Official Order of the Texas Commissioner of Insurance

Date: <u>09/09/2021</u>

Subject Considered:

Jean Marc Chouinard

St. Cloud, FL 34772

Default Order SOAH Docket No. 454-21-3061.C TDI Enforcement File No. 25645

General remarks and official action taken:

This is a default order taken against Jean Marc Chouinard (Respondent) because he forged or caused to be forged a signature purporting to be that of Texas resident on a public insurance adjuster contract and because he operates an entity that performs acts constituting the business of insurance and that entity is not licensed in Texas. Respondent did not respond to a Notice of Hearing filed by the Texas Department of Insurance. This order revokes Respondent's license.

The following findings of fact and conclusions of law are adopted:

Findings of Fact

Failure to Respond to Notice of Hearing

- On August 4, 2021, the department filed a Notice of Hearing, attached as Exhibit
 A, and an Original Petition, attached as Exhibit B, with the State Office of
 Administrative Hearings.
- 2. The department's factual allegations set out in the attached Notice of Hearing and Original Petition are incorporated in this order as findings of fact.

Commissioner's Order Jean Marc Chouinard SOAH Docket No. 454-21-3061.C Page 2 of 5

- 3. The department sent the Notice of Hearing and Original Petition to Respondent's last known address provided in writing to the department, St. Cloud, FL 34772. The Notice of Hearing and Original Petition were also sent by electronic mail.
- 4. Respondent failed to file a written response to the Notice of Hearing within 20 days of the date the Notice of Hearing and Original Petition were mailed.

Conclusions of Law

- 1. The commissioner has jurisdiction under Texas law, including Tex. Ins. Code §§ 82.051-82.055, 4001.002, 4001.102, 4001.105, 4005.101-4005.105, 4102.051 and 4101.051; Tex. Occ. Code §§ 53.021-53.023; 28 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.502; and Tex. Gov't Code §§ 2001.051-2001.178.
- 2. The commissioner has authority to dispose of this case informally under Tex. Gov'T CODE § 2001.056; Tex. Ins. Code § 82.055; and 28 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 1.47, 1.88, and 1.89.
- 3. The department provided proper notice of the hearing under Tex. GOV'T CODE §§ 2001.051, 2001.052, and 2001.054, and 28 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §§ 1.28, 1.88, 1.89, and 19.906.
- 4. Based on Respondent's failure to file a written response to the Notice of Hearing, the department is entitled to disposition by default under 28 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §§ 1.88 and 1.89.
- 5. The department's factual and legal allegations set out in the attached Notice of Hearing and Original Petition are incorporated in this order and deemed admitted as true under 28 Tex. ADMIN. CODE § 1.89.

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Order

It is ordered that any licenses held by Jean Marc Chouinard are revoked. A copy of this order will be provided to law enforcement and/or other appropriate administrative agencies for further investigation as may be warranted.

Commissioner of Insurance

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Doug Slape C77AB7CBC21B435

DocuSigned by:

Doug Slape

Chief Deputy Commissioner

Tex. Gov't Code § 601.002

Commissioner's Order No. 2018-5528

Prepared and reviewed by:

Syduely MODE Sydney Moore, Staff Attorney

Enforcement Division

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Affidavit

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF TRAVIS §

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

"My name is David Moreno and I am employed by the Texas Department of Insurance. I am of sound mind, capable of making this affidavit, and have personal knowledge of these facts which are true and correct.

I have reviewed TDI's records concerning Jean Marc Chouinard. I have confirmed that:

- a. The last mailing address provided to the department in writing by Jean Marc Chouinard is St. Cloud, FL 34772.
- b. The file maintained by the Enforcement Division contains a Notice of Hearing and Original Petition dated August 4, 2021, which were filed with the State Office of Administrative Hearings.
- c. On August 4, 2021, the Notice of Hearing and Original Petition addressed to Jean Marc Chouinard were mailed certified, return receipt requested, to his last known address.

A copy of the certified mail log maintained by the Enforcement Division is attached as Exhibit C."

DocuSigned by:	
David Moreno	
5CF5D20E9C3C436	
Affiant	

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SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me by means of an interactive two-way audio and video communication on $\frac{8/30/2021}{}$. This notarial act was an online notarization.

Notary Seal



Digital Certificate

DocuSigned by:

Mary Ruiz

795DC4D59167489...

Notary Public State of Texas

FILED 454-21-3061 8/4/2021 8:56 AM STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS Carol Hale, CLERK ACCEPTED 454-21-3061 08/04/2021 9:02 AM STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS Carol Hale, CLERK

SOAH DOCKET NO. 454-21-3061.C TDI ENFORCEMENT FILE NO. 25645

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE,	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE						
Petitioner							
v.	OF						
JEAN MARC CHOUINARD,	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS						
Respondent	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS						

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Texas Department of Insurance seeks to take disciplinary action against you. This Notice of Hearing and the Original Petition, which is attached and incorporated for all purposes, states the allegations against you and the relief sought by the Department.

