# STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF INVESTIGATING the Loan Originator License Application under the Consumer Loan Act of Washington by:

C-11-0750-11-TD01

SONJA L. LIGHTFOOT,

Respondent.

TEMPORARY ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO:

SONJA L. LIGHTFOOT

COMES NOW the Director of the Washington State Department of Financial Institutions (Director), by and through his designee Deborah Bortner, Division Director, Division of Consumer Services (designee), and finding that the public is likely to be substantially injured by delay in issuing a cease and desist order, enters this temporary order to cease and desist pursuant to chapter 31.04 RCW, the Consumer Loan Act (Act), based on the following findings:

### I. FACTUAL FINDINGS

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1.1 Respondent Sonja L. Lightfoot (Lightfoot) was licensed by the Department of Financial Institutions of the State of Washington (Department) to conduct business as a Mortgage Loan Originator on or about May 24, 2010, and continues to be licensed to date. Respondent Lightfoot is employed by Republic Mortgage Home Loans, LLC.

1.2 Federal Indictment. On or about August 4, 2011, Respondent Lightfoot was indicted by a federal grand jury for felony charges of Conspiracy and Wire Fraud (5 counts) alleged to have been committed between July 2004 and July 2008 while Respondent Lightfoot was employed as Senior Vice President of Residential Lending for Pierce Commercial Bank; a

state-chartered bank located in Tacoma, Washington. According to the Indictment, all charges involve residential mortgage loans.

#### II. GROUNDS FOR ENTRY OF ORDER

Pursuant to RCW 31.04.247(1)(e) and WAC 208-620-710(4)(a), the Director may deny a mortgage loan originator license if the applicant fails to demonstrate character and general fitness such as to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a belief that business will be operated honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the purposes of the Act. Pursuant to RCW 31.04.093(3)(c), the Director may revoke a license if a fact or condition exists that, if it had existed at the time of the original application for the license, clearly would have allowed the director to deny the application for the original license. Based upon the factual allegations set forth in Section I, Respondent Lightfoot fails to demonstrate character and general fitness such as to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a belief that business will be operated honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the purposes of the Act.

#### III. AUTHORITY TO ISSUE TEMPORARY ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST

3.1 Authority to Issue Temporary Order to Cease and Desist. Pursuant to RCW 31.04.093(7), whenever the director determines that the public is likely to be substantially injured by delay in issuing a cease and desist order, the director may immediately issue a temporary cease and desist order. The order may direct the licensee to discontinue any violation of this chapter, to take such affirmative action as is necessary to comply with this chapter, and may include a summary suspension of the licensee's license and may order the licensee to immediately cease the conduct of business under this chapter.

### IV. ORDER

Based on the above Factual Findings, Grounds for Entry of Order, and Authority to Issue

Temporary Order to Cease and Desist, and pursuant to RCW 31.04.093(7) and RCW 31.04.165, the

Director determines that Respondent Lightfoot fails to demonstrate character and general fitness such as to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a belief that her business will be operated honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the purposes of the Act, and that the public is likely to be substantially injured by a delay in entering a cease and desist order. Therefore, the Director ORDERS that:

- 4.1 Respondent Lightfoot's license to conduct business as a mortgage loan originator is summarily suspended.
- 4.2 Respondent Lightfoot shall immediately cease and desist from conducting any business under the Consumer Loan Act.
- 4.3 This order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect unless set aside, limited, or suspended in writing by an authorized court.

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## NOTICE

WITHIN TEN DAYS AFTER YOU HAVE BEEN SERVED WITH THIS TEMPORARY ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST, YOU MAY APPLY TO THE SUPERIOR COURT IN THE COUNTY OF YOUR PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS FOR AN INJUNCTION SETTING ASIDE, LIMITING, OR SUSPENDING THIS ORDER PENDING THE COMPLETION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO THIS NOTICE.

DATED this day of August, 2011.

DEBORAH BORTNER

Director

Division of Consumer Services

Department of Financial Institutions