# STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES

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NO. C-10-124-10-FO01

FINAL ORDER

AMERICAN FIRST MORTGAGE LLC and THOMAS NGUYEN, Designated Broker,

IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING

Whether there has been a violation of the

Mortgage Broker Practices Act of Washington by:

Respondents.

# I. DIRECTOR'S CONSIDERATION

This matter has come before the Director of the Department of Financial Default. Α. Institutions of the State of Washington (Director), through his designee, Consumer Services Division Director Deborah Bortner, pursuant to RCW 34.05.440(1). On May 13, 2010, the Director, through Consumer Services Division Director, Deborah Bortner, entered a Statement of Charges and Notice of Intention to Enter an Order to Impose Fine and Collect Investigation Fee (Statement of Charges) against Respondent American First Mortgage LLC (Respondent American First) and Respondent Thomas Nguyen (Respondent Nguyen). A copy of the Statement of Charges is attached and incorporated into this order by this reference. The Statement of Charges was accompanied by a Notice of Opportunity to Defend and Opportunity for Hearing, and blank Applications for a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding. The Department served the Statement of Charges, Notice of Opportunity to Defend and Opportunity for Hearing, and blank Applications for a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding on Respondent American First, on May 13, 2010, by First-Class mail and Federal Express overnight delivery to the address of record at 15 S. Grady Way Suite 526, Renton, Washington 98057 (Grady Way). The Department served the Statement of Charges, Notice of Opportunity to Defend and Opportunity for Hearing, and blank Applications for a

Brief Adjudicative Proceeding on Respondent Nguyen on May 13, 2010, by First-Class mail to the address of record at 8204 155<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, Newcastle, Washington 98059 (155<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE).

The documents sent to Respondent American First and to Respondent Nguyen via First-Class mail were not returned to the Department by the United State Postal Service. The documents sent to Respondent American First via Federal Express to the mailing address on record with the Department were signed for on May 14, 2010, by R. Byrenson.

Respondent American First and Respondent Nguyen did not request a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding within twenty calendar days after the Department served them with the Notice of Opportunity to Defend and Opportunity for Brief Adjudicative Proceeding, as provided for in WAC 208-08-050(2).

- B. <u>Record Presented</u>. The record presented to the Director's designee for her review and for entry of a final decision included the following:
  - 1. Statement of Charges;
  - 2. Cover letter dated May 13, 2010;
  - 3. Notice of Opportunity to Defend and Opportunity for Hearing;
  - 4. Blank Applications for a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding; and
  - 5. Declaration of Service dated May 13, 2010.
- C. <u>Factual Findings and Grounds For Order</u>. Pursuant to RCW 34.05.440(1) the Director's designee hereby adopts the Statement of Charges, which is attached hereto.

# II. FINAL ORDER

Based upon the foregoing, and the Director's designee having considered the record and being otherwise fully advised, NOW, THEREFORE:

#### A. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, That:

1. Respondent American First Mortgage LLC and Respondent Thomas Nguyen jointly and severally pay a fine of \$8,500; and

- 2. Respondent American First Mortgage LLC and Respondent Thomas Nguyen file the 2009 Mortgage Broker Annual Report; and
- 3. Respondent American First Mortgage LLC and Respondent Thomas Nguyen jointly and severally pay an investigative fee of \$48.
- B. Reconsideration. Pursuant to RCW 34.05.470, Respondents have the right to file a Petition for Reconsideration stating the specific grounds upon which relief is requested. The Petition must be filed in the Office of the Director of the Department of Financial Institutions by courier at 150 Israel Road SW, Tumwater, Washington 98501, or by U.S. Mail at P.O. Box 41200, Olympia, Washington 98504-1200, within ten (10) days of service of the Final Order upon Respondents. The Petition for Reconsideration shall not stay the effectiveness of this order nor is a Petition for Reconsideration a prerequisite for seeking judicial review in this matter.

A timely Petition for Reconsideration is deemed denied if, within twenty (20) days from the date the petition is filed, the agency does not (a) dispose of the petition or (b) serve the parties with a written notice specifying the date by which it will act on a petition.

- C. <u>Stay of Order</u>. The Director's designee has determined not to consider a Petition to Stay the effectiveness of this order. Any such requests should be made in connection with a Petition for Judicial Review made under chapter 34.05 RCW and RCW 34.05.550.
- D. <u>Judicial Review</u>. Respondents have the right to petition the superior court for judicial review of this agency action under the provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW. For the requirements for filing a Petition for Judicial Review, see RCW 34.05.510 and sections following.
- E. <u>Non-compliance with Order</u>. If you do not comply with the terms of this order, the Department may seek its enforcement by the Office of Attorney General to include the collection of the fines and fees imposed herein.