A public hearing will be held before an Administrative Law Judge on **Wednesday**, **November 17**, **2021**, **at 9:00 a.m.** The hearing will take place via videoconference using a videoconference platform controlled by the State Office of Administrative Hearings, unless otherwise ordered to proceed in another manner by the Administrative Law Judge.

The hearing shall be conducted under Tex. GOV'T CODE, ch. 2001 and 1 Tex. ADMIN. CODE, ch. 155. Unless otherwise directed by the Administrative Law Judge, the hearing shall continue from day to day in the offices of the State Office of Administrative Hearings until concluded. You have the right to appear at this hearing and to be represented by an attorney.

Parties that are not represented by an attorney may obtain information regarding contested case hearings on the public website of the State Office of Administrative Hearings at www.soah.texas.gov, or in printed format upon request to SOAH.

YOU MUST FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE NOTICE OF HEARING WITH THE STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS WITHIN 20 DAYS OF THE DATE THE NOTICE OF HEARING WAS MAILED. FAILURE TO FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE BY THIS DEADLINE SHALL ENTITLE TDI TO SEEK DISPOSITION BY DEFAULT UNDER 1 Tex. Admin. Code § 155.501 AND 28 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 1.88 AND 1.89.

EXHIBIT

A

Notice of Hearing Jean Marc Chouinard SOAH Docket No. 454-21-3061.C Page 2 of 5

IF YOU FAIL TO FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE, THE SCHEDULED HEARING CAN BE CANCELED AND WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE CAN ISSUE AN ORDER IN WHICH THE ALLEGATIONS IN THE NOTICE OF HEARING ARE DEEMED ADMITTED AS TRUE AND THE RELIEF SOUGHT IN THE NOTICE OF HEARING, INCLUDING REVOCATION OF YOUR LICENSE, ISSUANCE OF A CEASE AND DESIST ORDER, IMPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES, AND/OR PAYMENT OF RESTITUTION IS GRANTED BY DEFAULT.

IF YOU FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE BUT THEN FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DAY AND TIME SET FOR HEARING, WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU, THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE CAN ISSUE AN ORDER IN WHICH THE ALLEGATIONS IN THE NOTICE OF HEARING ARE DEEMED ADMITTED AS TRUE AND THE RELIEF SOUGHT IN THE NOTICE OF HEARING, INCLUDING REVOCATION OF YOUR LICENSE, ISSUANCE OF A CEASE AND DESIST ORDER, IMPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES, AND/OR PAYMENT OF RESTITUTION IS GRANTED BY DEFAULT.

In accord with 28 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.90(e) and 1 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 155.101 and 155.103, you should send copies of your written response to:

- (1) Docketing Division
 State Office of Administrative Hearings
 300 West 15th Street, Room 504
 P.O. Box 13025
 Austin, Texas 78711-3025
 (512) 322-2061 (Fax);
- (2) Chief Clerk
 Texas Department of Insurance
 P.O. Box 12030, MC GC-CCO
 Austin, Texas 78711-2030
 (512) 490-1064 (Fax)
 chiefclerk@tdi.texas.gov; and
- (3) Sydney Moore, Staff Attorney
 Texas Department of Insurance
 Enforcement Division, MC ENF
 P.O. Box 12030
 Austin, Texas 78711-2030

Notice of Hearing Jean Marc Chouinard SOAH Docket No. 454-21-3061.C Page 3 of 5

> (512) 490-1020 (Fax) Sydney.moore@tdi.texas.gov

Receiving Documents

The State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) offers you the ability to receive service of orders and other documents issued by SOAH through email instead of by mail or fax. If you want to receive SOAH-issued documents by email, go to SOAH's website, www.soah.texas.gov, click on the "E-Services" tab, then click the hyperlink "Request Service by Email (only for use by self-represented litigants)," and follow the instructions.

NOTE: A request to receive SOAH-issued documents by email does not change the procedures you must follow to file documents with SOAH. The rules for filing documents and providing copies to all other parties in the case are described in SOAH's Procedural Rules, which are available on SOAH's website. Click the "Agency" tab, then click "Administrative Rules and Laws" to view SOAH's Procedural Rules.

Important Security Notice

ALL VISITORS TO THE WILLIAM P. CLEMENTS BUILDING WITHOUT AN AGENCY OR DPS ISSUED ID CARD MUST PROVIDE THE BUILDING SECURITY OFFICER WITH THE STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS DOCKET NUMBER AND RECEIVE A VISITOR'S PASS IN ORDER TO BE ALLOWED ACCESS TO THE HEARING ROOM. INDIVIDUALS SHOULD ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME TO GO THROUGH THE SECURITY PROCESS.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the address or telephone number shown below

Notice of Hearing Jean Marc Chouinard SOAH Docket No. 454-21-3061.C Page 4 of 5

Respectfully Submitted,

Sydney Moore

State Bar No. 24056052

Texas Department of Insurance Enforcement Division, MC ENF P.O. Box 12030 Austin, Texas 78711-2030

(512) 676-6339 (Direct) (512) 490-1020 (Fax)

