

FILED February 4, 2021 (Date)
J.R.C.
Board / Commission
M.L.
Signature, Executive Officer

**BEFORE THE IOWA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION
200 EAST GRAND, SUITE 350
DES MOINES, IOWA 50309**

IN RE:)	
)	CASE NUMBER: 20-206
Curtis D. Brown)	
Broker (B34247000))	COMBINED STATEMENT OF
)	CHARGES, INFORMAL
Four County Realty)	SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT,
1536 Sunset Dr)	AND CONSENT ORDER IN A
Belle Plaine, IA 52208-1320)	DISCIPLINARY CASE
)	
RESPONDENT)	

The Iowa Real Estate Commission (Commission) and **Curtis D. Brown** (Respondent) enter into this Combined Statement of Charges, Informal Settlement Agreement, and Consent Order in a Disciplinary Case (Order) pursuant to Iowa Code Sections 17A.10(1) and 272C.3(4) (2020).

1. The Commission issued the Respondent real estate broker license number B34247000 on January 1, 1999. Respondent's license is in full force and effect until December 31, 2022. At all times relevant to this matter, the Respondent was a licensed real estate sole-proprietor broker operating as Four County Realty, a licensed real estate trade name, license number T04160000, located in Belle Plaine, Iowa.

2. The Commission has jurisdiction of this disciplinary matter pursuant to Iowa Code chapters 17A, 272C, and 543B (2019). Licenses issued by the Commission are subject to the laws of the State of Iowa and to the administrative rules of the Commission.

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

COUNT I

3. Respondent is charged with failing to comply with all procedures mandated by statute to effectuate a change of employment by a real estate salesperson then employed by the Respondent's brokerage in violation of Iowa Code section 543B.33 (2019) by failing to make a reasonable effort to ensure the Commission receives the license within 72 hours of the discharge date. See 193E Iowa Administrative Code sections 6.1(1), 6.1(2), 18.14(5)(c)(2).

CIRCUMSTANCES

4. As designated broker of the real estate broker sole-proprietorship, the Respondent is responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable rules and regulations governing the sole-proprietorship's operations in the state of Iowa.

5. In July of 2020, a licensee in the employment of the Respondent was sent a random audit by the Commission for compliance with the mandatory errors and omissions insurance requirement.

6. On September 3, 2020, the Respondent provided a written response to the Commission, acknowledging that his real estate brokerage firm failed to properly send in the affiliated licensee's real estate license to the Commission after a request was received in 2019.

7. Commission licensing records indicate the aforementioned licensee was assigned to the Respondent brokerage firm until September 2, 2020, at which time their Iowa salesperson license was placed on inactive status.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

8. Without admission of wrongdoing or guilt, the Respondent does not contest the violations alleged in the above-stated Statement of Charges.

9. Respondent acknowledges that he has a right to receive notice of the above-stated charges and to request a hearing before the Commission on the merits of the charges. By freely and voluntarily entering into this Order, the Respondent waives his right to notice and a hearing and all attendant rights, including the right to seek judicial review. This Order constitutes discipline against the Respondent, and is the final agency order in this contested case pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.10 and 193 Iowa Administrative Code 7.4.

10. Respondent agrees that the State's attorney and/or Commission staff may present this Order to the Commission and may have *ex parte* communications with the Commission while presenting it. Respondent waives any right of notice of this meeting or any right that the Respondent might have to participate in the discussion of this Order among the Commission, the Commission staff and the State's attorney.

11. This Order shall be part of the permanent record of Respondent and shall be considered by the Commission in determining the nature and severity of any future disciplinary action to be imposed in the event of any future violations of the laws and rules governing the practice of real estate by the Respondent.

12. Failure to comply with the terms of this Order shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of Iowa Code sections 543B.29(1)(d), 543B.34(1) and 272C.3(2)(a) (2020) and shall be

grounds for further disciplinary action. However, no action may be taken against the Respondent for violations of this Order without a hearing, or waiver of hearing.

13. This Order is not binding on the Iowa Real Estate Commission until it has been formally approved by a majority of the Commission members.

- (a) In the event that this Order is rejected by the Commission it shall be of no force or effect to either party, and it shall not be admissible for any purpose in further proceedings in this matter.
- (b) If the Commission approves this Order, it shall fully dispose of all issues in this case.

14. Upon acceptance by both the Commission and Respondent, this Combined Statement of Charges, Informal Settlement and Consent Order shall be a public record available for inspection and copying in its entirety in accordance with the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 22 (2020).

CONSENT ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

15. CIVIL PENALTY. The Respondent shall pay a civil penalty to the Commission in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) no later than thirty (30) days after acceptance of this Order by the Commission. The civil penalty must come under a cover letter addressed to the Commission's Executive Officer, referencing Case Number 20-206.

16. FUTURE COMPLIANCE. The Respondent also shall at all future times fully and promptly comply with all pertinent Orders of the Commission and the statutes and Commission rules regulating the practice of real estate.

WHEREFORE, the terms of this Combined Statement of Charges, Informal Settlement Agreement and Consent Order are agreed to and accepted by the Iowa Real Estate Commission and the Respondent.

FOR THE RESPONDENT:

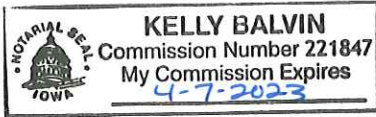
Voluntarily agreed to and accepted by **Curtis D. Brown** on this 27 day of November, 2020.


By: **CURTIS D. BROWN**, Respondent

State of Iowa)

County of Benton)

Signed and sworn to before me on this 27 day of November, 2020, by:



Kelly Balvin
Notary Public, State of Iowa
Printed Name: Kelly Balvin
My Commission Expires: 4-7-2023

FOR THE COMMISSION:

Voluntarily agreed to and accepted by the **IOWA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION** on this 4th day of February, 2020. 2021

T. M. Duggan
TERRANCE M. DUGGAN, Chair
Iowa Real Estate Commission