ORDER SUMMARY Consumer Services Division Case Number C-21-3256

Consent Orders resolve investigations. In these, companies and individuals work with us to agree to terms that resolve the alleged issues in the investigation.

Names	eLink Mortgage LLC Ge Zhou	
Order Number	C-21-3256-23-CO01	
Date issued	September 18, 2023	

What does this Consent Order require?

- All terms of this order are complete.
- Must pay a fine of \$25,000.
- Must pay an investigation fee of \$600. (Investigation fees cover the cost of DFI staff time working on the investigation.)
- Must cease and desist from all violations listed in the Statement of Charges.
- The Department may conduct an examination at any time without notice.

Need more information?

You can contact the Consumer Services Division, Enforcement unit at (360) 902-9703 or <u>csenforcecomplaints@dfi.wa.gov</u>. *Please remember that we cannot provide financial or legal advice to members of the public. We also cannot release confidential information.*

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:

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No.: C-21-3256-23-CO01

CONSENT ORDER

ELINK MORTGAGE LLC, NMLS No. 385463, and GE ZHOU, President, Owner, and Designated Broker, NMLS No. 84681,

Respondents.

COMES NOW the Director of the Department of Financial Institutions (Director), through his designee Lucinda Fazio, Division of Consumer Services Director, and eLink Mortgage, LLC (Respondent eLink) and Ge Zhou (Respondent Zhou), and finding that the issues raised in the abovecaptioned matter 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 the 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 Respondents have agreed upon a basis for resolution of the matters alleged in Statement of Charges No. C-21-3256-22-SC01 (Statement of Charges), entered December 16, 2022 (copy attached hereto). Pursuant to chapter 19.146 RCW, the Mortgage Broker Practices Act (Act), and RCW 34.05.060 of the Administrative Procedure Act, Respondents hereby agree to the Department's entry of this Consent Order and further agree that the issues raised in the above-captioned matter 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.

Based upon the foregoing:

CONSENT ORDER C-21-3256-23-CO01 eLink Mortgage LLC, et al. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS Division of Consumer Services 150 Israel Rd SW PO Box 41200 Olympia, WA 98504-1200 (360) 902-8703

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 Respondents have been informed of the right to a hearing before an administrative law judge, and hereby waive their 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, Respondents, by their signatures or the signatures of their representatives below, 6 withdraw their appeal to the Office of Administrative Hearings. 7

C. Cease and Desist. It is AGREED and ORDERED that Respondents shall cease and desist 8 from the violations cited in the Statement of Charges and shall take affirmative action necessary to 9 conduct business in a manner that complies with the Act. 10

D. Fine. It is AGREED and ORDERED that Respondents shall pay a fine to the Department 11 in the amount of \$25,000. 12

E. Investigation Fee. It is AGREED and ORDERED that Respondents shall pay to the 13 Department an investigation fee of \$600. 14

F. Payment. It is AGREED that the investigation fee and fine shall be paid together in one 15 \$25,600 cashier's check, made payable to the "Washington State Treasurer," upon delivery of this 16 Consent Order to the Department, properly dated and signed. 17

G. Examination. It is AGREED that, after the entry of this Consent Order, the Department 18 may conduct an examination without prior notice to Respondents and that Respondents will provide 19 open access to all of Respondents' books and records at that time. It is further AGREED that the 20 examination will be at Respondents' expense. 21

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H. Change of Address. It is AGREED that for the duration of the period this Consent Order is in effect, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Department, Respondents shall provide the

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CONSENT ORDER C-21-3256-23-CO01 eLink Mortgage LLC, et al.

Department with a mailing address and telephone number at which Respondents can be contacted and 1 Respondents shall notify the Department in writing of any changes to their mailing address or 2 3 telephone number within fifteen days of any such change.

I. Records Retention. It is AGREED and ORDERED that Respondent eLink, its officers, 4 employees, and agents shall maintain records in compliance with the Act and provide the Director 5 with the location of the books, records and other information relating to Respondents' mortgage 6 broker business, and the name, address and telephone number of the individual responsible for 7 maintenance of such records in compliance with the Act.

9 J. Authority to Execute Order. It is AGREED that the undersigned have represented and warranted that they have the full power and right to execute this Consent Order on behalf of the 10 11 parties represented.

