# Terms Completed

## **ORDER SUMMARY – Case Number: C-02-359**

Name(s):	Kimberly Ruth Romero						
Order Number:	C-02-359-09-CO02						
<b>Effective Date</b> :	September 1, 2	2009					
License Number: Or NMLS Identifier [U/L] License Effect:	DFI: 21730  (Revoked, suspended, stayed, application denied or withdrawn)  If applicable, you must specifically note the ending dates of terms.  n/a						
Not Apply Until:	n/a						
Not Eligible Until:	n/a						
Prohibition/Ban Until:	No end date						
<b>Investigation Costs</b>	\$	Due	Paid Y N	Date			
Fine	\$	Due	Paid N N	Date			
Assessment(s)	\$	Due	Paid N N	Date			
Restitution	\$	Due	Paid Y N	Date			
Judgment	\$	Due	Paid N N	Date			
Satisfaction of Judgment F	No. of	□ Y □ N					
Comments:	Victims:						

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CONSENT ORDER C-02-359-09-CO02 Lamplighter Homes Inc,. and Kimberly Ruth Romero

# STATE OF WASHINGTON ENFORCEMENT UNIT DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS DEPT OF FINANCIAL IN THE PROPERTY OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS DEPT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS DEPENDENT DEPT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS DEPENDENT DEPT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS DEPENDENT DEPENDENT

IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING
Whether there has been a violation of the
Mortgage Broker Practices Act of Washington by:

LAMPLIGHTER HOMES, INC., and KIMBERLY RUTH ROMERO, Designated Broker,

NO. C-02-359-09-CO02

CONSENT ORDER

KIMBERLY RUTH ROMERO

Respondents.

COMES NOW the Director of the Department of Financial Institutions (Director), through his designee Deborah Bortner, Division Director, Division of Consumer Services, and Kimberly Ruth Romero (hereinafter Respondent Romero), and finding that the issues raised in the above-captioned matter, as they pertain to Respondent Romero, may be economically and efficiently settled, agree to the entry of this Consent Order. This Consent Order is entered pursuant to chapter 19.146 of Revised Code of Washington (RCW), and RCW 34.05.060 of the Administrative Procedure Act, based on the following:

#### AGREEMENT AND ORDER

The Department of Financial Institutions, Division of Consumer Services (Department) and Respondent Romero have agreed upon a basis for resolution of the matters alleged in Statement of Charges No. C-02-359-03-SC01 (Statement of Charges), entered August 27, 2003, (copy attached hereto), only as they pertain to Respondent Romero. Pursuant to chapter 19.146 RCW, the Mortgage Broker Practices Act (Act), and RCW 34.05.060 of the Administrative Procedure Act, Respondent Romero hereby agrees to the Department's entry of this Consent Order and further agrees that the issues raised in the above-captioned matter, only as they pertain to Respondent Romero, may be economically and efficiently settled by entry of this Consent Order. The parties intend this Consent Order to fully resolve the Statement of Charges. Respondent Romero is agreeing not to contest the Statement of Charges in consideration of the terms of this Consent Order.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
Division of Consumer Services
150 Israel Rd SW
PO Box 41200
Olympia, WA 98504-1200
(360) 902-8703

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Based upon the foregoing:

A. **Jurisdiction.** It is AGREED that the Department has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the activities discussed herein.

- B. Waiver of Hearing. It is AGREED that Respondent Romero has been informed of the right to a hearing before an administrative law judge, and that she hereby waives her right to a hearing and any and all administrative and judicial review of the issues raised in this matter, or of the resolution reached herein.

