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BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the Matter of the Accusation of:

WINDFALL SPRINGS, INC., IRINA KERZHANOVICH, and BRIAN L. THOMPSON,

Respondent.

No. H-42390-LA

STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT AS TO IRINA KERZHANOVICH ONLY

It is hereby stipulated and agreed by and between Respondent IRINA KERZHANOVICH ("Respondent" or "KERZHANOVICH"), and her attorney of record, Joseph M. Parker, 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 November 7, 2022 ("Accusation") in this matter:

- 1. All issues which were to be contested and all evidence which was 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 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").
- Respondent has 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.

- 3. On November 16, 2022, Respondent filed a Notice of Defense pursuant to section 11506 of the Government Code 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 Respondent understands that by withdrawing said Notice of Defense, Respondent will thereby waive Respondent's 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 Respondent will waive other rights afforded to Respondent 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, Respondent chooses not to contest these allegations, but to remain silent, and understands 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 Respondent's 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 brought by the Department, or another licensing agency of this state, another state, or the federal government, 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 and Agreement as his Decision in this matter, thereby imposing the penalty and sanctions on Respondent's real estate license 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 Respondent 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 that were not specifically alleged to be causes of accusation in this proceeding.

8. Respondent understands that by agreeing to this Stipulation, Respondent agrees to pay, pursuant to Business and Professions Code ("Code") section 10106, one-third of the cost, as of July 10, 2023, of the investigation and enforcement of this matter. As of July 10, 2023, the amount of the investigation costs is \$4,713.80 and the amount of the enforcement costs is \$1,468.80, for a sum total of \$6,182.60.

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:

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

ORDER

All licenses and licensing rights of Respondent KERZHANOVICH under the Real Estate Law are suspended for a period of ninety (90) 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 KERZHANOVICH petitions pursuant to Code Section 10175.2 and pays a monetary penalty pursuant to Code Section 10175.2 at a rate of thirty-three dollars and thirty-three and one-third cents (\$33.33½) for each day of the suspension for a total monetary penalty of \$1,000 (\$33.33½ per day X thirty (30) days = \$1,000), 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. Respondent KERZHANOVICH shall obey all laws, rules and regulations governing the rights, duties and responsibilities of a real estate licensee in the State of California.
- c. No further cause for disciplinary action against the Real Estate license(s) of Respondent KERZHANOVICH occurs within one (1) year from the effective date of the Decision and Order in this matter.
- d. That no final subsequent determination be made, after hearing or upon stipulation, that cause of disciplinary action occurred within one (1) year 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.
- e. If Respondent KERZHANOVICH 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 until payment is made in full, or until a decision providing otherwise is adopted following a hearing held pursuant to this condition. Respondent KERZHANOVICH 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.
- f. If Respondent KERZHANOVICH 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 KERZHANOVICH occurs within one (1) year 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 (60) days of said suspension shall be stayed for one (1) year upon the following terms and conditions:
 - a. Respondent KERZHANOVICH shall obey all laws, rules and regulations governing the rights, duties and responsibilities of a real estate licensee in the State of California.

- b. No further cause for disciplinary action against the Real Estate license(s) of Respondent KERZHANOVICH occurs within one (1) year from the effective date of the Decision and Order in this matter.
- c. That no final subsequent determination be made, after hearing or upon stipulation, that cause of disciplinary action occurred within one (1) year 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.
- Respondent KERZHANOVICH shall pay one-third of the Commissioner's reasonable costs, determined as of July 10, 2023, for 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. As of July 10, 2023, the Commissioner's total costs for investigation and enforcement were \$6,182.60. Therefore, Respondent KERZHANOVICH shall pay one-third of \$6,182.60, or \$2,060.87, 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 Respondent KERZHANOVICH fails to satisfy this condition in a timely manner as provided for herein, Respondent KERZHANOVICH's real estate license 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. Respondent's signature below indicates full agreement to the terms of this Stipulation and Agreement and to the terms set forth herein.

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DATED: <u>8/18/2023</u>

Digitally Laurence D. ffaveron Haveson

Digitally signed by Laurence D. Haveson Date: 2023.08.18 09:11:40 -07'00'

Laurence D. Haveson Counsel for Complainant

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EXECUTION OF THE STIPULATION

I have read the Stipulation and Agreement. I understand its terms and they are agreeable and acceptable to me. I understand that I am waiving rights given to me by the California Administrative Procedure Act (including but not limited to Sections 11506, 11508, 11509 and 11513 of the Government Code), and I 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 I would have the right to cross-examine witnesses against me and to present evidence in defense and mitigation of the charges.

Respondent can signify acceptance and approval of the terms and conditions of this Stipulation by causing the Stipulation to be e-mailed with Respondent's digital signature to Laurence Haveson, Real Estate Counsel at Laurence. Haveson@dre.ca.gov, or by sending a hard copy of the original signed signature page of the Stipulation herein to Laurence D. Haveson, Department of Real Estate, Legal Section, 320 W. Fourth St., Suite 350, Los Angeles, CA 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 faxing or e-mailing 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 Stipulation and Agreement to the Department with Respondent's digital signature or a scan of Respondent's actual signature as it appears on the Stipulation and Agreement, that receipt of the Stipulation and Agreement with Respondent's digital signature or a scan of his actual signature by the Department shall be as binding on Respondent as if the Department had received the original signed Stipulation and Agreement. By signing this Stipulation and Agreement, Respondent understands and agrees that Respondent may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the Stipulation and Agreement prior to the time the Commissioner considers and acts upon it or prior to the effective date of the Stipulation and Order.

MAILING

In the event that Respondent declines to digitally sign the Stipulation, Respondent shall, within five (5) business days from signing the Stipulation, <u>mail</u> the original signed signature page(s) of the Stipulation herein to Laurence Haveson, Attention: Legal Section, Department of Real Estate, 320 W. Fourth St., Room 350, Los Angeles, California 90013-1105.

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: 08/18/2023

Respondent IRINA KERZHANOVICH

DATED: ___08/18/2023

Joseph M. Parker Attorney for Respondent IRINA KERZHANOVICH Approved as to Form

The foregoing Stipulation and Agreement in Settlement and Order is hereby adopted by me as my Decision in this matter and shall become effective at 12 o'clock noon on

October 11, 2023.

IT IS SO ORDERED 9 (15/23)

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DOUGLAS R. McCAULEY REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER

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