Department of Real Estate 320 West 4th Street, Suite 350 Los Angeles, California 90013

Telephone:

(213) 576-6982



MAR 0 5 2024

DEPT. OF REAL ESTATE

By\_\_\_\_

# BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the Matter of the Accusation of ) No. H-05710 SD

DAMIEN DONALD MCNELLIS; )
MISHICOT SERVICES, INC.; and
KEVIN H. WONG, individually and As designated officer of Mishicot Services, Inc., )

Respondents. )

Respondents. )

It is hereby stipulated by and between Respondent KEVIN H. WONG ("Respondent"), represented by Joshua W. Miller, Esq., and the Complainant, acting by and through Diane Lee, Counsel for the Department of Real Estate, as follows for the purpose of settling and disposing of the First Amended Accusation ("Accusation") filed on or about April 11, 2023, in this matter:

1. All issues which were to be contested and all evidence which were to be presented by Complainant and Respondent at a formal hearing on the Accusation, which hearing was to be held in accordance with the provisions of the California Administrative Procedure Act ("APA"), shall instead and in place thereof be submitted solely on the basis of the provisions of this Stipulation and Agreement ("Stipulation").

- 2. Respondent has received and read, and understands the Statement to Respondent, the Discovery Provisions of the APA, and the Accusation filed by the Department of Real Estate in this proceeding.
- 3. Respondent filed a Notice of Defense pursuant to California Government Code section 11506 for the purpose of requesting a hearing on the allegations in the Accusation. Respondent hereby freely and voluntarily withdraws said Notice of Defense. Respondent acknowledges that he understands that by withdrawing said Notice of Defense, he thereby waives his right to require the Commissioner to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a contested hearing held in accordance with the provisions of the APA and that Respondent will waive other rights afforded to him in connection with the hearing, such as the right to present evidence in his defense and the right to cross-examine witnesses.
- 4. Respondent, pursuant to the limitations set forth below, hereby admits that the factual allegations in the Accusation filed in this proceeding are true and correct, and the Real Estate Commissioner shall not be required to provide further evidence of such allegations.
- 5. It is understood by the parties that the Real Estate Commissioner may adopt this Stipulation as her Decision in this matter thereby imposing the penalties and sanctions on the real estate license and license rights of Respondent as set forth in the below "Order." In the event that the Commissioner in her discretion does not adopt this Stipulation, it shall be void and of no effect, and Respondent shall retain the right to a hearing and proceeding on the Accusation under the provisions of the APA and shall not be bound by this Stipulation herein.
- 6. The Order or any subsequent Order of the Real Estate Commissioner made pursuant to this Stipulation herein shall not constitute an estoppel, merger, or bar to any further administrative or civil proceedings by the Department of Real Estate with respect to any matters which were not specifically alleged to be causes for Accusation in this proceeding, but do constitute a bar, estoppel, and merger as to any allegations specifically and actually contained in the Accusation against Respondent herein.

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7. Respondent understands that by agreeing to this Stipulation, Respondent agrees to pay, pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10106, the cost of the investigation and enforcement. The amount of investigation and enforcement cost is \$2,092.10.

8. Respondent understands that by agreeing to this Stipulation, Respondent agrees to pay, pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10148, the cost of the audit which led to this disciplinary action, or provide proof satisfactory to the Commissioner that this cost of audit has already been paid. The amount of said cost for the original audit (SD210027) is \$5,631.33.

9. Respondent understands that by agreeing to this Stipulation and Agreement, Respondent agrees to pay, pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10148, the cost of any subsequent audit conducted pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10148. The maximum cost of the subsequent audit will not exceed \$6,757.59.

#### **DETERMINATION OF ISSUES**

By reason of the foregoing, it is stipulated and agreed that the following determination of issues shall be made:

The conduct, acts, and/or omissions of Respondent, as described in the Accusation and Paragraph 4, above, are grounds for discipline of all the real estate licenses and license rights of Respondent pursuant to California Business and Professions Code sections 10130, 10145, 10148, and 10159.2 and Title 10, Chapter 6 of the California Code of Regulations, sections 2725, 2831, 2831.1, and 2831.2.