  Accordingly, Respondent Romero agrees that, by her signature below, Respondent Romero's appeal is withdrawn.
- C. **No Admission of Liability.** It is AGREED that Respondent Romero does not admit to any wrongdoing by entry of this Consent Order.
- D. **Prohibition from Industry.** It is AGREED that Respondent Romero is prohibited from participating in the conduct of the affairs of any mortgage broker licensed by the Department, or subject to licensure or regulation by the Department, or exempt from Washington law under RCW 19.146.020(1), in any capacity, including, but not limited to: (1) any financial capacity whether active or passive or (2) as an officer, director, principal, designated broker, employee, or loan originator or (3) any management, control, oversight, or maintenance of any trust account(s) in any way related to any residential mortgage transaction or (4) receiving, disbursing, managing, or controlling in any way, consumer trust funds in any way related to any residential mortgage transaction.
- E. Non-Compliance with Order. It is AGREED that Respondent Romero understands that failure to abide by the terms and conditions of this Consent Order may result in further legal action by the Director. In the event of such legal action, Respondent Romero may be responsible to reimburse the Director for the cost incurred in pursuing such action, including, but not limited to, attorney fees.
- F. **Voluntarily Entered.** It is AGREED that Respondent Romero has voluntarily entered into this Consent Order, which is effective when signed by the Director's designee.

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1	G. Completely Read, Understood, and Agreed. It is AGREED that Respondent Romero has read this
2	Consent Order in its entirety and fully understand and agree to all of the same.
3	RESPONDENT:
4	1/20/0G
5	Kimberly Ruth Romero Date
6	
7	DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE
8	X OAK
9	THIS ORDER ENTERED THIS DAY OF , 2009.
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11	De K Dr. VI
12	DEBORAH BORTNER Director
13	Division of Consumer Services Department of Financial Institutions
14	Presented by:
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16	arshem
17	STEVEN C. SHERMAN Financial Legal Examiner
18	WE WE ALWASTING
19	Approved by:
20	James R. Brunelbick
21	JAMES R. BRUSSELBACK Unforcement Chief
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# STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING
Whether there has been a violation of the
Mortgage Broker Practices Act of Washington by:

Lamplighter Homes Inc. and Kimberly Ruth Romero, Designated Broker,

Respondents.

NO. C-02-359-03-SC01

STATEMENT OF CHARGES and NOTICE OF INTENT TO REVOKE LICENSE, IMPOSE FINES, COLLECT INVESTIGATION FEES, AND PROHIBIT FROM PARTICIPATION IN MORTGAGE BROKER INDUSTRY

#### INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to RCW 19.146.220 and RCW 19.146.223, the Director of the Department of Financial Institutions of the State of Washington ("Director") is responsible for the administration of chapter 19.146 RCW, the Mortgage Broker Practices Act ("Act"). The referenced statutes (RCW) and rules (WAC) are attached, in pertinent part. After having conducted an investigation, and based upon the facts available as of August 25, 2003, the Director institutes this proceeding and finds as follows:

#### I. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

#### 1.1 Respondents:

- A. Lamplighter Homes Inc. ("Lamplighter") is known to conduct the business of a mortgage broker at 149 Hamilton Road, Chehalis, Washington 98532. Lamplighter uses a mailing address of 8560 South Eastern Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89511.
- B. **Kimberly Ruth Romero** ("Romero") was named designated broker on June 26, 2000, and has continued as Designated Broker to date.
- 1.2 Licenses: Lamplighter was licensed by the Department of Financial Institutions ("Department") to conduct business as a mortgage broker on June 2, 1997, and has continued to be licensed to date.

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#### II. GROUNDS FOR ENTRY OF ORDER

- 2.1 Requirement to Maintain Surety Bond: Based on the Factual Allegations set forth above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.205(4)(a) and WAC 208-660-150 for failure to maintain a surety bond.
- 2.2 Requirement to Pay Annual Assessment: Based on the Factual Allegations set forth above,
  Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.228(1), WAC 208-660-060(3) and WAC 208-660-061
  for failing to pay to the Director an annual assessment fee no later than the last business day of the month in which the anniversary date of the issuance of the mortgage broker's license occurs.
- **2.3** Requirement to Submit Continuing Education Certificate: Based on the Factual Allegations set forth above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.215 and WAC 208-660-042(1) for failure to submit a continuing education certificate for 2002.
- 2.4 Disclosure of Significant Developments: Based on the Factual Allegations set forth above, Respondents are in apparent violation of WAC 208-660-150(1) for failure to notify the Department of the revocation of Respondent Lamplighter's mortgage broker's license by the State of Idaho and for failure to notify the Department of the cancellation of its surety bond.
- **2.5** Requirement to Respond to Directive: Based on the Factual Allegations set forth above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.235 for failure to respond to a directive.
- 2.6 Authority to Revoke License: Pursuant to RCW 19.146.220(2)(b)(ii) and (iii) and WAC 208-660-160(19), the Director may revoke a license for failure to pay a fee required by the director, failure to maintain the required bond, and failure to comply with a directive of the director.
- 2.7 Authority to Impose Fine: Pursuant to RCW 19.146.220(2)(c)(i) and (ii) and WAC 208-660-165, the Director may impose fines on the licensee for failure to maintain a surety bond and failure to comply with any directive or order of the Director.

