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DEPT. OF REAL ESTATE

# BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation of

No. H-41488-LA

DLT LEGENDS REALTY, INC. and MICHAEL ROBERT NAUDIN, individually and as designated officer of DLT Legends Realty, Inc..

Respondents.

STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT

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 It is hereby stipulated and agreed by and between Respondents DLT LEGENDS REALTY, INC. ("DLT"), and MICHAEL ROBERT NAUDIN ("NAUDIN"), individually and as designated officer of DLT ("Respondents") and their attorney of record, Frank Buda, Esq., and the Complainant, acting by and through Laurence Haveson, Counsel for the Department of Real Estate ("Department"), as follows for the purpose of settling and disposing of the Accusation filed on October 10, 2019 ("Accusation") in this matter:

1. All issues which were to be contested and all evidence which was to be presented by Complainant and Respondents at a formal hearing on the Accusation, which hearing was to be held in accordance with the provisions of the 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").

STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT No. H-41488-LA

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- 2. Respondents have received, read, and understand the Statement to Respondent, the Discovery Provisions of the APA, and the Accusation filed by the Department of Real Estate in this proceeding.
- On October 28, 2019, each of the Respondents filed a Notice of Defense pursuant 3. to section 11506 of the Government Code for the purpose of requesting a hearing on the allegations in the Accusation. Respondents hereby freely and voluntarily withdraw said Notices of Defense. Respondents acknowledge that Respondents understand that by withdrawing said Notices of Defense, Respondents will thereby waive Respondents' right to require the Real Estate Commissioner ("Commissioner") to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a contested hearing held in accordance with the provisions of the APA and that Respondents will waive other rights afforded to Respondents in connection with the hearing such as the right to present evidence in defense of the allegations in the Accusation and the right to cross-examine witnesses.
- 4. This Stipulation is based on the factual allegations contained in the Accusation. In the interest of expedience and economy, Respondents choose not to contest these allegations, but to remain silent, and understand that, as a result thereof, these factual allegations, without being admitted or denied, will serve as a prima facie basis for the disciplinary action stipulated to herein. The Real Estate Commissioner shall not be required to provide further evidence to prove said factual allegations.
- 5. This Stipulation and Respondents' decision not to contest the Accusation are made for the purpose of reaching an agreed disposition of this proceeding and are expressly limited to this proceeding and any other proceeding or case in which the Department, or another licensing agency of this state, another state, or if the federal government is involved, and otherwise shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceedings.
- 6. It is understood by the parties that the Real Estate Commissioner may adopt the Stipulation as his Decision in this matter, thereby imposing the penalty and sanctions on Respondents' real estate licenses and license rights as set forth in the below Order. In the event that the Commissioner in his discretion does not adopt the Stipulation, it shall be void and of no ///

effect, and Respondents shall retain the right to a hearing and proceeding on the Accusation under all the provisions of the APA and shall not be bound by any admission or waiver made herein.

- 7. The Order or any subsequent Order of the Commissioner made pursuant to this Stipulation shall not constitute an estoppel, merger or bar to any further administrative or civil proceedings by the Department with respect to any matters which were not specifically alleged to be causes for the Accusation in this proceeding.
- 8. Respondents understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation, Respondents agree to pay, and have paid, pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 10148, the cost of the original audit which led to this disciplinary action. The amount of said cost paid in full by Respondents was \$5,710.62.
- 9. Respondents have received, read, and understand the "Notice Concerning Costs of Subsequent Audit." Respondents further understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation, the findings set forth below in the Determination of Issues become final, and the Commissioner may charge Respondents for the cost of any subsequent audit conducted pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 10148 to determine if the violations have been corrected. The maximum cost of the subsequent audit shall not exceed 125% of cost of the original audit, or \$7,138.28.
- 10. Respondents understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation, Respondents agree to pay, pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 10106, the cost of the investigation and enforcement of this matter. The amount of said cost is \$684.35.

#### **DETERMINATION OF ISSUES**

By reason of the foregoing stipulations, admissions, and waivers, and solely for the purpose of settlement of the pending Accusation without a hearing, it is stipulated and agreed that the following Determination of Issues shall be made:

I.

The conduct, acts, and/or omissions of Respondent DLT as described in the Accusation, constitute cause for the suspension or revocation of all real estate licenses and license rights of Respondent DLT under California Business and Professions Code ("Code") Sections 10145,

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10177(d), and 10177(g), and Title 10, Chapter 6, California Code of Regulations ("Regulations") Sections 2831, 2831.1, and 2832.1.

