

**IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE, FINANCIAL  
INSTITUTIONS AND PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION  
STATE OF MISSOURI**

*In Re:* )  
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 )  
**CHURCH MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY )      Market Conduct Examination**  
**(NAIC #18767) )      No. 1503-81-TGT**

**ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR**

NOW, on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2017, Acting Director, Chlora Lindley-Myers, after consideration and review of the Stipulation of Settlement and Voluntary Forfeiture (hereinafter "Stipulation") entered into by the Division of Insurance Market Regulation (hereinafter "Division") and Church Mutual Insurance Company (NAIC #18767) (hereinafter "Church Mutual"), relating to the market conduct examination set out in the caption above, does hereby issue the following orders:

This order, issued pursuant to §374.205.2(5) RSMo 2000, §374.280 RSMo (Cum. Supp. 2013) and §374.046.15. RSMo (Cum. Supp. 2013), is in the public interest.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that Church Mutual and the Division of Insurance Market Regulation having agreed to the Stipulation, the Acting Director does hereby approve and agree to the Stipulation.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Church Mutual shall not engage in any of the violations of law and regulations set forth in the Stipulation, shall implement procedures to place Church Mutual in full compliance with the requirements in the Stipulation, to maintain those corrective actions at all times, and shall fully comply with all terms of the Stipulation.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Church Mutual shall pay, and the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration, State of Missouri, shall accept, the Voluntary Forfeiture of \$2,000 payable to the Missouri State School Fund.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of my office in Jefferson City, Missouri, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2017.



  
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Chlora Lindley-Myers  
Acting Director

**IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE, FINANCIAL  
INSTITUTIONS AND PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION  
STATE OF MISSOURI**

*In Re:* )  
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CHURCH MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY ) **Market Conduct Examination**  
(NAIC #18767) ) **No. 1503-81-TGT**

**STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT AND VOLUNTARY FORFEITURE**

It is hereby stipulated and agreed by the Division of Insurance Market Regulation (hereinafter, the “Division”), and Church Mutual Insurance Company (NAIC #18767) (hereinafter “Church Mutual”), as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the Division is a unit of the Missouri Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration (hereinafter, the “Department”), an agency of the State of Missouri, created and established for administering and enforcing all laws in relation to insurance companies doing business in the State in Missouri; and

**WHEREAS**, Church Mutual has been granted a certificate of authority to transact the business of insurance in the State of Missouri; and

**WHEREAS**, the Division called a Market Conduct Examination of Church Mutual based upon findings contained in a Market Conduct Investigation; and

**WHEREAS**, based on the Market Conduct Investigation the Division alleges that:

1. Church Mutual failed to include a payment for sales tax in two insured commercial automobile policy first party total loss settlements even though the company’s policies provided for payment of the sales tax in violation of §§ 375.445,<sup>1</sup> 375.936(13), 375.1007(1), and 375.1007(4), RSMo, and 20 CSR 100-1.020(1)(A).

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<sup>1</sup> All references, unless otherwise noted, are to Revised Statutes of Missouri 2000, as amended.

**WHEREAS**, the Division and Church Mutual have agreed to resolve the issues raised in the Market Conduct Examination and Market Conduct Investigation as follows:

A. **Scope of Agreement.** This Stipulation of Settlement and Voluntary Forfeiture (hereinafter, "Stipulation") embodies the entire agreement and understanding of the signatories with respect to the subject matter contained herein. The signatories hereby declare and represent that no promise, inducement or agreement not herein expressed has been made, and acknowledge that the terms and conditions of this agreement are contractual and not a mere recital.

B. **Remedial Action.** Church Mutual agrees to take remedial action to ensure that it is in compliance with the statutes and regulations of Missouri and agrees to maintain those remedial actions at all times. Such remedial actions shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Church Mutual agrees that it will pay all first party automobile total loss claims, including payment for all sales taxes relating to such claims, according to the terms of its policy provisions and agrees to maintain this remedial action at all times<sup>2</sup>.

2. Church Mutual agrees that it will review all first party automobile total loss claims paid or processed at any time from January 25, 2012 to the date of the entry of the Final Order closing this Market Conduct Examination to determine if Church Mutual paid all applicable sales taxes to total loss claimants for their damaged vehicles using the contractual value payable under the terms of each policy at the time of loss.<sup>3</sup> If all applicable sales taxes were not paid by Church Mutual to a claimant, Church Mutual shall pay restitution to the claimant in the amount of the sales tax payable under its policy on the date of loss, including all state, city, county and other sales taxes.

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<sup>2</sup> Nothing in this Stipulation requires Church Mutual to pay sales tax on insured vehicles that are exempt from payment of sales tax, provided Church Mutual can document the exemption at the time of loss on the insured vehicle's title.

<sup>3</sup> This could be Actual Cash Value, Stated Value or some other valuation method listed in the policy.

Such restitution shall be paid with no reduction in the amount payable to the claimant if the owner of the total loss vehicle retains the vehicle as salvage, unless there is a clear and specific provision in the policy supporting the reduction. For purposes of this Stipulation, providing a claimant with a sales tax affidavit pursuant to the provisions of §144.027 standing alone does not constitute payment of all applicable sales taxes to the claimant.

C. **Compliance.** Church Mutual agrees to file documentation with the Division, in a format acceptable to the Division, within 90 days of the entry of a final order of any remedial action taken to implement compliance with the terms of this Stipulation and to document payment of restitution required under the terms of this Stipulation.

D. **Examination Fees.** Church Mutual agrees to pay any reasonable examination fees expended by the Division in conducting its review of the documentation provided by the Company pursuant to Paragraph C of this Stipulation.

E. **Voluntary Forfeiture.** Church Mutual agrees, voluntarily and knowingly, to surrender and forfeit the sum of \$2,000 such sum payable to the Missouri State School Fund, in accordance with § 374.280.

F. **Other Penalties.** The Division agrees that it will not seek penalties against Church Mutual, other than those agreed to in this Stipulation, in connection with Market Conduct Examination #1503-81-TGT.

G. **Waivers.** Church Mutual, after being advised by legal counsel, does hereby voluntarily and knowingly waive any and all rights for procedural requirements, including notice and an opportunity for a hearing, and review or appeal by any trial or appellate court, which may have otherwise applied to the Market Conduct Examination #1503-81-TGT.

H. **Changes.** No changes to this Stipulation shall be effective unless made in writing and agreed to by representatives of the Division and Church Mutual.

I. **Governing Law.** This Stipulation shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Missouri.

J. **Authority.** The signatories below represent, acknowledge and warrant that they are authorized to sign this Stipulation, on behalf of the Division and Church Mutual respectively.

K. **Effect of Stipulation.** This Stipulation shall not become effective until entry of a Final Order by the Director of the Department (hereinafter the "Director") approving this Stipulation.

L. **Request for an Order.** The signatories below request that the Director issue an Order approving this Stipulation and ordering the relief agreed to in the Stipulation, and consent to the issuance of such Order.

DATED: 2/28/17

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Angela L. Nelson, Director  
Division of Insurance Market Regulation

DATED: 2/16/17

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stewart Freilich  
Senior Regulatory Affairs Counsel

DATED: 2/7/17

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Root  
Senior Vice President-Operations  
Church Mutual Insurance Company