F. Service. For purposes of filing a Petition for Reconsideration or a Petition for Judicial Review, service is effective upon deposit of this order in the U.S. mail, declaration of service attached hereto.

DATED this J. day of July , 2010.

SFATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

DEBORAH BORTNER
DIRECTOR

**DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES** 

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# STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES

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

AMERICAN FIRST MORTGAGE LLC; THOMAS NGUYEN, DESIGNATED BROKER,

Respondents.

NO. C-10-124-10-SC01

STATEMENT OF CHARGES and NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ENTER AN ORDER TO IMPOSE FINE AND COLLECT INVESTIGATION FEE

#### 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). After having conducted an investigation pursuant to RCW 19.146.235, and based upon the facts available as the date of this Statement of Charges, the Director, through his designee, Division of Consumer Services Director Deborah Bortner, institutes this proceeding and finds as follows:

### I. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 1.1 Respondents. American First Mortgage LLC was licensed by the Department of Financial Institutions of the State of Washington (Department) to conduct business as a mortgage broker at all times relevant to the conduct alleged. At all times relevant to the Statement of Charges, Thomas Nguyen was the Designated Broker for the company.
- 1.2 Failure to File Mortgage Broker Annual Report. By March 31, 2010, Respondents were required to file an annual report of mortgage broker activity to include the total number of closed loans originated and the total volume of closed loans originated. As of the date of this Statement of Charges Respondents have not filed the 2009 mortgage broker annual report.
- 1.3 Failure to File Mortgage Broker Closure Form. Respondents are required to file a completed closure form and submit a surrender request through the NMLSR. As of the date of this Statement of Charges, Respondents have not filed a completed closure form or submitted a surrender request through the NMLSR.

STATEMENT OF CHARGES AMERICAN FIRST MORTGAGE LLC: THOMAS NGUYEN

C-10-124-10-SC01

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

| 1  | 1.4 On-Going Investigation. The Department's investigation into the alleged violations of the Act by   |
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| 2  | Respondents continues to date.   |
| 3  | II. GROUNDS FOR ENTRY OF ORDER   |
| 4  | 2.1 Requirement to File Mortgage Broker Annual Report. Based on the Factual Allegations set forth in   |
| 5  | Section I above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.290(1), WAC 208-660-250(7) and  |
| 6  | WAC 208-660-400(1), (2), (3), and (4) for failing to file the mortgage broker annual report.   |
| 7  | 2.2 Requirement to File Mortgage Broker Closure Form. Based on the Factual Allegations set forth in  |
| 8  | Section I above, Respondents are in apparent violation of WAC 208-660-163(18) for failing to submit a  |
| 9  | surrender request through the NMLSR or failing to submit a completed departmental closure form.  |
| 10 | III. AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE SANCTIONS   |
| 11 | 3.1 Authority to Impose Fine. Pursuant to RCW 19.146.220(2)(e) the Director may impose fines on a  |
| 12 | licensee or other person subject to the Act for any violations of the Act.   |
| 13 | 3.2 Authority to Collect Investigation Fee. Pursuant to RCW 19.146.228(2), WAC 208-660-520, and WAC  |
| 14 | 208-660-550(4), upon completion of any investigation of the books and records of a licensee or other person subject  |
| 15 | to the Act, the Department will furnish to the licensee or other person subject to the Act a billing to cover the cost of  |
| 16 | the investigation. The investigation charge will be calculated at the rate of \$48 per hour that each staff person   |
| 17 | devoted to the investigation.  |
| 18 | IV. NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ENTER ORDER   |
| 19 | Respondents violations of the provisions of chapter 19.146 RCW and chapter 208-660 WAC, as set forth in  |
| 20 | the above Factual Allegations, Grounds for Entry of Order, and Authority to Impose Sanctions, constitute a basis   |
| 21 | for the entry of an Order under RCW 19.146.220, RCW 19.146.221 and RCW 19.146.223. Therefore, it is the  |
| 22 | Director's intention to ORDER that:  |
| 23 | 4.1 Respondents American First Mortgage LLC and Thomas Nguyen jointly and severally pay a fine of \$100 per day beginning April 1, 2010, until the date the 2009 Mortgage Broker Annual Report |
| 24 | is filed; and  |

STATEMENT OF CHARGES AMERICAN FIRST MORTGAGE LLC; THOMAS NGUYEN C-10-124-10-SC01

MES R. BRUSSELBACK

Inforcement Chief

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