. Texas Heritage Title, LLC waives all of these rights, and any other applicable procedural rights, in consideration of the entry of this consent order.

## **Findings of Fact**

- 1. TDI issued Texas Heritage Title, LLC a title agency license, no. 1877291, on January 19, 2007.
- 2. Title agents are required to submit an annual trust fund account audit report performed by an independent certified public accountant not later than the 90<sup>th</sup>



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day after the end of the agent's fiscal year to TDI and to each title company the agent represents.

- 3. According to TDI records, Texas Heritage Title, LLC's fiscal year ends on December 31<sup>st</sup> of every year.
- 4. In May 2019, TDI conducted a compliance audit of Texas Heritage Title, LLC.
- 5. Texas Heritage Title, LLC did not timely submit its annual trust fund audit reports to TDI for the years 2015 through 2018.
- 6. On July 29, 2019, Texas Heritage Title, LLC submitted its 2015 through 2018 annual trust fund audit reports to TDI.

## **Conclusions of Law**

- 1. The commissioner has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to TEX. INS. CODE §§ 31.002, 82.051-82.056, 84.021-84.022, 2651.151, 2651.154; TEX. GOV'T CODE §§ 2001.051-2001.178; and 28 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§ 21.4001, 21.4002 and 21.4003.
- 2. The commissioner has authority to informally dispose of this matter as set forth under TEX. GOV'T CODE § 2001.056, TEX. INS. CODE §§ 36.104 and 82.055, and 28 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 1.47.
- 3. Texas Heritage Title, LLC has knowingly and voluntarily waived all procedural rights to which it may have been entitled regarding the entry of this order, including, but not limited to, issuance and service of notice of intention to institute disciplinary action, notice of hearing, a public hearing, a proposal for decision, rehearing by the commissioner, and judicial review.
- 4. Texas Heritage Title, LLC violated TEX. INS. CODE § 2651.151 because it did not submit its annual trust fund audit reports to TDI.

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### Order

It is ordered that Texas Heritage Title, LLC must pay an administrative penalty of \$20,000 within 30 days from the date of this order. The administrative penalty must be paid by cashier's check or money order made payable to the "State of Texas" and transmitted to the Texas Department of Insurance, Attn: Enforcement Section, Division 60851, MC 9999, P.O. Box 149104, Austin, Texas, 78714-9104.

Kent C. Sullivan Commissioner of Insurance By:

Doug Slape Chief Deputy Commissioner Commissioner's Order No. 2018-5528

Recommended and reviewed by:

Leah Gillum, Deputy Commissioner Enforcement Division

eann ridetts

Jeannie Ricketts, Staff Attorney Enforcement Division

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#### Affidavit

STATE OF Texas COUNTY OF Freest

Before me, the undersigned authority, personally appeared Michelle Fowler who being by me duly sworn, deposed as follows:

"My name is Michelle Fowler. I am of sound mind, capable of making this statement, and have personal knowledge of these facts which are true and correct.

I hold the office of <u>Manager</u> \_\_\_\_\_\_ and am the authorized representative of Texas Heritage Title, LLC. I am duly authorized by said organization to execute this statement.

Texas Heritage Title, LLC has knowingly and voluntarily entered into the foregoing consent order and agrees with and consents to the issuance and service of the same by the commissioner of insurance of the state of Texas."

Affiant

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me on <u>11-19</u>, 2019.

(NOTARY SEAL)

STANNE LF Signature of Notary Public

11 TOF TEXAS

Printed Name of Notary Public