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#### **ORDER**

#### WHEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING ORDER is hereby made:

#### (RESTRICTED BROKER LICENSE)

I.

All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent, under the Real Estate Law are revoked; provided, however, a restricted real estate broker license shall be issued to Respondent pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10156.5 if Respondent makes application therefor and pays to the Department of Real Estate the appropriate fee for the restricted license within ninety (90) days from the effective date of this Decision. The restricted license issued to Respondent shall be subject to all of the provisions of California Business and Professions Code section 10156.7 and to the following limitations, conditions, and restrictions imposed under authority of California Business and Professions Code section 10156.6.

- 1. The restricted license issued to Respondent may be suspended prior to hearing by Order of the Real Estate Commissioner in the event of Respondent's conviction or plea of nolo contendere to a crime which is substantially related to Respondent's fitness or capacity as a real estate licensee.
- 2. The restricted license issued to Respondent may be suspended prior to hearing by Order of the Real Estate Commissioner on evidence satisfactory to the Commissioner that Respondent has violated provisions of the California Real Estate Law, the Subdivided Lands Law, Regulations of the Real Estate Commissioner, or conditions attaching to this restricted license.
- 3. Respondent shall not be eligible to apply for the issuance of an unrestricted real estate license nor for the removal of any of the conditions, limitations, or restrictions of a restricted license until three (3) years have elapsed from the date of issuance of the restricted license to Respondent.

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- 4. If Respondent applies to be a broker associate, Respondent shall submit with any application for license under an employing broker or any application for transfer to a new employing broker, a statement signed by the prospective employing real estate broker on a form approved by the Department of Real Estate that certifies:
- a. That the employing broker has read the Accusation and the Decision of the Commissioner which granted the right to a restricted license; and
- b. That the employing broker will exercise close supervision over the performance by the restricted license relating to activities for which a real estate license is required.
- 5. Respondent shall not be the designated officer of any corporation that he does not own one hundred (100) percent.

#### (INVESTIGATION AND ENFORCEMENT COSTS)

II.

Respondent shall, within six (6) months from the effective date of this Decision and Order, pay the sum of \$2,092.10 for the Commissioner's reasonable cost for investigation and enforcement which led to this disciplinary action. Said payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check made payable to the Department of Real Estate. The investigative and enforcement costs must be delivered to the Department of Real Estate, Flag Section at P.O. Box 137013, Sacramento, CA 95813-7013, within six (6) months from the effective date of this Decision and Order. If the costs of investigation and enforcement are not paid within six (6) months from the effective date of this Decision and Order, the license(s) and license rights of Respondent shall automatically be suspended until full payment is made.

#### (AUDIT COSTS)

III.

1. Pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10148, Respondent owes \$5,631.33 for the Commissioner's cost of the audit which led to this disciplinary action. Respondent shall pay such cost within thirty (30) days of receiving an invoice therefore from the Commissioner. Payment of the audit cost should not be made until Respondent receives the invoice. If Respondent fails to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, the real estate license(s) of Respondent shall automatically be suspended until payment is made in full, or until a decision providing otherwise is adopted following a hearing.

2. Pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 10148,
Respondent shall pay the Commissioner's reasonable cost, not to exceed \$6,757.59, for audit(s) to determine if Respondent has corrected the violations found in the Determination of Issues. In calculating the amount of the Commissioner's reasonable cost, the Commissioner may use the estimated average hourly salary for all persons performing audits of real estate broker(s), and shall include an allocation for travel time to and from the auditor's place of work. Respondent shall pay such cost within thirty (30) days of receiving an invoice therefor from the Commissioner. Payment of the audit costs should not be made until Respondent receives the invoice. If Respondent fails to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, the real estate license(s) of Respondent shall automatically be suspended until payment is made in full, or until a decision providing otherwise is adopted following a hearing held pursuant to this condition.

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#### (TRUST FUND COURSE)

IV.

