# DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND SECURITIES 2022 APR 21 AM 9: 16

BANKING AND SECURITIES

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA: DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND SECURITIES, COMPLIANCE OFFICE

DOCKET NO. 22 0015

(BNK-ORD)

NATIONAL CREDIT ADJUSTERS, LLC

v.

#### NOTICE TO ANSWER AND REQUEST A HEARING

You, National Credit Adjusters, LLC, have the right to challenge the attached Order ("Order") by filing an Answer, in writing, with the Docket Clerk within 30 days of the date of this Order as required by 1 Pa. Code § 35.37. If you do not file an Answer within 30 days, then you will waive your right to a hearing and the Banking and Securities Commission ("Commission") may enter a final order against you.

Your Answer must be in writing. Your Answer must specifically admit or deny the allegations in the Order, set forth the facts you rely upon, and state concisely the law upon which you rely. General denials of the allegations set forth in the Order are not sufficient; you must support your denials with specific facts. Failure to support your denials with specific facts may cause the Commission to deem the facts in the Order as admitted and to enter a final order against you, without a hearing.

The Answer and any other documents must be filed via first-class mail and electronic mail with the Docket Clerk:

> Eileen Smith, Docket Clerk Department of Banking and Securities 17 North Second Street, Suite 1300 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101 Email: RA-BNDOCKETCLERK@pa.gov

Further, you must serve a copy of the Answer and any other documents on the person who signed the Order by providing a hard and electronic copy to his or her counsel indicated below:

> Office of Chief Counsel Department of Banking and Securities 17 North Second Street, Suite 1300 Harrisburg, PA 17101 Email: RA-BNCHIEFCOUNSEL@pa.gov

Once you file your Answer, you will be notified of pertinent information such as the name of the presiding officer designated by the Commission to hear this matter and, if a hearing is scheduled, the date, time and location of the hearing. You have the right to be represented by an attorney.

All procedural matters will be governed by the Pennsylvania Administrative Agency Law, 2 Pa. C.S. §§501-508, 701-704, and the General Rules of Administrative Practices and Procedures, 1 Pa. Code §§31.1-35.251.

### COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND SECURITIES

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA: DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND:

SECURITIES, COMPLIANCE OFFICE

v.

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NATIONAL CREDIT ADJUSTERS, LLC

#### ORDER

- 1. The Department of Banking and Securities ("Department") is the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's administrative agency authorized and empowered to administer and enforce the Consumer Discount Company Act, 7 P.S. § 6201 et seq. ("CDCA").
- 2. The Compliance Office is primarily responsible for administering and enforcing the CDCA for the Department.
- 3. National Credit Adjusters, LLC ("NCA) is currently licensed as a Consumer Discount Company, license no. 92774.
- 4. NCA maintains its principal place of business at 327 W. 4th Ave, Hutchinson, KS 67501.

#### **BACKGROUND**

- 5. The CDCA at 7 P.S. § 6210 imposes certain requirements on consumer discount company licensees like NCA.
- 6. The CDCA states in pertinent part as follows: "Licensees operating under the provisions of this act shall annually, on or before the first day of March, file a report with the Secretary of Banking, giving such relevant information concerning the business and operations during the previous calendar year as the Secretary of Banking may require." 7 P.S. § 6210.

- 7. On June 14, 2021 the Department launched a self-service web-based system ("Portal") which provides licensees, including consumer discount companies, the ability to file all applications, amendments, reports etc.
- 8. On June 9, 2021, the Department provided notice of the Portal's upcoming launch to NCA.
- 9. The Department, pursuant to 7 P.S. § 6210, required each consumer discount company licensee to file through the Portal an Annual Report for the previous calendar year, 2021, by March 1, 2022.
- 10. On July 28, 2021, NCA joined the Portal and took active control of their licensing information. NCA provided the following contact information: an email address of nmoore@ncaks.com; phone numbers for their associate counsel, Redacted of Redacted and (888) 768-0674; and a phone number for their control person, Redacted, of (800) 286-5427.
- 11. On January 1, 2022, the Portal created an Annual Report Task that notified NCS via email, nmoore@ncaks.com, that NCA's annual report was due March 1, 2022.
- 12. The Department sent annual report reminders by email to NCA on January 14, 2022, January 25, 2022, February 3, 2022, February 16, 2022, February 25, 2022 and February 28, 2022.
- 13. On February 23 and February 28, 2022, the Compliance Office attempted to reach NCA in telephone calls to Redacted at Redacted (888) 768-0674. On February 28, 2022, the Compliance Office attempted to reach NCA in a telephone call to Redacted at (800) 286-5427. In several of these calls the Compliance Office left voicemails, however the calls on February 23, 2022, and February 28, 2022 were answered by Megan, who identified herself as a

representative of NCA. In the conversations with Megan, the Compliance Office discussed the Annual Report and stressed the importance of the upcoming due date.

- 14. NCA did not complete its Annual Report for the calendar year of 2021 by the deadline of March 1, 2022.
- 15. By email dated March 4, 2022, the Department notified NCA that its Annual Report was past due and that it was incurring a \$10 per day fine until NCA filed its Annual Report.
- 16. NCA filed the Annual Report by the end of the day on March 4, 2022, three days after the due date of March 1, 2022.

#### **AUTHORITY**

- 17. Section 202(D) of the Department of Banking and Securities Code authorizes the Department to issue orders as necessary and appropriate to administer any statute within the Department's jurisdiction. 71 P.S. § 733-202(D).
- 18. The Department has the authority to issue orders to enforce the CDCA. 7 P.S. § 6212.
- 19. Section 6210 of the CDCA authorizes the Department to impose a fine of \$10 for each calendar day that the Annual Report is overdue.

#### **VIOLATION**

20. By not filing the Annual Report on March 1, 2022, NCA violated the CDCA at 7 P.S. § 6210.

**AND NOW THEREFORE**, because NCA has failed to timely file the Annual Report for the calendar year of 2021, the Compliance Office, pursuant to its authority referenced above, hereby imposes the following:

- 1. Pursuant to the Department's authority in 7 P.S. § 6210 of the CDCA, NCA is hereby fined \$30 (thirty), which is payable within 30 days of the date of this order.
  - 2. Payment shall be made by through the Department Portal.
- 3. Failure to pay the fine within 30 days may result in additional enforcement action, including, but not limited to, the suspension, revocation or refusal to renew NCA's license.
- 4. Nothing in this Order shall prevent the Compliance Office from taking any further administrative actions as deemed necessary.

#### IT IS SO ORDERED.

Redacted

John Talalai, Director Compliance Office Department of Banking and Securities



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(Date)

FILED

## COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA 2022 APR 21 AM 9: 16 DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND SECURITIES

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA:
DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND:
SECURITIES, COMPLIANCE OFFICE:

PA DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND SECURITIES

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#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a copy of the foregoing **Order** upon the parties below, who constitute the only parties of record in this proceeding, in accordance with the requirements of 1 Pa. Code §§ 33.35, 33.36 and 33.37:

#### BY CERTIFIED AND FIRST-CLASS MAIL

National Credit Adjusters, LLC 327 W. 4th Ave Hutchinson, KS 67501

Dated this 21st day of April 2022.

Redacted

Office of Chief Counsel FOR: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Banking and Securities 17 N. Second Street, Suite 1300 Harrisburg, PA 17010