Sydney.moore@tdi.texas.gov

ATTORNEY FOR THE PETITIONER
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Enclosure: Original Petition

cc: Leah Gillum, Deputy Commissioner, Enforcement Division, MC ENF Whitney Fraser, Litigation Director, Enforcement Division, MC ENF Administrative Review, MC CO-AAL

Notice of Hearing Jean Marc Chouinard SOAH Docket No. 454-21-3061.C Page 5 of 5

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Sydney Moore, certify that a true and correct copy of the *Notice of Hearing and the Original Petition* were sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, on this 4th day of August, 2021 to:

Jean Marc Chouinard

St. Cloud, FL 34772 Respondent Pro Se Via CM/RRR No.: 9214 8901 9403 8346 1275 31

Sydney Moore

FILED **2021-6983** 454-21-3061 8/3/2021 10:28 AM STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS Carol Hale, CLERK

454-21-3061

ACCEPTED 454-21-3061 08/03/2021 5:13 PM STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS Carol Hale, CLERK

SOAH DOCKET NO. 454-_____ TDI ENFORCEMENT FILE NO. 25645

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE,	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE					
Petitioner						
v.	OF					
JEAN MARC CHOINARD,	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS					
Respondent	ADMINISTRATIVE REAKINGS					

ORIGINAL PETITION

The Texas Department of Insurance seeks to take disciplinary action against Jean Marc Chouinard. In support of this petition, the department makes the following allegations upon information and belief:

Jurisdiction

The Commissioner of Insurance has jurisdiction over this matter under Tex. INS. CODE §§ 82.051-82.055, 4001.002, 4005.101, 4005.102, and 4102.051, and Tex. Gov't Code §§ 2001.051-2001.178.

Factual Allegations

- 1. Jean Marc Chouinard (Chouinard) holds a public insurance adjuster license issued by the department on April 18, 2020.
- Chouinard is the registered owner of ClaimsPro USA, LLC, a Florida Limited Liability Company with principal address of 3223 Country Side View Dr., Saint Cloud, FL 34772.
- 3. ClaimsPro USA, LLC does not hold a valid agency license in the state of Texas.
- 4. Chouinard used a public insurance adjuster agreement with ClaimsPro USA, LLC letterhead to sign up a Texas resident for his services.

EXHIBIT
B

Original Petition Jean Marc Chouinard Page 2 of 3

5. Chouinard forged or caused to be forged a signature purporting to be that of a Texas resident on a public insurance adjuster contract to Texas Fair Plan Association.

Legal Allegations

- 1. Chouinard engaged in fraudulent or dishonest acts or practices, as contemplated by Tex. Ins. Code § 4005.101(b)(5).
- 2. Chouinard violated Tex. Ins. Code § 4102.162 when he used a different name from that which he is currently licensed in an advertisement, solicitation, or contract for business and the name was not under a valid assumed name certificate as provided by Chapter 71 of the Tex. Bus. & Com. Code.
- 3. Chouinard violated Tex. Ins. Code § 101.102 by operating an entity, to wit, ClaimsPro USA, LLC, that directly or indirectly performed acts which constitute the business of insurance, as that term is defined in Tex. Ins. Code § § 101.01 and that entity does not hold an insurance license or other authorization issued by the Texas Department of Insurance.

Relief Sought

If one or more of the above allegations is found to be true, the department asks the Administrative Law Judge to enter a Proposal for Decision recommending that the Commissioner of Insurance issue an order:

- 1. revoking Chouinard's license and
- 2. imposing any other just and appropriate relief to which the department may be entitled to by law, including any combination of the above actions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sydney Moore

State Bar No. 24056052

Texas Department of Insurance

Original Petition Jean Marc Chouinard Page 3 of 3

> Enforcement Division, MC ENF P.O. Box 12030 Austin, Texas 78711-2030 (512) 676-6339 (Direct) (512) 490-1020 (Fax) Sydney.moore@tdi.texas.gov

ATTORNEY FOR THE PETITIONER
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE



Shipment Confirmation Acceptance Notice

Mailer Action

Note to Mailer: The labels and volume associated to this form online, must match the labeled packages being presented to the USPS® employee with this form.

Shipment Date: 08/04/2021

Shipped From:

Name: MC 110-1A D MORENO

Address: 333 GUADALUPE ST

City: AUSTIN

State: TX ZIP+4® 78701

Type of Mail	Volume							
Priority Mail Express®*								
Priority Mail®	0							
First-Class Package Service®			172					
Returns								
International*								
Other	1							
Total	1							

^{*}Start time for products with service guarantees will begin when mail arrives at the local Post Office™ and items receive individual processing and acceptance scans.

B. USPS Action

Note to RSS Clerk:

1. Home screen > Mailing/Shipping > More

Select Shipment Confirm
Scan or enter the barcode/label number from PS Form 5630
Confirm the volume count message by selecting Yes or No
Select Pay and End Visit to complete transaction

USPS EMPLOYEE: Please scan upon pickup or receipt of mail. Leave form with customer or in customer's mail receptacle.

USPS SCAN AT ACCEPTANCE



9275 0901 1935 6200 0030 7235 41

EXHIBIT

TDI - ENFORCEMEN

moore/25645

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