C-02-359 Lamplighter Homes Inc. and Romero

#### IV. AUTHORITY AND PROCEDURE

This Statement of Charges and Notice is entered pursuant to the provisions of RCW 19.146.220, RCW 19.146.221. and RCW 19.146.230, and is subject to the provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW (The Administrative Procedure Act). Respondents may make a written request for a hearing as set forth in the NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO DEFEND AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING accompanying this Statement of Charges.

Dated this 27th day of August , 2003

CHUCK CROSS, Acting Director and Enforcement Chief

DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Presented by: Wollan

Victoria W. Sheldon, Financial Legal Examiner



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(4)(a) Each applicant for a mortgage broker's license shall file and maintain a surety bond, in an amount of not greater than sixty thousand dollars nor less than twenty thousand dollars which the director deems adequate to protect the public interest, executed by the applicant as obligor and by a surety company authorized to do a surety business in this state as surety. The bonding requirement as established by the director may take the form of a uniform bond amount for all licensees or the director may establish by rule a schedule establishing a range of bond amounts which shall vary according to the annual average number of loan originators or independent contractors of a licensee. The bond shall run to the state of Washington as obligee, and shall run first to the benefit of the borrower and then to the benefit of the state and any person or persons who suffer loss by reason of the applicant's or its loan originator's violation of any provision of this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter. The bond shall be conditioned that the obligor as licensee will faithfully conform to and abide by this chapter and all rules adopted under this chapter, and shall reimburse all persons who suffer loss by reason of a violation of this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter. Borrowers shall be given priority over the state and other persons. The state and other third parties shall be allowed to receive distribution pursuant to a valid claim against the remainder of the bond. In the case of claims made by any person or entity who is not a borrower, no final judgment may be entered prior to one hundred eighty days following the date the claim is filed. The bond shall be continuous and may be canceled by the surety upon the surety giving written notice to the director of its intent to cancel the bond. The cancellation shall be effective thirty days after the notice is received by the director. Whether or not the bond is renewed, continued, reinstated, reinstated, or otherwise extended, replaced, or modified, including increases or decreases in the penal sum, it shall be considered one continuous obligation, and the surety upon the bond shall not be liable in an aggregate or cumulative amount exceeding the penal sum set forth on the face of the bond. In no event shall the penal sum, or any portion thereof, at two or more points in time be added together in determining the surety's liability. The bond shall not be liable for any penalties imposed on the licensee, including, but not limited to, any increased damages or attorneys' fees, or both, awarded under RCW 19.86.090. The applicant may obtain the bond directly from the surety or through a group bonding arrangement involving a professional organization comprised of mortgage brokers if the arrangement provides at least as much coverage as is required under this subsection. (b) In lieu of a surety bond, the applicant may, upon approval by the director, file with the director a certificate of deposit, an irrevocable letter of credit, or such other instrument as approved by the director by rule, drawn in favor of the director for an amount equal to the required bond. (c) In lieu of the surety bond or compliance with (b) of this subsection, an applicant may obtain insurance or coverage from an association comprised of mortgage brokers that is organized as a mutual corporation for the sole purpose of insuring or self-insuring claims that may arise from a violation of this chapter. An applicant may only substitute coverage under this subsection for the requirements of (a) or (b) of this subsection if the director, with the consent of the insurance commissioner, has authorized such association to organize a mutual corporation under such terms and conditions as may be imposed by the director to ensure that the corporation is operated in a financially responsible manner to pay any claims within the financial responsibility limits specified in (a) of this subsection. [1997 c 106 § 9; 1994 c 33 § 8; 1993 c 468 § 6.]