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The conduct, acts, and/or omissions of Respondent NAUDIN, as described in the Accusation, constitute cause for the suspension or revocation of all real estate licenses and license rights of Respondent NAUDIN under Code Sections 10159.2, 10177(d), and 10177(g).

#### <u>ORDER</u>

I.

All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent DLT under the Real Estate Law are suspended for a period of sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Decision and Order; provided, however, that:

- 1. Thirty (30) days of said suspension shall be stayed upon the condition that Respondent DLT petitions pursuant to Code Section 10175.2 and pays a monetary penalty pursuant to Code Section 10175.2 at a rate of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each day of the suspension for a total monetary penalty of \$3,000 (\$100.00 per day X thirty (30) days = \$3,000), and upon the following terms and conditions:
  - a. Said payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check made payable to the Department of Real Estate. Said check must be delivered to the Department of Real Estate, Flag Section at P.O. Box 137013, Sacramento, CA 95813-7013, prior to the effective date of this Decision and Order. Payment of said monetary penalty should not be made until the Stipulation has been approved by the Commissioner.
  - b. No further cause for disciplinary action against the Real Estate license(s) of Respondent DLT occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of the Decision and Order in this matter.
  - c. If Respondent DLT fails to pay the monetary penalty in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Decision and Order, the suspension shall go into effect automatically. Respondent DLT shall not be entitled to any repayment nor credit, prorated

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or otherwise, for money paid to the Department under the terms of this Decision and Order.

- d. If Respondent DLT pays the monetary penalty under this Stipulation and Agreement and if no further cause for disciplinary action against the Real Estate license(s) of Respondent DLT occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of this Decision and Order, the entire stay hereby granted pursuant to this Decision and Order, shall become permanent.
- 2. The remaining thirty (30) days of said suspension shall be stayed for two (2) years upon the following terms and conditions:
  - a. Respondent DLT shall obey all laws, rules and regulations governing the rights, duties and responsibilities of a real estate licensee in the State of California;
  - b. Respondent DLT shall pay the cost of the follow-up audit, not to exceed 125% of cost of current audit, or \$7,138.28; and,
  - c. That no final subsequent determination be made, after hearing or upon stipulation, that cause of disciplinary action occurred within two (2) years from the effective date of this Decision and Order. Should such a determination be made, the Commissioner may, in his discretion, vacate and set aside the stay order and reimpose all or a portion of the stayed suspension. Should no such determination be made, the stay imposed herein shall become permanent.
- 3. Respondent DLT shall pay, severally or jointly with Respondent NAUDIN, the sum of \$684.35 for the Commissioner's reasonable cost of the investigation and enforcement which led to this disciplinary action within one-hundred and eighty (180) days from the effective date of this Decision and Order. 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. Payment of investigation and enforcement costs should not be made until the Stipulation has been approved by the Commissioner. If Respondents fail to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, Respondents' real estate licenses 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.

- 4. Respondents understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation, the findings set forth below in the Determination of Issues become final, and the Commissioner may charge Respondents for the cost of any subsequent audit, if a subsequent audit is conducted, pursuant to Code section 10148 to determine if the violations have been corrected and that Respondents are in compliance with trust fund handling requirements of the Real Estate Law. The maximum cost of the follow-up audit will not exceed one-hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the cost of the original audit; in the instant case, the cost of the original audit is \$5,710.62 and the maximum cost of the follow-up audit will not exceed \$7,138.28. Therefore, Respondents may be charged a maximum of \$7,138.28 in the event of a subsequent audit.
- 5. Pursuant to Section 10148 of the Code, Respondents shall pay the Commissioner's reasonable cost, not to exceed \$7,138.28, for any subsequent audit, if one is performed, to determine if Respondents have corrected the violations found in the Determination of Issues and that Respondents are in compliance with trust fund handling requirements of the Real Estate Law. 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 brokers, and shall include an allocation for travel time to and from the auditor's place of work. Respondents shall pay such cost within sixty (60) days of receiving an invoice therefore from the Commissioner.

  Payment of the audit costs should not be made until Respondents receive the invoice. If Respondents fail to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, Respondents' real estate licenses 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.

П.