Respondent shall, within six (6) months of the effective date of this Decision and Order, provide proof satisfactory to the Commissioner, of having taken and successfully completed the continuing education course on trust fund accounting and handling specified in California Business and Professions Code section 10170.5(a)(3). Proof of satisfaction of this requirement includes evidence that Respondent successfully completed the trust fund account and handling continuing education course no earlier than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the effective date of the Decision and Order in this matter. Proof of completion of the trust fund accounting and handling course must be delivered to the Department of Real Estate, Flag Section at P.O. Box 137013, Sacramento, CA 95813-7013 or by fax at (916) 263-8758, within six (6) months of the effective date of this Decision and Order. If Respondent fails to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, the real estate license of Respondent shall automatically be suspended until this condition is met, or until a decision providing otherwise is adopted following a hearing held pursuant to this condition.

#### (PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY EXAMINATION)

V.

Respondent shall, within six (6) months from the effective date of this Decision and Order, take and pass the Professional Responsibility Examination administered by the Department of Real Estate, including payment of the appropriate examination fee. Proof of satisfaction of this requirement includes evidence that Respondent successfully took and passed the Professional Responsibility Examination no earlier than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the effective date of the Decision and Order in this matter. If Respondent fails to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, the real estate license(s) of Respondent shall automatically be suspended until this condition is met, or until a decision providing otherwise is adopted following a hearing held pursuant to this condition.

#### (RESTITUTION)

VI.

All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent are indefinitely suspended unless or until Respondent pays the following restitution: \$230.00 to Helena Owners' Association, Inc. and \$1,800.00 to Gail Tompkins. Respondent shall provide proof satisfactory to the Commissioner that these sums have been paid prior to the effective date of this Decision and Order. If Respondent fails to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, the real estate license of Respondent shall automatically be suspended until this condition is met, or until a decision providing otherwise is adopted following a hearing held pursuant to this condition.

DATED: 02/05/2024 Diane Lee

DIANE LEE, Counsel for Department of Real Estate

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#### **EXECUTION OF THE STIPULATION**

I, KEVIN H. WONG, have read the Stipulation and discussed it with my attorney, Frank Buda, Esq. Its terms are understood by me, and are agreeable and acceptable to me. I understand that I am waiving rights given to me by the California APA (including, but not limited to, California Government Code sections 11506, 11508, 11509, and 11513), and I willingly, intelligently, and voluntarily waive those rights, including, but not limited to, the right of requiring the Commissioner to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a hearing at which I would have the right to cross-examine witnesses against me, and to present evidence in defense and mitigation of the charges.

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#### MAILING AND E-MAIL

Respondent shall mail the original signed signature page of this Stipulation herein to Department of Real Estate, Attention: Legal Section – Diane Lee, 320 West Fourth Street, Suite 350, Los Angeles, California 90013-1105.

In the event of time constraints before an administrative hearing, Respondent can signify acceptance and approval of the terms and conditions of this Stipulation and Agreement by emailing a scanned copy of the signature page, as actually signed by Respondent, to the Department counsel assigned to this case. Respondent agrees, acknowledges, and understands that by electronically sending the Department a scan of Respondent's actual signature as it appears on the Stipulation and Agreement that receipt of the scan by the Department shall be binding on Respondent as if the Department had received the original signed Stipulation.

Respondent's signature below constitutes acceptance and approval of the terms and conditions of this Stipulation. Respondent agrees, acknowledges, and understands that by signing this Stipulation, Respondent is bound by its terms as of the date of such signature and that this agreement is not subject to rescission or amendment at a later date except by a separate Decision and Order of the Real Estate Commissioner.

DATED: 131/2024

KEVIN H. WONG

JOSHUA W. MILLER, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent KEVIN H. WONG Approved as to Form

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The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement is hereby adopted as my Decision as to Respondent KEVIN H. WONG, and shall become effective at 12 o'clock noon on

March 25, 2024

IT IS SO ORDERED \_\_\_

2/26/24

CHIKA SUNQUIST REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER

By Marcus L. McCarther Chief Deputy Real Estate Commissioner