RCW 19.146.215 Continuing education – Rules. The designated broker of every licensee shall complete an annual continuing education requirement, which the director shall define by rule. [1997 c 106 § 11; 1994 c 33 § 11.]

RCW 19.146.220 Director – Powers and duties – Violations as separate violations – Rules. (1) The director shall enforce all laws and rules relating to the licensing of mortgage brokers, grant or deny licenses to mortgage brokers, and hold hearings.

(2) The director may impose the following sanctions:

- (a) Deny applications for licenses for: (i) Violations of orders, including cease and desist orders issued under this chapter; or (ii) any violation of RCW 19.146.050 or 19.146.0201 (1) through (9);
- (b) Suspend or revoke licenses for:
- (i) False statements or omission of material information on the application that, if known, would have allowed the director to deny the application for the original license;
- (ii) Failure to pay a fee required by the director or maintain the required bond;
- (iii) Failure to comply with any directive or order of the director; or (iv) Any violation of RCW 19.146.050, 19.146.060(3), 19.146.0201 (1) through (9) or (12), 19.146.205(4), or 19.146.265;
- (c) Impose fines on the licensee, employee or loan originator of the licensee, or other person subject to this chapter for:
- (i) Any violations of RCW 19.146.0201 (1) through (9) or (12), 19.146.030 through 19.146.080, 19.146.200, 19.146.205(4), or 19.146.265; or (ii) Failure to comply with any directive or order of the director;
- (d) Issue orders directing a licensee, its employee or loan originator, or other person subject to this chapter to:
- (i) Cease and desist from conducting business in a manner that is injurious to the public or violates any provision of this chapter; or
- (ii) Pay restitution to an injured borrower; or
- (e) Issue orders removing from office or prohibiting from participation in the conduct of the affairs of a licensed mortgage broker, or both, any officer, principal, employee, or loan originator of any licensed mortgage broker or any person subject to licensing under this chapter for:
- (i) Any violation of 19.146.0201 (1) through (9) or (12), 19.146.030 through 19.146.080, 19.146.200, 19.146.205(4), or 19.146.265; or
- (ii) False statements or omission of material information on the application that, if known, would have allowed the director to deny the application for the original license;
- (iii) Conviction of a gross misdemeanor involving dishonesty or financial misconduct or a felony after obtaining a license; or
- (iv) Failure to comply with any directive or order of the director.
- (3) Each day's continuance of a violation or failure to comply with any directive or order of the director is a separate and distinct violation or failure.
- (4) The director shall establish by rule standards for licensure of applicants licensed in other jurisdictions.
- (5) The director shall immediately suspend the license or certificate of a person who has been certified pursuant to RCW 74.20A.320 by the

department of social and health services as a person who is not in compliance with a support order or a \*residential or visitation order. If the person has continued to meet all other requirements for reinstatement during the suspension, reissuance of the license or certificate shall be automatic upon the director's receipt of a release issued by the department of social and health services stating that the licensee is in compliance with the order. [1997 c 106 § 12; 1997 c 58 § 879; 1996 c 103 § 1; 1994 c 33 § 12; 1993 c 468 § 8.]

RCW 19.146.221 Action by director – Hearing – Sanction. The director may, at his or her discretion and as provided for in \*RCW 19.146.220(2), take any action specified in RCW 19.146.220(1). If the person subject to such action does not appear in person or by counsel at the time and place designated for any administrative hearing that may be held on the action then the person shall be deemed to consent to the action. If the person subject to the action consents, or if after hearing the director finds by a preponderance of the evidence that any grounds for sanctions under this chapter exist, then the director may impose any sanction authorized by this chapter. [1994 c 33 § 13.]

RCW 19.146.223 Director – Administration and interpretation. The director shall have the power and broad administrative discretion to administer and interpret the provisions of this chapter to fulfill the intent of the legislature as expressed in RCW 19.146.005. [1994 c 33 § 2.]

