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SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
SPECIAL CIVIL PART - CAMDEN COUNTY
DOCKET NO. CAM-DC-008411-23

JUSTIN ZIMMERMAN, ACTING)
COMMISSIONER OF THE)
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF)
BANKING AND INSURANCE,)

Civil Action

**ORDER FOR FINAL JUDGMENT
BY DEFAULT**

Plaintiff,)

v.)

VINCENT M. RUSSO,)

Defendant.)

THIS MATTER HAVING BEEN opened to the Court on the Application of Matthew J. Platkin, Attorney General of New Jersey, (by Dakar Ross, Deputy Attorney General, appearing), attorney for Plaintiff, Justin Zimmerman, Acting Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance on a motion for final judgment by default;

Defendant, Vincent M. Russo ("Defendant"), having been duly served with a copy of the Summons and Complaint in the above-captioned action, and

default having been entered for Defendant's failure to appear, answer, or otherwise, defend;

This Court now finds that Defendant committed two (2) violations of the New Jersey Insurance Fraud Prevention Act, N.J.S.A. 17:33A-1 to -30 ("Fraud Act").

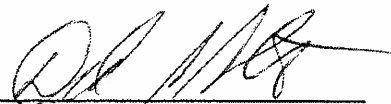
First, specifically in support of a claim for insurance benefits, Defendant falsely represented to Progressive that the fire damage to his boat was accidental and originated in the engine when, in fact, the fire originated in the midship location and was the result of a deliberate act by Defendant to damage or destroy the Boat using an unknown ignition source, Defendant violated N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4(a)(1).

Second, specifically in support of a claim for insurance benefits and with the intent that it be presented to an insurance company, made false statements in a police report filed with the Middle Township Police Department stating that the fire damage to his boat was accidental when, in fact, the fire was the result of Defendant's intentional act, Defendant violated N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4(a)(2).

FINAL JUDGMENT is on this 20th day of August 2024, entered in the amount of \$8,425.00 against Defendant and in favor of Plaintiff, Justin Zimmerman, Acting Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance. This amount consists of \$5,000.00 in civil penalties for two (2) violations of the Fraud Act pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5(b); attorneys' fees of

\$2,425.00 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5(b); and a statutory fraud surcharge of \$1,000.00 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5.1.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that a copy of this Order be served upon all parties within 10 days of the date of receipt.


Honorable Donald J. Stein, J.S.C.

This motion was:

 Opposed

 ✓ Unopposed

**FOR THE REASONS SET
FORTH ON THE RECORD**

8/20/24