

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

JAMES J. DONELON COMMISSIONER

CEASE AND DESIST

PRODUCER LICENSE #178020

May 28, 2020

Mickey Glen Bennett P.O. Box 14540 Monroe, LA 71207-4540

Mickey Glen Bennett 1888 Hudson Circle Suite 4 Monroe, LA 71201

Mickey Glen Bennett 128 Westland Place West Monroe, LA 71291 Article # 7019 1120 0002 3467 1707

Article # 7019 1120 0002 3467 1714

Article # 7019 1120 0002 3467 1691

Via Email: mickey@bssj.com

WHEREAS, IT HAS COME TO MY ATTENTION, as Commissioner of Insurance (Commissioner) of the Louisiana Department of Insurance (LDI), that Mickey Glen Bennett, a previously licensed producer, has violated certain provisions of the Louisiana Insurance Code, Title 22, La. R. S. 22:1 *et. seq.* As used hereinafter, "you" and "your" refer to Mickey Glen Bennett.

You were a licensed producer with a date of record of June 2, 1993 to December 12, 2019. On July 26, 2019, you were issued a Revocation Order by the LDI for accepting funds for an insurance policy but failing to procure the policy or returning the funds as required by law. On December 10, 2019, your license was revoked.

On or about May 27, 2020, LDI received information that you continued to act as a licensed producer. On May 9, 2020, you sent an email using the email address <u>mickey@bssj.com</u> to Tom Nicholson of Gulf Inland, LLC. Your email signature read "Mickey G. Bennett Bennett Seymour Insurance". In that email, you attached a scanned copy of RSUI Indemnity Company Policy #NHT907113. The insured on that policy was listed as Gulf Inland, LLC. The listed policy period of the insurance policy was from July 1, 2019 to July 1, 2020. When contacted, RSUI Indemnity Company revealed it has no record of Policy #NHT907113. Gulf Inland, LLC alleges they paid you over \$70,000 for a policy that was never bound and the insurer reports no record of issuance.

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You conducted the activities described above while you were not licensed to act as a producer following your revocation order from the LDI.

AUTHORITY OF THE COMMISSIONER:

Title 22§2. Insurance regulated in the public interest

A. (1) Insurance is an industry affected with the public interest and it is the purpose of this Code to regulate the industry in all its phases. [...] It shall be the duty of the commissioner of insurance to administer the provisions of this Code.

§18. Suspension or revocation of insurers' licenses; fines; orders

A. The commissioner of insurance may, as a penalty, in accordance with R.S. 49:961, refuse to renew, or may suspend, or revoke the certificate of authority or license of any insurer, person, or entity violating any of the provisions of this Code, or in lieu of suspension or revocation of a certificate or license duly issued, the commissioner may levy a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars for each violation per insurer, person, or entity, when such violations warrant the refusal, license, or imposition of the fine. The commissioner, is also authorized to order any insurer, person, or entity to cease and desist any such action that violates any provision of this Code.

§1543. License required

A. No person shall act or hold himself out to be an insurance producer unless licensed by the Department of Insurance.

§1554. License denial, nonrenewal, or revocation

- A. The commissioner may place on probation, suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue, renew, or reinstate an insurance producer license, or may levy a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars for each violation occurring, up to ten thousand dollars aggregate for all violations in a calendar year per applicant or licensee, or any combination of actions, for any one or more of the following causes.
 - (3) The failure to account for or remit any premiums, monies, or properties belonging to another which come into the possession of the applicant in the course of doing insurance business, or improperly withholding, misappropriating, converting, or failing to timely remit any premiums, monies, or properties received in the course of doing insurance business, whether such premiums, monies, or properties belonging to policyholders, insurers, beneficiaries, claimants, or others.
 - (4) Using fraudulent, coercive, or dishonest practices or misrepresentation, or demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness, or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of business such as might endanger the public.

