

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

Department of Commerce  
Professional Licensing Bureau  
**FILED** 2-2-23 (Date)  
IREC  
Board / Commission  
*[Signature]*  
Signature, Executive Officer

IN RE: )  
R. Friedrich & Sons, Inc. )  
Firm (F00485000) )  
100 6<sup>th</sup> Street )  
Ames, Iowa 50010 )  
RESPONDENT )  
CASE NUMBER: 22-242  
COMBINED STATEMENT OF  
CHARGES, INFORMAL  
SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT,  
AND CONSENT ORDER IN A  
DISCIPLINARY CASE

The Iowa Real Estate Commission (Commission) and R. Friedrich & Sons, Inc. (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) (2022).

1. The Commission issued the Respondent real estate firm license number F00485000 on September 19, 1960. The Respondent firm license is current and in full force and effect through December 31, 2022. Kurt W. Friedrich, broker officer license number B04309000, serves both as the designated broker in charge and a licensed real estate broker officer for the Respondent real estate brokerage firm, located in Bettendorf, Iowa.

2. The Commission has jurisdiction of this disciplinary matter pursuant to Iowa Code chapters 17A, 272C, and 543B (2021). 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 salesperson then employed by the Respondent's brokerage in violation of Iowa Code section 543B.33 (2021) by failing to place the licensee on inactive status. See 193E Iowa Administrative Code sections 6.1(1), 6.1(2), 18.14(5)(c)(2).

CIRCUMSTANCES

4. The Respondent is responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable rules and regulations governing its operations in the state of Iowa.

5. On August 2, 2022, a licensee in the employment of the Respondent real estate brokerage firm was sent a random audit by the Commission for compliance with the mandatory errors and omissions insurance requirement.

6. The aforementioned licensee provided a response to the Commission with an email dated August 2, 2022 from the Respondent real estate brokerage firm, informing the licensee that her license would be released back to the Commission to be placed on inactive status.

7. However, Commission licensing records indicate the aforementioned licensee was assigned to the Respondent real estate brokerage firm until August 9, 2022, at which time their Iowa salesperson license should have been placed on inactive status.

8. Consequently, the Respondent real estate brokerage firm failed to effectuate a change of employment by a salesperson then employed by the Respondent's brokerage firm.

#### **SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

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

10. Respondent acknowledges that it 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 its 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.

11. 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.

12. 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.

13. 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) (2022) 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.

14. 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.

15. Upon acceptance by both the Commission and Respondent, this Combined Statement of Charges, Informal Settlement Agreement 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 (2022).

**CONSENT ORDER**

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

16. 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 22-242.

17. FUTURE COMPLIANCE. The Respondent 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 **R. Friedrich & Sons, Inc.** on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022.

  
By: **KURT W. FRIEDRICH**, Broker Officer

State of Iowa )

County of Story )

Signed and sworn to before me on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022, by:



Karin B Christianson  
Notary Public, State of Iowa  
Printed Name: Karin B Christianson  
My Commission Expires: 2/22/25

**FOR THE COMMISSION:**

Voluntarily agreed to and accepted by the **IOWA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION** on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

James M.H. Clingman  
**JAMES M.H. CLINGMAN**, Chair  
Iowa Real Estate Commission