## No. 2023-7883

#### Official Order of the Texas Commissioner of Insurance

#### Date: 04/06/2023

#### Subject Considered:

<u>Samer Hanna Sidhom</u>

Fort Worth, Texas 76116

Default Order SOAH Docket No. 454-23-11363 TDI Enforcement File No. 28573

#### General remarks and official action taken:

This is a default order taken against Samer Hanna Sidhom (Respondent) because he knowingly misrepresented the birth years for consumers and intentionally omitted other drivers from an auto insurance policy for a lower rate. 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 February 8, 2023, 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 Samer Hanna Sidhom SOAH Docket No. 454-23-11363 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, for the sent the sent 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, 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.

Commissioner's Order Samer Hanna Sidhom SOAH Docket No. 454-23-11363 Page 3 of 5

#### Order

It is ordered that any licenses held by Samer Hanna Sidhom 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.

DocuSigned by: CANOW FC5D7EDDFFBB4F8...

Cassie Brown Commissioner of Insurance

Prepared and reviewed by:

L. Merida

Latoya Merida, Staff Attorney Enforcement

Commissioner's Order Samer Hanna Sidhom SOAH Docket No. 454-23-11363 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 Samer Hanna Sidhom. I have confirmed that:

- a. The last mailing address provided to the department in writing by Samer Hanna Sidhom is ., Fort Worth, Texas 76116.
- b. The file maintained by Enforcement contains a Notice of Hearing and Original Petition dated February 8, 2023, which were filed with the State Office of Administrative Hearings.
- c. On February 8, 2023, the Notice of Hearing and Original Petition addressed to Samer Hanna Sidhom were mailed certified, return receipt requested, to his last known address.

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

DocuSigned by: David Moreno -DE4A9EB3A54144C... Affiant

Commissioner's Order Samer Hanna Sidhom SOAH Docket No. 454-23-11363 Page 5 of 5

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me by means of an interactive two-way audio and video communication on 3/15/2023. This notarial act was an online notarization.

#### **Notary Seal**



### **Digital Certificate**

DocuSigned by: Mary Ruiz -795DC4D59167489...

Notary Public State of Texas

ACCEPTED**2023-7883** 454-23-11363 2/8/2023 11:22:52 am STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS Kevin Garza, CLERK

FILED 454-23-11363 2/8/2023 11:22 AM STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS Kevin Garza, CLERK

#### SOAH DOCKET NO. 454-23-11363 TDI ENFORCEMENT FILE NO. 28573

**BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE** 

OF

v.

SAMER HANNA SIDHOM,

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, May 17, 2023, at 1:00 p.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.

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Notice of Hearing Samer Hanna Sidhom SOAH Docket No. 454-23-11363 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) (by mail, fax, or electronically) 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);
  www.soah.texas.gov
- (by mail, fax, or email)
   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) (by mail, fax, or email)

Notice of Hearing Samer Hanna Sidhom SOAH Docket No. 454-23-11363 Page 3 of 5

> Latoya Merida, Staff Attorney Texas Department of Insurance Enforcement, MC ENF P.O. Box 12030 Austin, Texas 78711-2030 (512) 490-1020 (Fax) Latoya.merida@tdi.texas.gov

#### **Receiving Documents Electronically and Filing Documents with SOAH**

The State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) offers you the ability to electronically receive orders and other documents issued by SOAH by email instead of by mail. If you want to receive SOAH-issued documents by email, follow the instructions on SOAH's website: www.soah.texas.gov.

A request to receive SOAH-issued documents by email does <u>not</u> change the procedures you must follow to file documents or exhibits with SOAH. Instructions on how to file documents and exhibits are on SOAH's website. SOAH's website also includes guidance for representing yourself.

Important Security Notice (for In-Person Hearings ONLY)

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.

Notice of Hearing Samer Hanna Sidhom SOAH Docket No. 454-23-11363 Page 4 of 5

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

Respectfully Submitted,

## L. Merida

Latoya Merida State Bar No. 24089625 Texas Department of Insurance Enforcement, 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, Fraud and Enforcement Division, MC ENF Whitney Fraser, Litigation Director, Enforcement, MC ENF Administrative Review, MC CO-AAL

Notice of Hearing Samer Hanna Sidhom SOAH Docket No. 454-23-11363 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 8th day of February, 2023 to:

Samer Hanna Sidhom

Via CM/RRR No.: 9214 8901 9403 8303 6061 23

Fort Worth, Texas 76116 Respondent Pro Se

Via Email:

L. Merida

Latoya Merida

454-23-11363

FILED 454-23-11363 2/1/2023 4:24 PM STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS Pegah Nasrollahzadeh, CLERK

### SOAH DOCKET NO. 454-\_\_\_\_ TDI ENFORCEMENT FILE NO. 28573

ACCEPTED 454-23-11363 2/2/2023 8:21:07 am STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS Pegah Nasrollahzadeh, CLERK

#### **BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE**

Petitioner

v.

SAMER HANNA SIDHOM,

Respondent

OF

#### ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

#### **ORIGINAL PETITION**

The Texas Department of Insurance seeks to take disciplinary action against Samer Hanna Sidhom. 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, 4051.051, and 4054.051, and TEX. GOV'T CODE §§ 2001.051-2001.178.

#### **Factual Allegations**

#### <u>Licensure</u>

1. Samer Hanna Sidhom (Sidhom), individual identification number 288629, holds a general lines agent license with a life, accident, health, and HMO qualification issued by the department on October 27, 1997, and a property and casualty qualification issued on October 28, 1998.