All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent NAUDIN under the Real Estate Law are suspended for a period of sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Decision and Order; provided, however, that:

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- 1. Thirty (30) days of said suspension shall be stayed upon the condition that Respondent NAUDIN petitions pursuant to Code Section 10175.2 and pays a monetary penalty pursuant to Code Section 10175.2 at a rate of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each day of the suspension for a total monetary penalty of \$3,000 (\$100.00 per day X thirty (30) days = \$3,000), and upon the following terms and conditions:
  - a. Said payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check made payable to the Department of Real Estate. Said check must be delivered to the Department of Real Estate, Flag Section at P.O. Box 137013, Sacramento, CA 95813-7013, prior to the effective date of this Decision and Order. Payment of said monetary penalty should not be made until the Stipulation has been approved by the Commissioner.
  - b. No further cause for disciplinary action against the Real Estate license(s) of Respondent NAUDIN occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of the Decision and Order in this matter.
  - c. If Respondent NAUDIN fails to pay the monetary penalty in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Decision and Order, the suspension shall go into effect automatically. Respondent NAUDIN shall not be entitled to any repayment nor credit, prorated or otherwise, for money paid to the Department under the terms of this Decision and Order.
  - d. If Respondent NAUDIN pays the monetary penalty under this Stipulation and Agreement and if no further cause for disciplinary action against the Real Estate license(s) of Respondent NAUDIN occurs within two (2) years from the effective date of this Decision and Order, the entire stay hereby granted pursuant to this Decision and Order, shall become permanent.
- 2. The remaining thirty (30) days of said suspension shall be stayed for two (2) years upon the following terms and conditions:
  - a. Respondent NAUDIN shall obey all laws, rules and regulations governing the rights, duties and responsibilities of a real estate licensee in the State of California; and,

- b. That no final subsequent determination be made, after hearing or upon stipulation, that cause of disciplinary action occurred within two (2) years from the effective date of this Decision and Order. Should such a determination be made, the Commissioner may, in his discretion, vacate and set aside the stay order and reimpose all or a portion of the stayed suspension. Should no such determination be made, the stay imposed herein shall become permanent.
- 3. Respondent NAUDIN shall pay, severally or jointly with Respondent DLT, the sum of \$684.35 for the Commissioner's reasonable cost of the investigation and enforcement which led to this disciplinary action within one-hundred and eighty (180) days from the effective date of this Decision and Order. 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. Payment of investigation and enforcement costs should not be made until the Stipulation has been approved by the Commissioner. If Respondents fail to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, Respondents' real estate licenses 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.
- 4. Respondents understand that by agreeing to this Stipulation, the findings set forth below in the Determination of Issues become final, and the Commissioner may charge Respondents for the cost of any subsequent audit, if a subsequent audit is conducted, pursuant to Code section 10148 to determine if the violations have been corrected and that Respondents are in compliance with trust fund handling requirements of the Real Estate Law. The maximum cost of the follow-up audit will not exceed one-hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the cost of the original audit; in the instant case, the cost of the original audit is \$5,710.62 and the maximum cost of the follow-up audit will not exceed \$7,138.28. Therefore, Respondents may be charged a maximum of \$7,138.28 in the event of a subsequent audit.
- 5. Pursuant to Section 10148 of the Code, Respondents shall pay the Commissioner's reasonable cost, not to exceed \$7,138.28, for any subsequent audit, if one is performed, to

determine if Respondents have corrected the violations found in the Determination of Issues and that Respondents are in compliance with trust fund handling requirements of the Real Estate Law. 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 brokers, and shall include an allocation for travel time to and from the auditor's place of work. Respondents shall pay such cost within sixty (60) days of receiving an invoice therefore from the Commissioner.

Payment of the audit costs should not be made until Respondents receive the invoice. If Respondents fail to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, Respondents' real estate licenses 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.

DATED: 1/19/2021

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Laurence D. Haveson Counsel for Complainant

### **EXECUTION OF THE STIPULATION**

We have read this Stipulation and its terms are understood by us and are agreeable and acceptable to us. We understand that we are waiving rights given to us by the California APA (including, but not limited to, sections 11506, 11508, 11509, and 11513 of the Government Code), and we willingly, intelligently, and voluntarily waive those rights, including the right of requiring the Commissioner to prove the allegations in the Accusation at a hearing at which we would have the right to cross-examine witnesses against us and to present evidence in defense and mitigation of the charges.

Respondents can signify acceptance and approval of the terms and conditions of this Stipulation and Agreement by electronically e-mailing a copy of the signature pages, as actually signed by Respondents, to the Department. Respondents agree, acknowledge, and understand that by electronically sending to the Department an electronic copy of Respondents' actual signatures, as they appear on the Stipulation, that receipt of the emailed copy by the Department shall be as

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5	IT IS SO ORDERED 3 · 1 . 2 /, 2021.	
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