



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE

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

IN RE:)
)
CAMERON LEE MORALES,) **Case No. 2010300620C**
)
Applicant.)

ORDER REFUSING TO ISSUE
A BAIL BOND AGENT LICENSE

CHLORA LINDLEY-MYERS, Director of the Missouri Department of Commerce and Insurance (“Director” of the “Department”), takes up the above matter for consideration and disposition. After reviewing the Petition, the Investigative Report, and other relevant documents, the Director issues the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Cameron Lee Morales (“Morales”) is a Missouri resident with a residential and mailing address of 28977 Highway 54, Preston, Missouri 65732.
2. In July 2020, the Department of Commerce and Insurance received Morales’ Missouri Uniform Application for Bail Bond or Surety Recovery License (“Application”).
3. Part V, the “Applicant Signature” section of the Application, states, in relevant part:

I hereby certify that, under penalty of perjury, all of the information submitted in this application and attachments is true and complete. I am aware that submitting false information or omitting pertinent or material information in connection with this application is grounds for license revocation or denial of the license and may subject me to civil

or criminal penalties.

4. Morales signed the Application on June 19, 2020.
5. Part III, the Background Information section of the Application, Question B, asks:

Have you ever been adjudicated, convicted, pled or found guilty of any misdemeanor or felony or currently have pending misdemeanor or felony charges filed against you? Applicants are required to report all criminal cases whether or not a sentence has been imposed, a suspended imposition of sentence has been entered or the applicant has pled nolo contendere (no contest).
6. Morales answered “Yes” to Question B.
7. Documents attached to Morales’ Application show that Morales has the following criminal history:
 - a. On February 21, 2018, Morales pled guilty to the Class D Felony of Burglary in the Second Degree, in violation of § 569.170, RSMo,¹ the Class D Felony of Possession of a Controlled Substance, in violation of § 579.015, the Class E Felony of Property Damage in the First Degree, in violation of § 569.100, the Class A Misdemeanor of Stealing, in violation of § 570.030, and the Class D Misdemeanor of Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, in violation of § 579.074. *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17DA-CR00320-02. Also on February 21, 2018, the court suspended imposition of sentence as to the three felonies and placed Morales on five years of supervised probation. *Id.* The court also sentenced Morales to 90 days in jail on the Stealing count and to a \$50.00 fine on the Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia charge. *Id.*
 - b. On November 28, 2017, Morales pled guilty to the Class E Felony of Delivery or Possession of Alcohol or Spirituous or Malt Liquor at a County/Private Jail or Correctional Facility, in violation of § 221.111. *State v. Cameron Morales*, 17HI-CR00198-01. Also on November 28, 2017, the court suspended imposition of sentence and placed Morales on five years of supervised probation. *Id.*
8. The Consumer Affairs Division’s investigation revealed that Morales also pled

¹ This and all criminal statutory references are to that version of the Revised Statutes of Missouri in effect at the time of the commission of the crime.

guilty to additional crimes that he did not disclose on his Application, as follows:

- a. On July 29, 2014, Morales pled guilty to Operating a Vehicle on a Highway Without a Valid License, an unclassified misdemeanor, in violation of § 302.020. *State v. Cameron L. Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 14DA-CR00408. Also on July 29, 2014, the court sentenced Morales to a \$25 fine. *Id.*
- b. On November 21, 2017, Morales pled guilty to the Class A Misdemeanor of Stealing, in violation of § 570.030. *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17DA-CR00647. Also on November 21, 2017, the court sentenced Morales to thirty days in jail. *Id.*
- c. On February 21, 2018, Morales pled guilty to the Class D Felony of Possession of a Controlled Substance, in violation of § 579.015, and the Class D Misdemeanor of Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, in violation of § 579.074. *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17DA-CR00622-02. Also on February 21, 2018, the court suspended imposition of sentence as to the felony and placed Morales on five years of supervised probation, and sentenced Morales to a \$25.00 fine on the misdemeanor count. *Id.*

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

9. Section 374.715.1, RSMo Cum. Supp. 2018, provides as follows:

Applications for examination and licensure as a bail bond agent or general bail bond agent shall be in writing and on forms prescribed and furnished by the department, and shall contain such information as the department requires. Each application shall be accompanied by proof satisfactory to the department that the applicant is a citizen of the United States, has a high school diploma or general education development certificate (GED), is of good moral character, and meets the qualifications for surety on bail bonds as provided by supreme court rule. Each application shall be accompanied by the examination and application fee set by the department. Individuals currently employed as bail bond agents and general bail bond agents shall not be required to meet the education requirements needed for licensure pursuant to this section.

