

## DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE, FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

P.O. Box 690, Jefferson City, Mo. 65102-0690

IN RE: Monarch Title Company, Inc. 111 E Broadway Ste. 100 Columbia, MO 65203-4208 TRACKING ID 187373

## VOLUNTARY FORFEITURE AGREEMENT

It is hereby agreed by Monarch Title Company, Inc. (Monarch) and the Consumer Affairs Division of the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration, as follows:

WHEREAS, John M. Huff, is the duly appointed Director of the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration, State of Missouri (hereinafter, "Director" of the "Department"), whose duties, pursuant to Chapters 374, 375 and 381, RSMo, include the supervision and regulation of the business of insurance; WHEREAS, the Consumer Affairs Division of the Department is charged with investigating producers and companies engaged in the business of insurance pursuant to Sections 374.085 and 374.190, RSMo and is authorized by the Director to recommend enforcement action under the laws relating to insurance;

WHEREAS, Monarch currently holds an active license as a business entity producer with the Department, pursuant to Chapter 375, RSMo;

WHEREAS, the Consumer Affairs Division has received information concerning Monarch's:

- issuance of title insurance policies without first making a determination of insurability in accordance with sound underwriting practices, by:
  - a. Failing to search all names in the chain of title;
  - b. Failing to date the order down before closing; and,
- failure to verify in writing the source of title evidence used in the examination and to place the verification in the title file;

which are violations of Section 381.071.1 (2), RSMo, 20 CSR 500-7.200 (3) (A), and 20 CSR 500-7.200 (3) (B) respectively, and subject Monarch to enforcement action by the Director;

WHEREAS, Monarch has been informed of its right to counsel and of its right to contest any attempt by the Department to discipline its insurance producer license, and states that it understands its rights to contest any such actions;

AND WHEREAS, Monarch, acknowledges and admits for purposes of this Agreement and for purposes of any future action by the Director or the Consumer Affairs Division based on any additional violation of the insurance laws or regulations by

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Monarch, in which action the Director or the Consumer Affairs Division alleges that the violations described herein form part of a course of conduct, a business practice, or other such series of similar violations, or that future violations by Monarch are committed knowingly, intentionally or in conscious disregard of the law, that it issued title insurance policies without first making a determination of insurability in accordance with sound underwriting practices, by failing to search all names in the chain of title and to date the order down before closing, and failed to verify in writing the source of title evidence used in the examination of title and to place the verification in the title files and that such conduct violated Section 381.071.1 (2), RSMo and 20 CSR 500-7.200 (3) (A) and (B).

NOW, THEREFORE, in lieu of any recommendation or initiation by the Consumer Affairs Division of any action based on the violations cited in this Agreement, and after being afforded the opportunity to consult legal counsel, Monarch does hereby voluntarily and knowingly surrender and forfeit the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00), such sum to be paid into the State School Moneys Fund pursuant to Sections 374.046 and 374.280, RSMo.

Monarch shall submit this sum to the Department by cashier's check or money order made payable to the State School Moneys Fund no later than November 30, 2015.

The parties agree that, should the Director or the Division in the future allege an additional violation of the insurance laws or regulations by Monarch, nothing in this Agreement shall preclude the Director or the Consumer Affairs Division from introducing Monarch's admissions contained in this Agreement as evidence that the acts described herein form part of a course of conduct, a business practice, or other such series of similar violations, or for purposes of showing that such later alleged acts are

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committed knowingly, intentionally or in conscious disregard of the law.

DATED: 11 415

Monarch Title Company, Inc. License No. 8013553 By: Mauree A. Dalton Its: CED

DATED: 11-9-15

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Duane E. Schreimann Schreimann, Rackers, Francka & Blunt, LLC Counsel for Monarch Title Company, Inc.

Carrie Couch, Director Consumer Affairs Division

DATED: 111315

DATED: 11-25-15

John M. Huff, Director

Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration

Return original to: Kathleen Jolly Missouri Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration PO Box 4001 Jefferson City, MO 65102