#### Claim No. 5013365825-1

 On August 5, 2021, Sidhom drafted auto insurance policy No. GXXXXX6202 for named insured, S.A., date of birth XX/XX/1979, and rated driver, N.E., date of birth XX/XX/1978. The policy included a 2016 Mercedes-Benz E 350, a 2017 BMW 540

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I, and a 2016 Dodge Challenger SRT HELCP. A 2010 Mercedes Benz C 63 AMG and 2007 Infiniti G35 were added to the policy on September 9, 2021.

- 3. On August 25, 2021, S.A. reported the Dodge Challenger stolen. Three days later, the Mercedes Benz was involved in a hit and run while being driven by T.A., S. A's brother. T.A. is the registered owner of both vehicles, but he is excluded from the policy.
- 4. While investigating the two claims, the investigation determined that S. A's true date of birth is XX/XX/2000 and rated driver N. E's date of birth is XX/XX/2000.
- 5. Sidhom knowingly misrepresented the birth year of named insured and rated driver, and intentionally omitted other drivers on the policy for a lower rate.

#### Legal Allegations

- 1. Sidhom has willfully violated an insurance law of this state, as contemplated in TEX. INS. CODE § 4005.101(b)(1).
- 2. Sidhom engaged in fraudulent or dishonest acts of practices, as contemplated by TEX. INS. CODE § 4005.101(b)(5).
- 3. Sidhom materially misrepresented the terms and conditions of insurance policies or contracts, as contemplated in TEX. INS. CODE § 4005.101(b)(6).

#### **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 Samer Hanna Sidhom'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.

Original Petition Samer Hanna Sidhom Page 3 of 3

Respectfully Submitted,

#### L. Merida

Latoya Merida State Bar No. 24089625 Texas Department of Insurance Enforcement, 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

#### Automated Certificate of eService

This automated certificate of service was created by the efiling system. The filer served this document via email generated by the efiling system on the date and to the persons listed below. The rules governing certificates of service have not changed. Filers must still provide a certificate of service that complies with all applicable rules.

Mary Ruiz on behalf of Latoya Merida Bar No. 24089625 Enforcementgeneral@tdi.texas.gov Envelope ID: 72355902 Status as of 2/2/2023 8:22 AM CST

Associated Case Party: Chief Clerk

Name	BarNumber	Email	TimestampSubmitted	Status
Chief Clerk		ChiefClerk@tdi.texas.gov	2/1/2023 4:24:37 PM	SENT

Associated Case Party: Texas Department of Insurance

Name	BarNumber	Email	TimestampSubmitted	Status
Texas Department of Insurance		Enforcementgeneral@tdi.texas.gov	2/1/2023 4:24:37 PM	SENT
Latoya Merida		Latoya.Merida@tdi.texas.gov	2/1/2023 4:24:37 PM	SENT
Whitney Fraser		Whitney.Fraser@tdi.texas.gov	2/1/2023 4:24:37 PM	SENT

Associated Case Party: Samer Hanna Sidhom

Name	BarNumber	Email	TimestampSubmitted	Status
Samer Hanna Sidhom			2/1/2023 4:24:37 PM	SENT

#### Automated Certificate of eService

This automated certificate of service was created by the efiling system. The filer served this document via email generated by the efiling system on the date and to the persons listed below. The rules governing certificates of service have not changed. Filers must still provide a certificate of service that complies with all applicable rules.

Mary Ruiz on behalf of Latoya Merida Bar No. 24089625 Enforcementgeneral@tdi.texas.gov Envelope ID: 72557679 Status as of 2/8/2023 11:23 AM CST

Associated Case Party: Texas Department of Insurance

Name	BarNumber	Email	TimestampSubmitted	Status
Whitney Fraser		Whitney.Fraser@tdi.texas.gov	2/8/2023 11:22:03 AM	SENT
Texas Department of Insurance		Enforcementgeneral@tdi.texas.gov	2/8/2023 11:22:03 AM	SENT
Latoya Merida		Latoya.Merida@tdi.texas.gov	2/8/2023 11:22:03 AM	SENT
Leah Gillum		Leah.Gillum@tdi.texas.gov	2/8/2023 11:22:03 AM	SENT
Catarina Tapia		Catarina.Tapia@tdi.texas.gov	2/8/2023 11:22:03 AM	SENT

Associated Case Party: Chief Clerk

Name	BarNumber	Email	TimestampSubmitted	Status
Chief Clerk		ChiefClerk@tdi.texas.gov	2/8/2023 11:22:03 AM	SENT

Associated Case Party: Samer Hanna Sidhom

Name	BarNumber	Email	TimestampSubmitted	Status
Samer Hanna Sidhom			2/8/2023 11:22:03 AM	SENT



Note to Mailer: 1 this form online, presented to the

#### **Shipment Confirmation Acceptance Notice**

The labels and volume associated to must match the labeled packages being USPS <sup>®</sup> employee with this form.	Shipment Date: 02/08/2023 Shipped From: Name: MC ENF M RUIZ Address: 1601 CONGRESS AVENUE SULTE: 5 900 City: AUSTIN State: TX ZIP+4* 7871
Type of Mail	Volume
Priority Mail Express≋*	Propulse S
Priority Mail®	0
First-Class Package Service®	1567807
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 2. Select Shipment Confirm
- 3. 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.



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