

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND INSURANCE

IN THE MATTER OF:

Proceedings by the Commissioner of Banking )  
and Insurance, State of New Jersey, to fine ) CONSENT  
Bruce W. Harris Reference No. 1513019, and ) ORDER  
B&K Bail Bonds, LLC, Reference )  
No. 1521922 )

To: Bruce W. Harris B&K Bail Bonds LLC  
11 Starboard Way 33 Mill Street  
Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054 Mount Holly, NJ 08060

This matter, having been opened by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance (“Commissioner”), State of New Jersey, upon information that Bruce W. Harris (“Harris”), currently licensed as a resident individual insurance producer, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-32a, and B&K Bail Bonds, LLC (“B&K”), currently licensed as a resident business entity insurance producer, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-32b, may have violated the insurance laws of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Harris and B&K (collectively “Respondents”) are subject to the provisions of the New Jersey Insurance Producer Licensing Act of 2001, N.J.S.A. 17:22A-26 to -48 (the “Producer Act”), and the regulations governing Insurance Producer Standards of Conduct, N.J.A.C. 11:17A-1.1 to 11:17D-2.8; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40a(2), an insurance producer shall not violate any insurance law, regulation, subpoena or order of the Commissioner or of another state’s insurance regulator; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40a(8), an insurance producer shall not use fraudulent, coercive or dishonest practices, or demonstrate incompetence, untrustworthiness or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of insurance business in this State or elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 11:17B-3.2(d)3, a bail bond agency shall not charge service-related fees, such as travel fees and after hour service fees; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 11:17C-2.5(a), each insurance producer shall maintain accurate books and records reflecting all insurance-related transactions in which the insurance producer or his employees take part; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 11:17C-2.5(b), each licensee shall maintain a register of all moneys received, deposited, disbursed or withdrawn in connection with an insurance transaction, including, but not limited to: premiums; service fees; placement fees; inspection fees; motorclub fees; premium taxes; transfers and disbursements from a trust account; and all transactions concerning, including the balance of, all interest bearing accounts; and

WHEREAS, on or about June 10, 2017 while executing a bail bond for defendant HN, the Respondents charged an improper after-hour service fee, in violation of N.J.S.A. 17:22a-40a(2) and (8) and N.J.A.C. 11:17B-3.2(d)3; and

WHEREAS, the Respondents failed to maintain a register of monies received and disbursed involving the aforementioned bail bond transaction, in violation of N.J.S.A. 17:22a-40a(2) and (8) and N.J.A.C. 11:17C-2.5(a) and (b); and

WHEREAS, Respondents:

- 1) Have admitted responsibility for the aforementioned violations; and
- 2) Have cooperated with the investigation conducted by the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance ("Department"); and
- 3) Have asserted that the violations cited in this Consent Order were not willful; and
- 4) Have refunded all service fees that were improperly charged; and

WHEREAS, cause does exist under N.J.S.A. 17:22A-40a and N.J.S.A. 17:22A-45c to impose a fine; and

WHEREAS, the Respondents have waived their right to a hearing on the aforementioned violations and consented to the payment of a fine in the amount of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00); and

WHEREAS, this matter should be resolved upon the consent of the parties without resort to a formal hearing;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018

ORDERED AND AGREED, that the Respondents shall pay a fine in the amount of \$2,500.00 to the Department; and

~~IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED,~~ that said fine shall be paid by certified check, cashier's check or money order made payable to the "State of New Jersey, General Treasury," with an initial payment of \$500.00 due and payable immediately upon the execution of this Consent Order by the Respondents and twenty (20) subsequent monthly payments of \$100.00 due and payable on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of each month thereafter; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED, that the signed Consent Order together with the first installment payment of \$500.00 and each subsequent monthly installment payment, shall be remitted to:

New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance  
Attention: Virgil Downtin - Chief of Investigations  
9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Consumer Protection Services, Enforcement  
P.O. Box 329  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-329

and

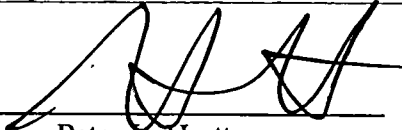
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED, that in the event full payment of the fine is not made or any payment is not made in accordance with this Order, the Commissioner may exercise any and all remedies available by law, including but not limited to recovery of any unpaid penalties in summary proceedings, in accordance with the penalty enforcement law N.J.S.A. 2A:58-10 to 12; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED, that the civil penalty in this Consent Order is imposed pursuant to the police powers of the State of New Jersey for the enforcement of the law and the protection of the public health, safety and welfare, and is not intended to constitute debts which may be limited or discharged in a bankruptcy proceeding; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED, that the provisions of this Consent Order represent a final agency decision and constitute a final resolution of the violations contained herein; and

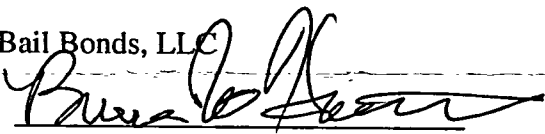
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND AGREED, that the Respondents shall cease and desist from engaging in the conduct that gave rise to this Consent Order.


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Peter L. Hartt  
Director of Insurance

Consented to as to Form,  
Entry and Content:

B&K Bail Bonds, LLC  
By:   
Bruce W. Harris, Designated  
Responsible Licensed Producer  
for B&K Bail Bonds, LLC

  
Bruce W. Harris/Individually

Date: 7.11.18