10. Section 374.750, RSMo 2016, provides as follows:

The department may refuse to issue or renew any license required

pursuant to sections 374.700 to 374.775 for any one or any combination of causes stated in section 374.755. The department shall notify the applicant in writing of the reasons for the refusal and shall advise the applicant of his right to file a complaint with the administrative hearing commission as provided by chapter 621.

11. Section 374.755.1, RSMo 2016, provides, in part, as follows:

The department may cause a complaint to be filed with the administrative hearing commission as provided by chapter 621 against any holder of any license required by sections 374.695 to 374.775 or any person who has failed to renew or has surrendered his or her license for any one or any combination of the following causes:

* * *

(2) Final adjudication or a plea of guilty or nolo contendere within the past fifteen years in a criminal prosecution under any state or federal law for a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude whether or not a sentence is imposed, prior to issuance of license date;

(3) Use of fraud, deception, misrepresentation or bribery in securing any license or in obtaining permission to take any examination required pursuant to sections 374.695 to 374.775;

* * *

(6) Violation of any provision of or any obligation imposed by the laws of this state, department of commerce and insurance rules and regulations, or aiding or abetting other persons to violate such laws, orders, rules or regulations, or subpoenas[.]

12. Missouri Supreme Court Rule 33.17 provides, in part, as follows:

A person shall not be accepted as a surety on any bail bond unless the person:

* * *

(c) Has not, within the past 15 years, been found guilty of or pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to:

(1) Any felony of this state, any other state, or the United

States; or

(2) Any other crime of this state, any other state, or the United States involving moral turpitude, whether or not a sentence was imposed[.]

13. “A plea of guilty is an admission as to the facts alleged in the information.” *Milligan v. State*, 772 S.W.2d 736, 739 (Mo. App. W.D. 1989).
14. By pleading guilty to the felonies of Burglary in the Second Degree, Possession of a Controlled Substance, Property Damage in the First Degree, and Delivery or Possession of Alcohol or Spirituous or Malt Liquor at a County/Private Jail or Correctional Facility within the past fifteen (15) years (Morales pled guilty in 2017 and 2018), Morales is disqualified for bail bond agent licensure because he fails to meet the qualifications set forth in Missouri Supreme Court Rule 33.17(c)(1) and § 374.715.1, RSMo Cum. Supp. 2018. *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17DA-CR00320-02; *State v. Cameron L. Morales*, Hickory Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17HI-CR00198-01; and *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17DA-CR00622-02. The Director has no discretion when a person does not meet the minimum qualifications of a bail bond agent, and therefore must refuse to issue Morales a bail bond agent license.
15. By pleading guilty to Possession of a Controlled Substance and Stealing within the past fifteen (15) years (Morales pled guilty in 2017 and 2018), Morales is disqualified for bail bond agent licensure because he has pleaded guilty to crimes of moral turpitude and therefore fails to meet the qualifications set forth in Missouri Supreme Court Rule 33.17(c)(2) and § 374.715.1, RSMo Cum. Supp. 2018. *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17DA-CR00320-02; *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17DA-CR00647 and *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17DA-CR00622-02. Possession of a Controlled Substance and Stealing are both crimes of moral turpitude. *Missouri Dental Board v. Van Opdorp*, No. 11-0280 DB (Mo. Admin. Hrg. Comm’n March 18, 2013) (possession of a controlled substance); *Ide v. Dir. of Dep’t of Ins., Fin. Insts. and Prof’l Reg’n*, No. 12-0105 DI (Mo. Admin. Hrg. Comm’n April 2, 2012) (stealing). The Director has no discretion when a person does not meet the minimum qualifications of a bail bond agent, and therefore must refuse to issue Morales a bail bond agent license.
16. The Director may refuse to issue a bail bond agent license to Morales under § 374.755.1(2), RSMo 2016, because Morales pled guilty within the past fifteen (15) years in a criminal prosecution under any state law for a felony. Specifically, in 2018 Morales pled guilty to Burglary in the Second Degree, Possession of a Controlled Substance, and Property Damage in the First Degree, and in 2017

