

APR 2 0 2022

**DEPT. OF REAL ESTATE** 

By 3m-9

# BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

### STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation of:

DISCREET CAPITAL, INC., and
MICHAEL HAMILTON CAMP,
individually and as designated officer)
of Discreet Capital, Inc., and ROBERT
LINDSAY BROWN,

Respondents.

DRE No. H-41983 LA

DRE No. H-41983 LA

DRE No. H-41983 LA

DRE No. H-41983 LA

### **DECISION**

This Decision is being issued in accordance with the provisions of Section 11520 of the Government Code, on evidence of compliance with Section 11505 of the Government Code and pursuant to the Order of Default filed on 02/22/2022, and the Findings of Fact set forth herein, which are based on one or more of the following: (1) The express admissions of Respondent, ROBERT LINDSAY BROWN ("Respondent"); (2) affidavits; and (3) other evidence.

This Decision revokes one or more real estate licenses on the grounds of the violation of the Real Estate Law, Part 1 commencing with Section 10000 of the Business and Professions Code ("Code") and/or the Regulations of the Real Estate Commissioner, Title 10, Chapter 6 of the California Code of Regulations ("Regulations").

Pursuant to Government Code Section 11521, the California Department of Real Estate ("the Department") may order reconsideration of this Decision on petition of any party. The party seeking reconsideration shall set forth new facts, circumstances, and evidence, or errors in law or analysis, that show(s) grounds and good cause for the Commissioner to reconsider the Decision. If new evidence is presented, the party shall specifically identify the new evidence and explain why it was not previously presented. The Department's power to order reconsideration of this Decision shall expire 30 days after mailing of this Decision, or on the effective date of this Decision, whichever occurs first. The right to reinstatement of a revoked real estate license, or to the reduction of a penalty, is controlled by Section 11522 of the Government Code. A copy of Government Code Sections 11521 and 11522 and a copy of the Commissioner's Criteria of Rehabilitation are attached hereto for the information of respondent.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

1.

On 04/27/2021, Veronica Kilpatrick made the Accusation in her official capacity as a Supervising Special Investigator of the Department. The Accusation, Statement to Respondent, and Notice of Defense were mailed, by certified mail, return receipt requested, to Respondent's last known mailing address on file with the Department on 04/27/2021.

No Notice of Defense having been received or filed herein within the time prescribed by Section 11506 of the Government Code.

2.

On 07/01/2021, Veronica Kilpatrick made the First Amended Accusation in her official capacity as a Supervising Special Investigator of the Department. The Accusation, Statement to Respondent, and Notice of Defense were mailed, by certified mail, return receipt requested, to Respondent's last known mailing address on file with the Department on 07/01/2021.

On 02/22/2022, no Notice of Defense having been received or filed herein within the time prescribed by Section 11506 of the Government Code, Respondent's default was entered herein.

3.

Respondent is presently licensed and/or has license rights under the Real Estate Law, Part 1 of Division 4 of the Code as a real estate salesperson.

4.

At all times mentioned, in the City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, Respondent acted as a real estate salesperson, conducting licensed activities within the meaning of Code Section 10131, subdivision (a) (sells, buys, or negotiates the purchase, sale or exchange of real property) and subdivision (b) (leases or rents or offers to lease or rent, or places for rent, or solicits listings of places for rent, or solicits for prospective tenants, or negotiates the sale, purchase, or exchanges of leases on real property, or on a business opportunity, or collects rents from real property, or improvements thereon, or from business opportunities).

5.

Attached as Exhibit "A" is a true and correct copy of the First Amended Accusation filed on 07/01/2021, which is incorporated herein as part of this Decision.

# **DETERMINATION OF ISSUES**

5.

The allegations contained in the Accusation, incorporated herein by reference made in Paragraph 5, above, constitute cause for the suspension or revocation of all the licenses, license endorsements, and license rights of Respondent under the provisions of Business and Professions Code Sections 10159.5, 10162, 10176(e), 10177(d) and/or 10177(g).

6.

The standard of proof applied was clear and convincing evidence to a reasonable certainty.

### **ORDER**

All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent ROBERT LINDSAY BROWN under the provisions of Part I of Division 4 of the Business and Professions Code are revoked.

This Decision shall become effective at 12 o'clock noon on MAY 20 2022

DATED: 4, 14. 22.