K. Non-Compliance with Order. It is AGREED that Respondents understand that failure to 12 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, Respondents may be responsible to reimburse the Director for the cost incurred in pursuing such action, including but not limited to, attorney fees.

16 L. Voluntarily Entered. It is AGREED that Respondents have voluntarily entered into this 17 Consent Order, which is effective when signed by the Director's designee.

M. Completely Read, Understood, and Agreed. It is AGREED that Respondents have read this Consent Order in its entirety and fully understand and agree to all of the same.

N. Counterparts. It is AGREED that this Consent Order may be executed in one or more separate counterparts, each of which when so executed shall be deemed an original. Such counterparts shall together constitute a single document. An electronic signature, or a faxed,

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CONSENT ORDER C-21-3256-23-CO01 eLink Mortgage LLC, et al.

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photocopied, or scanned copy of an original signature, shall be deemed the same as an original 1 signature. 2 **RESPONDENTS:** 3 eLink Mortgage, LLC, by: 9/1/2023 9/1/2023 4 5 Date Ge Zhou President, Owner, and Designated Broker 6 7 Date 8 Ge Zhou, Individually Individually 9 Approved for Entry: 10 Sept. 1 11 Charles R. Horner, WSBA No. 27504 Law Offices of Charles R. Horner PLLC 12 Attorney for Respondents DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE 13 THIS ORDER ENTERED THIS <u>18th</u> DAY OF September , 2023. 14 15 LUCINDA FAZIO, Director 16 Division of Consumer Services Department of Financial Institutions 17 Presented by: 18 19 DREW STILLMAN 20 Financial Legal Examiner Supervisor 21 Approved by: 22 23 JACK McCLELLAN Enforcement Chief DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS Division of Consumer Services 24 CONSENT ORDER 150 Israel Rd SW C-21-3256-23-CO01 PO Box 41200 eLink Mortgage LLC, et al. Olympia, WA 98504-1200 (360) 902-8703

STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING No. C-21-3256-22-SC01 3 Whether there has been a violation of the Mortgage Broker Practices Act of Washington by: STATEMENT OF CHARGES and 4 NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER AN ELINK MORTGAGE LLC, NMLS No. 385463, ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST, REVOKE 5 LICENSES, PROHIBIT FROM INDUSTRY, and GE ZHOU, President, Owner, and Designated IMPOSE FINE, COLLECT INVESTIGATION 6 FEE, and RECOVER COSTS AND Broker, NMLS No. 84681, **EXPENSES** 7 Respondents. 8 **INTRODUCTION** 9 Pursuant to RCW 19.146.220 and RCW 19.146.223, the Director of the Department of 10 Financial Institutions of the State of Washington (Director) is responsible for the administration of 11 chapter 19.146 RCW, the Mortgage Broker Practices Act (Act). After having conducted an 12 investigation pursuant to RCW 19.146.235, and based on the facts available as of the date of this 13 Statement of Charges, the Director, through his designee, Division of Consumer Services Director 14 Lucinda Fazio, institutes this proceeding and finds as follows: 15 I. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS 16 **Respondents.** 1.1 17 eLink Mortgage LLC (Respondent eLink) was licensed by the Department of A. 18

Financial Institutions of the State of Washington (Department) to conduct business as a mortgage broker on or about January 24, 2011, and surrendered the license on or about December 20, 2013. Respondent eLink was licensed as a consumer loan company on or about December 20, 2013, and surrendered that license or about July 10, 2017. Respondent eLink was again licensed as a mortgage broker on or about December 30, 2016, and continues to be licensed as a mortgage broker to date.

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STATEMENT OF CHARGES No. C-21-3256-22-SC01 eLink Mortgage LLC, et al.

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B. Ge Zhou (Respondent Zhou) is president and owner of Respondent eLink. Respondent
Zhou has been designated broker for Respondent eLink since at least December 30, 2016, and
continues to be designated broker to date. Respondent Zhou has also been licensed as a mortgage
loan originator (MLO) since at least December 16, 2009.

1.2 2018 Examination. Between approximately September 10, 2018, and September 13, 2018, the Department conducted a compliance examination at Respondents' office in Seattle, Washington (2018 Examination). At the 2018 Examination, the Department reviewed loan files originated between December 30, 2016, and August 31, 2018, as well as Respondents' business and advertising practices. As a result of the Examination, the Department identified multiple violations of the Act.