Morales pled guilty to Delivery or Possession of Alcohol or Spirituous or Malt Liquor at a County/Private Jail or Correctional Facility. *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17DA-CR00320-02; *State v. Cameron L. Morales*, Hickory Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17HI-CR00198-01; and *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17DA-CR00622-02.

17. Each felony conviction constitutes separate and sufficient cause under § 374.755.1(2), RSMo 2016, for the Director to refuse to issue a bail bond agent license to Morales.
18. The Director may also refuse to issue a bail bond agent license to Morales under § 374.755.1(3), RSMo 2016, for the use of fraud, deception or misrepresentation in securing any license, because Morales failed to disclose his 2014 conviction for Operating a Vehicle on a Highway Without a Valid License, *State v. Cameron L. Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 14DA-CR00408, his 2017 conviction for Misdemeanor Stealing, *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17DA-CR00647, and his 2018 plea of guilty to Felony Possession of a Controlled Substance and Misdemeanor Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17DA-CR00622-02.
19. The Director may also refuse to issue a bail bond agent license to Morales under § 374.755.1(6), RSMo 2016, because Morales violated a law of this state. In particular, Morales violated the following statutes: §§ 569.170, 579.015, 569.100, 570.030, 579.074, 221.111, and 302.020. *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17DA-CR00320-02; *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Hickory Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17HI-CR00198-01; *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 14DA-CR00408; *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17DA-CR00622-02; and *State v. Cameron Lee Morales*, Dallas Co. Cir. Ct., Case No. 17DA-CR00647.
20. Each violation of a law of this state constitutes separate and sufficient cause under § 374.755.1(6) to refuse to issue a bail bond agent license to Morales.
21. Under Missouri Supreme Court Rule 33.17(c) and § 374.715.1, RSMo Cum. Supp. 2018, Morales is disqualified for a bail bond agent license and, therefore, the Director has no discretion and must refuse to issue a bail bond agent license to Morales.
22. Moreover, the above described instances constitute cause for the Director to refuse to issue a bail bond agent license to Morales. Issuing a bail bond agent license to Morales would not be in the interest of the public.

23. The Director has considered Morales' history and all of the circumstances surrounding Morales' Application. The Director refuses to issue a bail bond agent license to Morales because he is disqualified from holding a bail bond agent license. Further, the Director exercises her discretion to refuse to issue Morales a bail bond agent license.
24. This Order is in the public interest.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the bail bond agent license Application of **Cameron Lee Morales** is hereby **REFUSED**.

SO ORDERED. WITNESS MY HAND THIS 06th DAY OF

June, 2022.



Chlora Lindley-Myers

CHLORA LINDLEY-MYERS
DIRECTOR

NOTICE

TO: Applicant and any unnamed persons aggrieved by this Order:

You may request a hearing in this matter. You may do so by filing a complaint with the Administrative Hearing Commission of Missouri, P.O. Box 1557, Jefferson City, Missouri, within 30 days after the mailing of this notice pursuant to Section 621.120, RSMo. Pursuant to 1 CSR 15-3.290, unless you send your complaint by registered or certified mail, it will not be considered filed until the Administrative Hearing Commission receives it.


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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 7th day of June, 2022, a copy of the foregoing Order and Notice was served upon the Applicant in this matter by United Parcel Service, with signature required, at the following address:

Cameron Lee Morales
28977 Highway 54
Preston, Missouri 65732

Tracking No. 1Z0R15W84290266728


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