No. 2021-7084

Official Order of the Texas Commissioner of Insurance

Date: <u>11/18/2021</u>

Subject Considered:

Anita Louise Matthews

Beaumont, TX 77701

Default Order SOAH Docket No. 454-21-2142 TDI Enforcement File No. 24910

General remarks and official action taken:

This is a default order taken against Anita Louise Matthews (Respondent) because she misappropriated, converted to her own use, or illegally withheld money belonging to an insurer. Respondent did not respond to a Notice of Hearing filed by the Texas Department of Insurance or appear at the hearing on the merits. 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

- 1. On April 28, 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 Anita Louise Matthews SOAH Docket No. 454-21-2142 Page 2 of 5

- The department sent the Notice of Hearing and Original Petition to Respondent's last known address provided in writing to the department, TX 77701. 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.

Failure to Appear at Hearing on the Merits

5. After receiving proper notice of the date, time, and location of the hearing on the merits, Respondent failed to appear for the hearing on November 3, 2021, as shown in the record in SOAH Docket No. 454-21-2142. C.

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, 4054.051, 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 and failure to appear in person or by legal representative at the 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.

Commissioner's Order Anita Louise Matthews SOAH Docket No. 454-21-2142 Page 3 of 5

Order

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

DocuSigned by:

Cassie Brown Commissioner of Insurance

Prepared and reviewed by:

L. Merída

Latoya Merida, Staff Attorney Enforcement Division

Commissioner's Order Anita Louise Matthews SOAH Docket No. 454-21-2142 Page 4 of 5

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 Anita Louise Matthews. I have confirmed that:

- a. The last mailing address provided to the department in writing by Anita Louise Matthews is Beaumont, TX 77701.
- b. The file maintained by the Enforcement Division contains a Notice of Hearing and Original Petition dated April 28, 2021, which were filed with the State Office of Administrative Hearings.
- c. On April 28, 2021, the Notice of Hearing and Original Petition addressed to Anita Louise Matthews were mailed certified, return receipt requested, to her last known address.

Copies of the certified mail log maintained by the Enforcement Division are attached as Exhibit C."

DocuSigned by: David Moreno -04E241525AFA470... Affiant

Commissioner's Order Anita Louise Matthews SOAH Docket No. 454-21-2142 Page 5 of 5

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me by means of an interactive two-way audio and video communication on $\frac{11/5/2021}{}$. This notarial act was an online notarization.

Notary Seal



Digital Certificate

DocuSigned by: Mary Ruiz

Notary Public State of Texas

FILED 454-21-2142 4/28/2021 8:42 AM STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS Carol Hale, CLERK

SOAH DOCKET NO. 454-21-2142 TDI ENFORCEMENT FILE NO. 24910

ACCEPTED 454-21-2142 04/28/2021 8:46 AM STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS Carol Hale, CLERK

TEXAS	DEPARTMENT	OF	INSURANCE,	

BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE

OF

Petitioner

v.

ANITA LOUISE MATTHEWS,

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

Respondent

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 **Tuesday**, **July 27**, **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 pursuant to 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 PURSUANT TO 1 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 155.501 AND 28 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§ 1.88 AND 1.89.

EXHIBIT	

Notice of Hearing Anita Louise Matthews SOAH Docket No. 454-21-2142 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:

- 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 78714-9104 (512) 490-1064 (Fax) chiefclerk@tdi.texas.gov; and
- Latoya Merida, Staff Attorney Texas Department of Insurance Enforcement Division, MC ENF P.O. Box 12030 Austin, Texas 78711-2030

Notice of Hearing Anita Louise Matthews SOAH Docket No. 454-21-2142 Page 3 of 5

> (512) 490-1020 (Fax) Latoya.merida@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 Anita Louise Matthews SOAH Docket No. 454-21-2142 Page 4 of 5

Respectfully Submitted,

L. Merida

Latoya Merida State Bar No. 24089625 Texas Department of Insurance Enforcement Division, MC ENF P.O. Box 12030 Austin, Texas 78711-2030 (512) 676-6344 (Direct) (512) 490-1020 (Fax) Latoya.merida@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 Anita Louise Matthews SOAH Docket No. 454-21-2142 Page 5 of 5

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Latoya Merida, certify that a true and correct copy of the *Notice of Hearing and the Original Petition* were sent by certified mail, return receipt requested and by email, on this 28th day of April 2021 to:

Anita Louise Matthews

CM/RRR: 9214 8901 9403 8338 7214 57

Beaumont, TX 77701 Respondent Pro Se

Via Email:

L. Merida

Latoya Merida

FILED **2021-7084** 454-21-214Z 4/27/2021 1:32 PM STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS Carol Hale, CLERK

454-21-2142

SOAH DOCKET NO. 454-____ TDI ENFORCEMENT FILE NO. 24910

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE,

BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE

ACCEPTED

454-21-2142 04/27/2021 2:18 PM STATE OFFICE OF

Carol Hale, CLERK

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

Petitioner

v.