1.3 Prior Statement of Charges and Consent Order. In 2019, the Department issued a
Statement of Charges (2019 Charges), which alleged violations of the Act identified during the 2018
Examination. In 2020, the issues raised in the 2019 Charges were resolved in a Consent Order (2020
Consent Order) in which Respondents agreed to cease and desist from the violations identified in the
2019 Charges; to pay a fine and investigation fee; to obtain, maintain, and use unobjectionable
compliance software; and to pay for the Department's next examination, which would review
Respondents' compliance with the 2020 Consent Order.

1.4 2021 Examination. Between approximately October 18, 2021, and October 21, 2021, the
Department conducted an off-site compliance examination of Respondent eLink (2021 Examination).
At the 2021 Examination, the Department reviewed loan files originated between June 1, 2020, and
September 20, 2021 (the "relevant period"), as well as Respondents' business and advertising
practices. As a result of the Examination, the Department identified the violations described in
Paragraphs 1.5 through 1.19 below.

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1.5 Noncompliance with 2020 Consent Order. During the relevant period, Respondents failed

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 to fully comply with the 2020 Consent Order. For example, Respondents did not cease and desist

 STATEMENT OF CHARGES
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 No. C-21-3256-22-SC01
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 eLink Mortgage LLC, et al.
 P.O. Box 41200

 Olympia, WA 98504-1200

1 from all violations identified in the 2019 Charges and did not obtain, maintain, and use 2 unobjectionable compliance software.

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1.6 Advertised without Displaying Required Information. During the relevant period and on 4 at least three web pages advertising Respondent eLink, Respondent eLink and mortgage loan originators employed by Respondent eLink did not provide one or more of the following: Respondent 6 eLink's license number, mortgage loan originators' license numbers, links to the NMLS consumer access web page for Respondent eLink, or Respondent eLink's licensed name.

8 1.7 False Disclosures. During the relevant period and in at least six instances, Respondent eLink 9 and its mortgage loan originators provided borrowers with a disclosure, which falsely advised 10 borrowers of a penalty if they pay off their loan within the first six months.

1.8 Failed to Identify the Mortgage Loan Originator on Documents. During the relevant 12 period and in at least four instances, Respondent eLink failed to disclose the name and license 13 number of the mortgage loan originator with primary responsibility for the loan origination on one or 14 more of the following: credit applications, disclosures, notes, loan contracts, and securities 15 instruments.

1.9 Failed to Provide Rate Lock Agreements. During the relevant period and in at least five instances, Respondent eLink failed to provide a rate lock agreement after locking, relocking, or extending a borrower's interest rate lock period.

19 Failed to Provide Complete and Accurate Rate Lock Agreements. During the relevant 1.10 20 period and in at least eight instances, Respondent eLink failed to provide complete and accurate rate 21 lock agreements. For example, in rate lock agreements, Respondent eLink incorrectly disclosed or 22 failed to disclose one or more of the following: the name of the company guaranteeing the rate lock, 23 the date of the rate lock, the number of days in the rate lock period, the expiration date of the rate

24 lock, the existence of a rate lock guarantee, and the amount of the rate lock fee. STATEMENT OF CHARGES DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS No. C-21-3256-22-SC01 Division of Consumer Services eLink Mortgage LLC, et al. P.O. Box 41200 1.11 Provided Affiliated Business Arrangement Disclosure with Blanks. During the relevant
 2 period and in at least three instances, Respondent eLink provided borrowers with an Affiliated
 3 Business Arrangement Disclosure that contained blanks.

1.12 Failed to Adhere to Tolerance Limits. During the relevant period and in at least one instance, Respondent eLink charged a borrower more than the original disclosed appraisal cost without a valid change in circumstance.

1.13 Incomplete Loan Estimates. During the relevant period and in at least two instances,
Respondent eLink provided incomplete Loan Estimates to borrowers. For example, Respondent
eLink provided borrower with Loan Estimates that omitted the following: the date, time, and time
zone for closing cost expiration; the mortgage loan originator's name, license number, email address,
and phone number; a checked box in the "Assumption" section; a checked box in the "Servicing"
section; and required information in the "Late Payment" section.

1.14 Failed to Provide Privacy Policies. During the relevant period and in at least three instances, Respondent eLink failed to provide to borrowers a clear and conspicuous notice that accurately reflects its privacy policies and practices.

