BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

In the Matter of the Kansas Resident Insurance Agent's License of LeNELL M. SCHULTZ, NPN 8105557.

Docket No. 4661--SO

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 resident insurance agent's license of LeNell M. Schultz ("Respondent") by way of Summary Order as provided by K.S.A. 77-537.

Findings of Fact

1. 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 Respondent.

2. Following investigation, the Commissioner finds evidence sufficient to support the following facts:

3. Respondent is licensed as a Kansas resident insurance agent and has been so licensed since May 28, 2004.

4. Respondent's legal address is in Neodesha, Kansas, and her mailing address of record is 9946 300 Road, Neodesha, KS 66757.

5. From June 2004 until January 10, 2013, Respondent was contracted with one or more of the State Farm insurance companies as a producer in Kansas.

6. On January 3, 2014, the consumer assistance division ("CAD") of the Kansas Insurance Department ("KID") received a complaint alleging that Respondent failed to forward premium funds and maintain coverage on properties owned by Respondent's grandfather.

7. By letter of February 13, 2014, mailed to Respondent's address of record, a CAD representative asked Respondent to provide her written response to the complaint within 15 days.

8. The representative mailed a second request on March 11, 2014.

9. To date, Respondent has not replied, and neither letter has been returned.

10. By letter dated May 8, 2014, counsel for KID summarized the foregoing facts and invited Respondent to reply by the close of business on May 23, 2014, if she disputed the foregoing statements of fact.

11. To date, Respondent has not replied and the letter has not been returned; thus the facts are deemed undisputed.

Applicable Law

12. K.S.A. 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 . . .

(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. 2013 Supp. 40-4909(a).

13. In addition, 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. 2013 Supp. 40-4909(b).

14. "Any action taken under this section which affects any license or imposes any administrative penalty shall be taken only after notice and an opportunity for hearing conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Kansas administrative procedures act." K.S.A. 2013 Supp. 40-4909(c).

Conclusions of Law

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

16. The Commissioner finds that Respondent's license may be, and should be, revoked pursuant to K.S.A. 40-4909(a)(8) because Respondent demonstrated a lack of trustworthiness by failing repeatedly to respond to CAD's inquiry.

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17. Further, the Commissioner concludes that Respondent's license may be revoked pursuant to K.S.A. 40-4909(b) because it is not serving the interests of insurers or the insurable interests of the public.

18. 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

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 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.

THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE THEREFORE ORDERS that the Kansas resident insurance agent's license of LeNELL M. SCHULTZ is hereby **REVOKED**, and LENELL M. SCHULTZ 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.

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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 __28th__ DAY OF MAY 2014, 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. 9th 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. 9th Street Topeka, Kansas 66612

Certificate of Service

The undersigned hereby certifies that she served a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing <u>Summary Order</u> and accompanying <u>Notice of Rights</u> on this 28th day of May 2014 by causing the same to be placed in the United States Mail, first class postage prepaid, addressed to the following:

LeNell M. Schultz 9946 300 Road Neodesha, KS 66757

> _/s/ Brenda J. Clary_____ Brenda J. Clary Staff Attorney