RCW 19.146.228 Fees - Rules - Exception. The director shall establish fees by rule in accordance with RCW 43.24.086 sufficient to cover, but not exceed, the costs of administering this chapter. These fees may include:

- (1) An annual assessment paid by each licensee on or before a date specified by rule;
- (2) An investigation fee to cover the costs of any investigation of the books and records of a licensee or other person subject to this chapter; and
- (3) An application fee to cover the costs of processing applications made to the director under this chapter.

Mortgage brokers shall not be charged investigation fees for the processing of complaints when the investigation determines that no violation of this chapter occurred or when the mortgage broker provides a remedy satisfactory to the complainant and the director and no order of the director is issued. All moneys, fees, and penalties collected under the authority of this chapter shall be deposited into the banking examination fund, unless the consumer services account is created as a dedicated, nonappropriated account, in which case all moneys, fees, and penalties collected under this chapter shall be deposited in the consumer services account. [1997 c 106 § 13; 1994 c 33 § 9.]

RCW 19.146.230 Administrative procedure act application. The proceedings for denying license applications, issuing cease and desist orders, suspending or revoking licenses, and imposing civil penalties or other remedies issued pursuant to this chapter and any appeal therefrom or review thereof shall be governed by the provisions of the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW. [1994 c 33 § 16; 1993 c 468 § 10.]

RCW 19.146.235 Director – Investigation powers – Duties of person subject to examination or investigation. For the purposes of investigating complaints arising under this chapter, the director may at any time, either personally or by a designee, examine the business, including but not limited to the books, accounts, records, and files used therein, of every licensee and of every person engaged in the business of mortgage brokering, whether such a person shall act or claim to act under or without the authority of this chapter. For that purpose the director and designated representatives shall have access during regular business hours to the offices and places of business, books, accounts, papers, records, files, safes, and vaults of all such persons. The director or designated person may direct or order the attendance of and examine under oath all persons whose testimony may be required about the loans or the business or subject matter of any such examination or investigation, and may direct or order such person to produce books, accounts, records, files, and any other documents the director or designated person deems relevant to the inquiry. If a person who receives such a directive or order does not attend and testify, or does not produce the requested books, records, files, or other documents within the time period established in the directive or order, then the director or designated person may issue a subpoena requiring attendance or compelling production of books, records, files, or other documents. No person subject to examination or investigation under this chapter shall withhold, abstract, remove, mutilate, destroy, or secrete any books, records, computer records, or other information.

Once during the first two years of licensing, the director may visit, either personally or by designee, the licensee's place or places of business to conduct a compliance examination. The director may examine, either personally or by designee, a sample of the licensee's loan files, interview the licensee or other designated employee or independent contractor, and undertake such other activities as necessary to ensure that the licensee is in compliance with the provisions of this chapter. For those licensees issued licenses prior to March 21, 1994, the cost of such an examination shall be considered to have been prepaid in their license fee. After this one visit within the two-year period subsequent to issuance of a license, the director or a designee may visit the licensee's place or places of business only to ensure that corrective action has been taken or to investigate a complaint. [1997 c 106 § 14; 1994 c 33 § 17; 1993 c 468 § 11.]

WAC 208-660-042(1) Continuing education requirement. (1) The principal or designated broker of a licensee must satisfactorily complete an approved continuing education course annually. Each licensee must file annually a certificate of satisfactory completion of an approved continuing education course by the licensee's principal or designated broker no later than the last business day of the month in which the anniversary date of the issuance of the licensee's license occurs.

WAC 208-660-060 Department's fees and assessments. (1) Upon completion of processing and reviewing an application for a license or branch office certificate, the department will prepare a billing, regardless of whether a license or certificate has been issued, calculated at the rate of \$35.98 per hour that each staff person devoted to processing and reviewing the application. The application deposit will be applied against this bill. Any amount left owing to the department will be billed to and paid promptly by the applicant, while any balance remaining from the deposit will be refunded promptly to the applicant.

C-02-359 Lamplighter Homes Inc. and Romero

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DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
Division of Consumer Services
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(2) Upon completion of any examination of the books and records of a licensee, the department will furnish to the licensee a billing to cover