1.15 Failed to Provide Accurate Anti-Steering Disclosures. During the relevant period and in at
 least two instances, Respondent eLink provided borrowers with disclosures regarding purportedly
 different loan options, when it appears that at least two of the loan options were the same and the
 disclosures provided incomplete or contradictory information.

1.16 Prohibited Payments to Mortgage Loan Originators. During the relevant period,
Respondent eLink paid its mortgage loan originators, directly or indirectly, compensation in an
amount that was based on a term of a transaction, the terms of multiple transactions by an individual
mortgage loan originator, the terms of multiple transactions by multiple individual mortgage loan

1.17 Failed to Implement an Anti-Money Laundering Program. During the relevant period,
 Respondents failed to implement an anti-money laundering program. Alternatively, Respondents
 failed to keep and use in the business such books, accounts, records, papers, documents, files, and
 other information as will enable the Director to determine whether Respondents complied with their
 obligation to implement an Anti-Money Laundering Program.

6 1.18 Failed to Implement a Red Flags Program. During the relevant period, Respondents failed
7 to implement a program designed to detect, prevent, and mitigate identity theft ("Red Flags
8 Program") as required by the Fair Credit Reporting Act. Alternatively, Respondents failed to keep
9 and use in the business such books, accounts, records, papers, documents, files, and other information
10 as will enable the director to determine whether Respondents complied with their obligation to
11 implement a Red Flags Program.

Disclosures. During the relevant period and in at least 17 instances, Respondent eLink failed to
provide complete and accurate disclosures to borrowers, including trust account disclosures, privacy
policy disclosures, and homeownership counseling lists. Additionally, during the relevant period and
in at least six instances, Respondents provided unnecessary, inapplicable, or outdated disclosures to
borrowers.

Failed to Provide Complete and Accurate Disclosures and Provided Unnecessary

1.20 On-Going Investigation. The Department's investigation into the alleged violations of the Act by Respondents continues to date.

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II. GROUNDS FOR ENTRY OF ORDER

21 **2.1 Responsibility for Conduct of Loan Originators.** Pursuant to RCW 19.146.245, a licensed
 22 mortgage broker is liable for any conduct violating the Act by the designated broker or a loan
 23 originator while employed or engaged by the licensed mortgage broker.

2.2 1 **Responsibility of Designated Broker.** Pursuant to RCW 19.146.200(3), every licensed 2 mortgage broker must at all times have a designated broker responsible for all activities of the 3 mortgage broker in conducting the business of a mortgage broker. A designated broker who has 4 supervisory authority over a mortgage broker is responsible for a licensee's, employee's, or 5 independent contractor's violations of the Act if: (a) the designated broker instructs the conduct or, 6 with knowledge of the specific conduct, approves or allows the conduct; or (b) the designated broker, 7 who has supervisory authority over the licensed mortgage broker, knows or by the exercise of reasonable care and inquiry, should have known of the conduct, at a time when its consequences can 8 9 be avoided or mitigated and fails to take reasonable remedial action.

2.3 Noncompliance with Consent Order. Based on the Factual Allegations set forth in Section I above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.0201(2), RCW 19.146.0201(11), RCW 19.146.220, and the terms of the 2020 Consent Order, for failing to comply with all terms of the 2020 Consent Order.

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Advertised without Displaying Required Information. Based on the Factual Allegations
set forth in Section I above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.0201(2), RCW
19.146.0201(11), and WAC 208-660-446 for advertising without displaying the company's license
number, the company's licensed name, MLOs' license numbers, and links to the NMLS consumer
access web page for the company.

False Disclosures. Based on the Factual Allegations set forth in Section I above, Respondents
are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.0201(2), RCW 19.146.0201(7), and RCW 19.146.0201(11)
for providing borrowers with a disclosure that falsely advised borrowers of a penalty if they paid off
their loan within the first six months.

23 **2.6** Failure to Identify the Mortgage Loan Originator on Documents. Based on the Factual

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 Allegations set forth in Section I above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW

 STATEMENT OF CHARGES
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 No. C-21-3256-22-SC01
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 eLink Mortgage LLC, et al.
 P.O. Box 41200

1 19.146.0201(2), RCW 19.146.0201(11), WAC 208-660-350(24), and 12 C.F.R. § 1026.36(g) for 2 failing to disclose the name and license number of the mortgage loan originator with primary 3 responsibility for the loan origination on one or more of the following: credit applications, 4 disclosures, notes, loan contracts, and securities instruments.