ANITA LOUISE MATTHEWS.

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

OF

Respondent

ORIGINAL PETITION

The Texas Department of Insurance seeks to take disciplinary action against Anita Louise Matthews. 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 pursuant to TEX. INS. CODE §§ 82.051-82.055, 4001.002, 4005.101, 4005.102, and 4051.201 and 4054.051, and TEX. GOV'T CODE §§ 2001.051-2001.178.

Factual Allegations

- 1. Anita Louise Matthews (Matthews) holds a general lines agent license, individual identification number 128680, with a life, accident, health, and HMO qualification issued by the department on March 6, 2002.
- 2. While working for American National Insurance Company, Matthews misappropriated and converted to her own use premiums in the amount of \$1,921.76.
- 3. Matthews collected premiums and then failed to remit the money to American National Insurance Company.

EXHIBIT	٦
В	

4. The Department of Insurance sent a request for information to Matthews on November 12, 2019, and December 10, 2019, regarding these allegations and Matthews failed to timely respond.

Legal Allegations

- 1. Matthews has committed acts for which a license holder may be disciplined under TEX. INS. CODE § 4005.101, as contemplated in TEX. INS. CODE § 4005.102.
- 2. Matthews has misappropriated or converted for her own use money belonging to an insured or insurer, as contemplated by TEX. INS. CODE § 4005.101(b)(4).
- 3. Matthews has engaged in fraudulent or dishonest acts or practices, as contemplated by Tex. INS. CODE § 4005.101(b)(5).
- 4. Matthews failed to respond to a written inquiry pursuant to TEX. INS. CODE § 38.001.

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 Anita Louise Matthews's license;
- 2. directing Matthews to make restitution to victim under TEX. INS. CODE § 82.053; and
- 3. 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,

L. Merida

Latoya Merida State Bar No. 24089625 Texas Department of Insurance Enforcement Division, MC ENF P.O. Box 12030 Austin, Texas 78711-2030

Original Petition Anita Louise Matthews Page 3 of 3

> (512) 676-6344 (Direct) (512) 490-1020 (Fax) Latoya.merida@tdi.texas.gov

ATTORNEY FOR THE PETITIONER TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE



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 Confirmation Acceptance Notice

Shipment Date: 04/28/2021

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®						
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:

- Home screen > Mailing/Shipping > More 1.
- Select Shipment Confirm
- 2. 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 4. 5

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



PS Form 3877, January 2017 (Page 1 of 1)	Total Number of Pieces Listed by Sender 1	TDI - ENFORCEMENT	APR 2 9 2021						merida/24910	1. 9214 8901 9403 8338 7214 57	USPS Tracking/Article Number	Name and Address of Sender MC 110-1A D MORENO TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE 333 GUADALUPE ST AUSTIN TX 78701	POSTAL SERVICE &
Complete in Ink	Postmaster, Per (Name of receiving employee)				NOC NOC	2 2 (2)	781			ANITA LOUISE MATTHEWS BEAUMONT, TX 77701	Addressee (Name, Street, City, State, & ZIP Code W)	Chec Adu Adu Cer Cer Coll Insu Prio	
vacy No	A 1 2 2 4				E	AUSTIN	9			0.71	Postage	· · ·	
tice: Fo	1.20									3.60	(Extra Service) Fee	Affix Stamp Here (for additional copies Postmark with Date	
r more ii	and the second	Ha	ndling Ch	arge - if	Register	ed and c	ver \$50,	000 in va	alue		Handling	np Here al copies c rith Date	
Privacy Notice: For more information on USPS privacy policies, visit usps.com/privacypolicy.	10.00										Actual Value if Registered		
on USP											Insured Value		
S priva								-			Due Sender if COD		Firm Mailing
cy poli				Adu	lt Signat	ure Requ	ired				Fee	-	ailing
cies, v				Adult Sig	nature R	estricted	l Deliver	V			ASRD		
risit u:				F	estricte	l Deliver	y		s		Fee		× Fo
sps.co					Return	Receipt				1.75	Fee RR		r Acc
om/pri		·		Sig	nature C	onfirma	tion				Fee SC		ount
ivacy			Sigr	ature Co	nfirmati	on Restri	cted Del	ivery			Fee		Book For Accountable Mail
olicy.					Special	Handling					Fee		Mail