

**BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE  
OF THE STATE OF KANSAS**

In the Matter of the Kansas Nonresident )  
Insurance Agent's License of ) Docket No. **4553--SO**  
**ANGELA M. HARDING** )  
NPN 7513779. )

**SUMMARY ORDER**  
(Pursuant to K.S.A. 40-4909 and K.S.A. 77-537)

Pursuant to authority granted to the Commissioner of Insurance ("Commissioner") by K.S.A. 40-4909, the Commissioner hereby proposes to find facts and revoke the Kansas nonresident insurance agent's license of Angela M. Harding ("Respondent") by way of Summary Order as provided by K.S.A. 77-537.

**Findings of Fact**

1. Records maintained by the Kansas Insurance Department ("KID") reflect that Respondent was licensed on September 2, 2009, as a Kansas resident insurance agent to transact the business of insurance in Kansas.
2. On or about February 2, 2011, Respondent reported a change of legal address to Oklahoma, the license was converted to nonresident, and Respondent has been so licensed since that time.
3. Respondent's legal address is in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and her mailing address of record is 15817 Stepping Stone Lane, Oklahoma City, OK 73170-7669.
4. Following investigation, the Commissioner has no reason to believe that protection of the public interest requires the Commissioner to give notice and opportunity to participate to anyone other than the respondent.
5. Following investigation, the Commissioner finds evidence sufficient to support the following findings of fact:
6. Facebook comments that Respondent appears to have posted falsely allege that a certain identified Kansas licensed insurance agent has embezzled funds derived from the business of insurance, committed other unspecified thefts, and induced the purchase of insurance with sexual conduct.

7. By letter dated January 2, 2013, and mailed to Respondent's address of record, counsel for KID invited Respondent to reply within 15 business days if she disputed the foregoing facts.

8. To date, Respondent has not replied, and the letter has not been returned. Thus, the facts are deemed undisputed.

#### **Applicable Law**

9. K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 40-4909(a) provides, in relevant part:

"The commissioner may deny, suspend, revoke or refuse renewal of any license issued under this act if the commissioner finds that the applicant or license holder has: . . .

(7) Admitted to or been found to have committed any insurance unfair trade practice or fraud in violation of K.S.A. 40-2404 and amendments thereto. . . .

(8) Used any fraudulent, coercive, or dishonest practice, or demonstrated any incompetence, untrustworthiness or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of business in this state or elsewhere." K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 40-4909(a).

10. K.S.A. 40-2404(3) defines the unfair trade practice of defamation as follows:

"Making, publishing, disseminating or circulating, directly or indirectly, or aiding, abetting or encouraging the making, publishing, disseminating or circulating of any oral or written statement or any pamphlet, circular, article or literature which is false, or maliciously critical of or derogatory to the financial condition of any person, and which is calculated to injure such person."

11. The Commissioner may revoke any license issued under the Insurance Agents Licensing Act if the Commissioner finds that the interests of the insurer or the insurable interests of the public are not properly served under such license. K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 40-4909(b).

#### **Conclusions of Law**

12. The Commissioner has jurisdiction over Respondent as well as the subject matter of this proceeding, and such proceeding is held in the public interest.

13. The Commissioner finds that Respondent's license may be revoked pursuant to K.S.A. 40-4909(a)(8) because Respondent has used a fraudulent, coercive, or

dishonest practice in publishing false statements concerning the business conduct and financial practices of another agent engaged in the business of insurance.

14. The Commissioner further finds based on the same conduct that Respondent's license may be revoked pursuant to K.S.A. 40-4909(7) because Respondent has committed defamation, an insurance unfair trade practice in violation of K.S.A. 40-2404(11).

15. Based on the foregoing findings, the Commissioner concludes that sufficient grounds exist for the revocation of Respondent's insurance agent's license pursuant to K.S.A. 40-4909(a).

16. The Commissioner further concludes Respondent's license may be revoked pursuant to K.S.A. 40-4909(b) because such license is not properly serving the interests of the insurer and the insurable interests of the public.

17. Based on the facts and circumstances set forth herein, it appears that the use of summary proceedings in this matter is appropriate, in accordance with the provisions set forth in K.S.A. 77-537(a), in that the use of summary proceedings does not violate any provision of the law, the protection of the public interest does not require the KID to give notice and opportunity to participate to persons other than Respondent, and after investigation, KID believes in good faith that the allegations will be supported to the applicable standard of proof.

#### **Policy to be Served**

18. Before issuing an insurance agent license, the Commissioner must determine that the applicant is qualified and has not committed any act that would be grounds for denial, suspension, or revocation. K.S.A. 40-4905(b). Further, the Commissioner may revoke any license issued under the Insurance Agents Licensing Act if the Commissioner finds that the interests of the insurer or the insurable interests of the public are not properly served under the license. The following action is necessary and appropriate to promote the security and integrity of the insurance business and protect insurance consumers by licensing, or continuing to license, persons or entities to sell, solicit, or negotiate insurance in the State of Kansas only if their conduct indicates they are both qualified and trustworthy.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE THAT** the Kansas nonresident insurance agent's license of **ANGELA M. HARDING** is hereby **REVOKED**. **It is further ordered**, that **ANGELA M. HARDING** shall **CEASE and DESIST** from the sale, solicitation, or negotiation of insurance, doing any act toward the sale, solicitation, or negotiation of insurance, and/or receiving compensation deriving from the sale, solicitation, or negotiation of insurance in Kansas or on Kansas risks through business conducted on and after the effective date of this order.

**It is further ordered**, pursuant to KSA 77-415(b)(2)(A), that this order is designated by KID as precedent.

**IT IS SO ORDERED THIS \_\_25th\_\_ DAY OF JANUARY 2013, IN THE CITY OF TOPEKA, COUNTY OF SHAWNEE, STATE OF KANSAS.**



\_\_\_\_\_/s/ Sandy Praeger\_\_\_\_\_  
Sandy Praeger  
Commissioner of Insurance

BY:

\_\_\_\_\_/s/ John Wine\_\_\_\_\_  
John Wine  
General Counsel

**NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO HEARING AND REVIEW**

**Within fifteen (15) days of the date of service of this Summary Order, Respondent** may submit a written request for a hearing pursuant to K.S.A. 77-537 and K.S.A. 77-542. Any request for a hearing should be addressed to the following:

John Wine, General Counsel  
Kansas Insurance Department  
420 S.W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

If a hearing is requested, the Kansas Insurance Department will serve notice of the time and place of the hearing and information on procedures, right of representation, and other rights of parties relating to the conduct of the hearing.

If a hearing is not requested in the time and manner stated above, this **Summary Order shall become effective as a Final Order upon the expiration of time for requesting a hearing.** In the event Respondent files a Petition for Judicial Review, pursuant to K.S.A. 77-613(e), the agency officer to be served on behalf of the Kansas Insurance Department is

John Wine, General Counsel  
Kansas Insurance Department  
420 S.W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

**Certificate of Service**

The undersigned hereby certifies that she served a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing **Summary Order** and accompanying **Notice of Rights** on this   25th   day of January 2013, by causing the same to be placed in the United States Mail, first class postage prepaid, addressed to the following:

Angela M. Harding  
15817 Stepping Stone Lane  
Oklahoma City, OK 73170-7669

  /s/ Brenda J. Clary    
Brenda J. Clary  
Staff Attorney