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- (14) The violation of any insurance laws of these United States, this state or any state, province, district, or territory, or violating any lawful rule, regulation, subpoena, or order of the commissioner of insurance or of the insurance officials of another state.
- I. The commissioner of insurance shall retain the authority to enforce the provisions of, and impose any penalty or remedy authorized by, this Subpart against any person who is under investigation for or charged with a violation of this Subpart, even if the person's license has been surrendered or has lapsed by operation of law.
- J. Without any way limiting or affecting any other civil or criminal remedies or consequences, any person who intentionally withholds or intentionally fails to timely remit premium payments, or any premiums, monies, or other property belonging to any person or entity who applies for insurance through him, or policyholder, beneficiary, or any other claimant under or relating to any insurance policy, shall be guilty of the crime of theft under R.S. 14:67 if he had the intent to permanently deprive the rightful owner of the premiums, monies, or other property, or the crime of unauthorized use of a movable under R.S. 14:68 if he had no intent to permanently deprive the rightful owner of said premiums, monies, or other property.

§1562. Prohibited Acts

D. (2) No person licensed as, or representing himself to be, an insurance producer shall fail to account for or remit any premiums, monies or properties belonging to another which come into the possession of the applicant in the course of doing insurance business, or improperly withholding, misappropriating, converting, or failing to timely remit any premiums, monies, or properties received in the course of doing insurance business, whether such premiums, monies or properties belong to policyholders, insurers, beneficiaries, claimants, or others.

VIOLATIONS:

You conducted the business of insurance after being revoked and failed to remit premium. You are hereby in violation of La. R.S. 22:1543(A); La. R.S. 22:1554(A)(3),(4) and (14); La. R.S. 22:1554(I) and (J); and La. R.S. 22:1562(D)(2).

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COMMISSIONER'S ACTION:

In accordance with La. R. S. 22:18, La. R. S. 22:1554, and La. R. S. 22:1562 you, **Mickey Glen Bennett**, are hereby ordered to **CEASE AND DESIST** from conducting the business of insurance in Louisiana until such time you are fully compliant with the laws of the State of Louisiana. Any violation of the cease and desist order or other violations of the Louisiana Insurance Code may result in further regulatory actions by the Louisiana Department of Insurance.

NOTICE OF APPEAL:

Be advised that this constitutes an administrative action and that it will be reported to the National Insurance Producer Registry. You may need to report this administrative action to other states in which you hold an active license. Contact that state's insurance department if you are unsure of their requirements.

Pursuant to La. R. S. 22:2191(A)(2), any person aggrieved by an act of the Commissioner may request a hearing. You must make a written demand for an appeal within thirty (30) days from the date of this notice. Failure to file a written demand for an appeal within thirty (30) days of this notice will preclude your right to an administrative hearing. Pursuant to La. R. S. 22:2191(B), your written demand for an appeal (1) shall reference the particular sections of the statutes and rules involved; (2) shall provide a short and plain statement of the matters asserted for review; and (3) shall attach a copy of the order or decision that you are appealing. Appealing this notice does not stay the action of the Commissioner of Insurance. Pursuant to La. R.S. 22:2204 you must request and be granted a stay of this action by the Division of Administrative Law. Your request for a stay may be included in your appeal. Your written demand for an appeal shall be filed the Louisiana Department of Insurance at the addresses below:

Louisiana Department of Insurance Attn: Liz Butler, Executive Counsel P. O. Box 94214 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9214

Telephone: (225) 342-4673

Fax: (225) 342-1632

File in Person at: 1702 N. Third Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802 Mickey Glen Bennett Cease and Desist Lic. No. 178020 May 28, 2020 Page **5** of **6**

Signed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana this 28th day of May 2020.

JAMES J. DONELON

COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

STATE OF LOUISIANA

BY:

Matthew Stewart
Deputy Commissioner

Divisions of Fraud & Enforcement Louisiana Department of Insurance

Telephone: (225) 219-5819

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Article # 7019 1120 0002 3467 1707 Article # 7019 1120 0002 3467 1691 Article # 7019 1120 0002 3467 1714

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon Mickey Glen Bennett by mailing a copy thereof properly addressed with postage prepaid, this 28th day of May 2020.

Norrie A. Falgoust, Compliance Investigator