5 2.7 Failure to Provide Rate Lock Agreements. Based on the Factual Allegations set forth in 6 Section I above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.0201(2), RCW

7 19.146.0201(6), RCW 19.146.0201(11), RCW 19.146.030(2)(c) and WAC 208-660-430(1), (3)(c), 8 (3)(e), and (6), for failing to provide rate lock agreements after locking, relocking, or extending a 9 borrower's interest rate lock period.

10 2.8 Failure to Provide Complete and Accurate Rate Lock Agreements. Based on the Factual Allegations set forth in Section I above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 11 12 19.146.0201(2), RCW 19.146.0201(11), and WAC 208-660-430(3)(c) for incorrectly disclosing or 13 failing to disclose one or more of the following: the name of the company guaranteeing the rate lock, 14 the date of the rate lock, the number of days in the rate lock period, the expiration date of the rate 15 lock, the existence of a rate lock guarantee, and the amount of the rate lock fee.

2.9 16 **Incomplete Affiliated Business Arrangement Disclosure.** Based on the Factual Allegations set forth in Section I above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.0201(2), RCW 18 19.146.0201(11), WAC 208-660-500(3)(h), and 12 C.F.R. § 1024.15(b)(1), (2) for providing borrowers with an Affiliated Business Arrangement Disclosure that contained blanks

20 2.10 Failure to Adhere to Tolerance Limits. Based on the Factual Allegations set forth in 21 Section I above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.0201(2), RCW 22 19.146.0201(11), and 12 C.F.R. § 1026.19(e) for charging a borrower more than the original 23 disclosed appraisal cost without a valid change in circumstance.

STATEMENT OF CHARGES No. C-21-3256-22-SC01 eLink Mortgage LLC, et al.

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2.11 Incomplete Loan Estimates. Based on the Factual Allegations set forth in Section I above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.0201(2) and RCW 19.146.0201(11) for providing Loan Estimates to borrowers that did not include information required by 12 C.F.R. §§ 4 1026.19(e)(1), (3)(iv)(E), and 12 C.F.R. §§ 1026.37(a)(13)(ii), (k), and (m)(2), (4), and (6).

2.12 Failure to Provide Privacy Policies. Based on the Factual Allegations set forth in Section I above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.0201(2), RCW 19.146.0201(11), and 12 C.F.R. §§ 1016.4(a), (c)(1), and (2) for failing to provide to borrowers a clear and conspicuous notice that accurately reflects its privacy policies and practices.

2.13 Failure to Provide Accurate Anti-Steering Disclosures. Based on the Factual Allegations set forth in Section I above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.0201(2), RCW 19.146.0201(7), and RCW 19.146.0201(11) for providing borrowers with disclosures regarding purportedly different loan options, when it appears that at least two of the loan options were the same and the disclosures provided incomplete or contradictory information.

2.14 **Prohibited Payments to Mortgage Loan Originators.** Based on the Factual Allegations set forth in Section I above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.0201(2), RCW 19.146.0201(11), and 12 C.F.R. § 1026.36(d)(1)(i) for paying its mortgage loan originators, directly or indirectly, compensation in an amount that was based on a term of a transaction, the terms of multiple transactions by an individual mortgage loan originator, the terms of multiple transactions by multiple individual mortgage loan originators, or a proxy for a term of a transaction.

20 2.15 Failure to Implement an Anti-Money Laundering Program. Based on the Factual Allegations set forth in Section I above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 22 19.146.0201(2), RCW 19.146.0201(11), and 12 C.F.R. § 1029.210 for failing to implement an anti-23 money laundering program. Alternatively, based on the Factual Allegations set forth in Section I 24 above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.0201(2), RCW 19.146.0201(11), RCW STATEMENT OF CHARGES DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

No. C-21-3256-22-SC01 eLink Mortgage LLC, et al.

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19.146.060(2) and WAC 208-660-450(1)(a), for failing to keep and use in the business such books, 2 accounts, records, papers, documents, files, and other information as will enable the Director to 3 determine whether Respondents complied with their obligation to implement an Anti-Money 4 Laundering Program.