DOUGLAS R. McCAULEY REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER

Dours R. melyes

Department of Real Estate 320 West Fourth St, Ste 350 Los Angeles, CA, 90013



FEB 2 2 2022

DEPT. OF REAL ESTATE

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation of:	)	DRE NO. <i>H-41983 LA</i>
DISCREET CAPITAL, INC, INC. and MICHAEL HAMILTON CAMP, Individually and as designated officer of Discreet Capital, Inc., and ROBERT LINDSAY BROWN,	)	DEFAULT ORDER
Respondents.	) )	

Respondent ROBERT LINDSAY BROWN, having failed to file a Notice of Defense within the time required by Section 11506 of the Government Code, is now in default. It is, therefore, ordered that a default be entered on the record in this matter.

IT IS SO ORDERED FEBRUARY 22, 2022.

DOUGLAS R. McCAULEY REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER

3y:	CO - O -	
-	CHIKA SUNQUIST	
	Assistant Commissioner,	Enforcement

# EXHIBIT "A"

	TO THE RESIDENCE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER				
1	Kevin H. Sun, Counsel (SBN 276539)				
2	Department of Real Estate				
3	320 West 4th Street, Suite 350   Los Angeles, California 90013-1105   JUL 0 1 2021				
	Telephone: (213) 576-6982 DEPT. OF REAL ESTATE				
4	Fax: (213) 576-6917 Email: Kevin.Sun@dre.ca.gov				
5	Attorney for Complainant				
6					
7					
8					
9	BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE				
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA				
11	* * *				
12	In the Matter of the Accusation of ) No. H-41983 LA				
13	DISCREET CAPITAL, INC.,  ) FIRST AMENDED				
14	and MICHAEL HAMILTON CAMP, individually ) <u>ACCUSATION</u> and as designated officer of Discreet Capital, Inc., )				
15	and ROBERT LINDSAY BROWN,				
	Respondents.				
16	Respondents.				
17					
18	This First Amended Accusation amends the Accusation filed on April 7, 2021.				
19	The Complainant, Veronica Kilpatrick, a Supervising Special Investigator of the State of				
20	California, for cause of Accusation against DISCREET CAPITAL, INC., MICHAEL				
21	HAMILTON CAMP, and ROBERT LINDSAY BROWN (collectively "Respondents") alleges				
22	as follows:				
23	1.				
24	The Complainant, Veronica Kilpatrick, a Supervising Special Investigator of the				
25	State of California, makes this Accusation in her official capacity.				
26	///				
27					

3

5

7

8 9

10

11

12 13

14

15

16 17

18

19

20

21 22

23 24

25

26

27

All references to the "Code" are to the California Business and Professions Code and all references to "Regulations" are to Title 10, Chapter 6, California Code of Regulations.

# LICENSE HISTORY

(DISCREET CAPITAL, INC.)

- (a) Respondent DISCREET CAPITAL, INC. ("DCI") is presently licensed and/or has license rights under the Real Estate Law, Part 1 of Division 4 of the California Business and Professions Code, as a real estate corporation, Department of Real Estate ("Department") license ID 01942513.
- (b) The Department originally issued DCI's corporate license on October 3, 2013. DCI's license is scheduled to expire on October 2, 2021, unless renewed.
- (c) According to the Department's records to date, DCI's main office address is 41700 Ivy Street, Ste C, Murrieta, CA 92562.
- (d) According to the Department's records to date, DCI employs 31 salespersons under its real estate license.
- (e) According to the Department's records to date, DCI maintains authorized fictitious business names of "Drive Real Estate" and "Roots Realty Group".

# (MICHAEL HAMILTON CAMP)

- (a) Respondent MICHAEL HAMILTON CAMP ("CAMP") is presently licensed under the Code, as a real estate broker, Department license ID 01714600.
- (b) The Department originally issued CAMP's broker license on November 16, 2009. CAMP's license is scheduled to expire on November 15, 2021, unless renewed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Between July 1, 2013 and July 1, 2018, the Department of Real Estate operated as the Bureau of Real Estate under the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Paragraph 6 above. The audit examination covered the period of time from November 1, 2018.