5 2.16 Failure to Implement a Red Flags Program. Based on the Factual Allegations set forth in 6 Section I above, Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.0201(2), RCW

7 19.146.0201(11), and 12 C.F.R. § 681.1(e) and (f) for failing to implement a program designed to detect, prevent, and mitigate identity theft ("Red Flags Program") as required by the Fair Credit 8 9 Reporting Act. Alternatively, based on the Factual Allegations set forth in Section I above, 10 Respondents are in apparent violation of RCW 19.146.0201(2), RCW 19.146.0201(11), RCW 19.146.060(2) and WAC 208-660-450(1)(a), for failing to keep and use in the business such books, 11 12 accounts, records, papers, documents, files, and other information as will enable the Director to

determine whether Respondents complied with their obligation to implement a Red Flags Program.

14 2.17 Failure to Provide Complete and Accurate Disclosures and Provided Unnecessary 15 **Disclosures.** Based on the Factual Allegations set forth in Section I above, Respondents are in 16 apparent violation of RCW 19.146.0201(2) and RCW 19.146.0201(11) for failing to provide 17 complete and accurate disclosures to borrowers, including trust account disclosures, privacy policy disclosures, and homeownership counseling lists, and for providing unnecessary, inapplicable, or 18 19 outdated disclosures to borrowers.

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III. AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE SANCTIONS

Authority to Issue an Order to Cease and Desist or Take Affirmative Action. Pursuant to 21 3.1 22 RCW 19.146.220(3), the Director may issue orders directing a licensee, its employee, loan originator, 23 independent contractor, agent, or other person subject to the Act to cease and desist from conducting business or take such other affirmative action as is necessary to comply with this chapter. 24 STATEMENT OF CHARGES

No. C-21-3256-22-SC01 eLink Mortgage LLC, et al.

1	3.2	Autho	rity to Revoke Licens	e. Pursuant to RCW	19.146.220(2), the Director may suspend	
2	licenses for any violation of the Act.					
3	3.3	Autho	rity to Impose Fine.	Pursuant to RCW 19.	146.220(2), the Director may impose fines	
4	against a licensee for any violation of the Act.					
5	3.4	Autho	rity to Collect Investi	gation Fee. Pursuan	t to RCW 19.146.228(2), WAC 208-660-	
6	520(9) and (11), and WAC 208-660-550(4)(a), the Department will charge forty-eight dollars per					
7	hour for an examiner's time devoted to an investigation.					
8	3.5 Authority to Recover Costs and Expenses. Pursuant to RCW 19.146.221(2), the Director					
9	may recover the state's costs and expenses for prosecuting violations of the Act.					
10	IV. NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER ORDER					
11	Respondents' violations of the provisions of chapter 19.146 RCW and chapter 208-660 WAC,					
12	as set forth in the above Factual Allegations, Grounds for Entry of Order, and Authority to Impose					
13	Sanctions, constitute a basis for the entry of an Order under RCW 19.146.220, RCW 19.146.221, and					
14	RCW 19.146.223. Therefore, it is the Director's intent to ORDER that:					
15 16		4.1	1	ve and take affirmati	Zhou cease and desist from the violations ve action necessary to conduct business in a	
17		4.2	Respondent eLink Mc be revoked.	ortgage LLC's license	to conduct business as a mortgage broker	
18		4.3	Respondent Ge Zhou'	s license to conduct t	he business of a loan originator be revoked.	
19		4.4	Respondents eLink M	ortgage LLC and Ge	Zhou be prohibited from participation in	
20			the conduct of the affairs of any mortgage broker subject to licensure by the Director, in any manner, for a period of 5 years.			
21 22		4.5	Respondents eLink M the date of this Statem		Zhou jointly and severally pay a fine. As of ine totals \$75,000.	
23 24		4.6 Respondents eLink Mortgage LLC and Ge Zhou jointly and severally pay an investigation fee. As of the date of this Statement of Charges, the investigation fee				
24	No. C-21	/IENT OF -3256-22- ortgage LI		10	DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS Division of Consumer Services P.O. Box 41200 Olympia, WA 98504-1200	

(360) 902-8703

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1 2 3	4.7	Respondents eLink Mortgage LLC and Ge Zhou maintain records in compliance with the Act and provide the Department with the location of the books, records and other information relating to Respondents' mortgage broker business, and the name, address and telephone number of the individual responsible for maintenance of such records in
4		compliance with the Act.
5	4.8	Respondents eLink Mortgage LLC and Ge Zhou pay the Department's costs and expenses for prosecuting violations of the Act in an amount to be determined at hearing or by declaration with supporting documentation.
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