27

through March 16, 2020 ("audit period"). The primary purpose of the examination was to 1 determine whether Respondents conducted real estate activities in accordance with the Real 3 Estate Law. The audit examination revealed violations of the Code and the Regulations as set forth in the following paragraphs, and more fully discussed in Audit No. SD200008, and the 4 5 exhibits and work papers attached to said audit report. 6 8. 7 At all times mentioned herein, and in connection with the property management 8 activities described in Paragraph 6, above, BROWN, for DCI, accepted or received funds, including funds in trust ("trust funds") from or on behalf of actual or prospective parties to 10 transactions handled by Respondents and thereafter made deposits and/or disbursements of such 11 funds. According to the documents provided, DCI maintained 1 bank account for handling of 12 the receipts and disbursements of funds during the audit period in connection with the property 13 management activities. 14 The bank account is as follows: 15 Bank Account 1 ("BA 1") 16 Bank: BBVA Compass Bank 17 Account Name: West Coast Property Managers Account Number: 18 xxxxxxxx9400 19 Signatories: Robert L Brown, Nicholas Brown 20 Signatures Required: One 21 Purpose: BA 1 was maintained to handle trust funds for DCI's property 22 management activities for multiple beneficiaries. 23 Violations of the Real Estate Law 24 9. 25 The audit examination revealed violations of the Code and the Regulations, as 26 set forth in the following paragraphs, and more fully discussed in Audit Report No. LA180128,

and the exhibits and work papers attached to the audit report:

27

# (a) <u>Handling of Trust Funds/Trust Fund Deposited into Salesperson's Bank</u> Account (Code section 10145(c)).

From November 1, 2018 to March 16, 2020, BROWN accepted trust funds from others in connection with the property management activity on behalf of DCI. BROWN did not deliver said trust funds to DCI, CAMP, and/or deposit trust funds into DCI's trust fund bank account. The trust funds were instead deposited into BA 1, which is a bank account associated with West Coast Property Managers.

# (b) <u>Trust Fund Handling For Multiple Beneficiaries (Code section 10145</u> and Regulations section 2832.1).

Based on an examination of BA 1's records, there was a minimum trust fund shortage of \$1,945.47 as of March 16, 2020 in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2832.1. There is no evidence that Respondents were given written consent from the owners of the trust funds to allow Respondents to reduce the balance of the funds in BA 1 to an amount less than the aggregate trust fund liabilities of DCI to all owners of the trust funds.

# (c) <u>Trust Fund Records to be Maintained (Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831)</u>. Respondents failed to maintain complete and accurate columnar record for all trust funds received and disbursed (control record) for BA 1, which was used for property management activities during the audit period in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831. The control record maintained by Respondents had inaccurate daily balances of trust fund, missing entries, and was not in chronological order.

# (d) Separate Records for Each Beneficiary (Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.1). Respondents failed to maintain complete and accurate separate records for each beneficiary or transaction of all trust fund receipts and disbursements for BA 1 in connection with DCI's property management activities during the audit period in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.1. The separate records maintained by Respondents had inaccurate daily balances of trust fund, missing entries, and was not in chronological order.

23

24

25

26

27

///

///

fictitious business name.

ACCUSATION

These fictitious business names do not show up in the Department's records as a licensed

1

2 3

4

5

6

7

8

9 10

11

12

13

14 15

> 16 17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

Each of the foregoing violations in Paragraphs 9 (a)-(1) above constitute cause for the suspension or revocation of the real estate license and/or license rights of Respondents under the provisions of Code sections 10177(d), 10177(g), and 10177(h) (as to CAMP).

# **COSTS**

# (AUDIT COSTS)

12.

Section 10148(b) of the Code, provides, in pertinent part, that the Real Estate Commissioner shall charge a real estate broker for the costs of any audit if the Commissioner has found in a final decision, following a disciplinary hearing, that the broker has violated Section 10145 of the Code or a regulation or rule of the Commissioner interpreting said Code section.

# (INVESTIGATION AND ENFORCEMENT COSTS)

13.

Section 10106 of the Code, provides, in pertinent part, that in any order issued in resolution of a disciplinary proceeding before the Department, the Commissioner may request the administrative law judge to direct a licensee found to have committed a violation of this part to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of investigation and enforcement of the case.

///

///

///

///

# **PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, Complainant prays that a hearing be conducted on the
allegations of this Accusation and that upon proof thereof, a decision be rendered imposing
disciplinary action against all the licenses and/or license rights of Respondents DISCREET
CAPITAL, INC., MICHAEL HAMILTON CAMP, and ROBERT LINDSAY BROWN under
the Real Estate Law, for the costs of investigation and enforcement as permitted by law, for the
cost of the audit, and for such other and further relief as may be proper under other applicable
provisions of law.

Dated at San Diego, California this \_\_\_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023

William Pak for Veronica Kilpatrick

Veronica Kilpatrick Supervising Special Investigator

cc: DISCREET CAPITAL, INC.
MICHAEL HAMILTON CAMP
ROBERT LINDSAY BROWN
Maria Suarez
Sacto.
Audits – Zaky Wanis