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COMMISSIONERS OFFICE

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS  
AGENCY CASE NO. 2015-AH-00110

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

COMPLAINANT

vs.

AGREED ORDER

BUCKEYE CHECK CASHING OF KENTUCKY, INC.  
d/b/a CHECK\$MART

RESPONDENT

\* \* \* \* \*

1. The Department of Financial Institutions ("DFI") is responsible for regulating and licensing entities engaged in the business of cashing checks and accepting deferred deposit transactions in accordance with the provisions set forth in KRS Chapter 286.9.

2. Buckeye Check Cashing of Kentucky, Inc. d/b/a Check\$mart ("Respondent") is authorized to do business in Kentucky as a deferred deposit and check cashing licensee pursuant to KRS Chapter 286.9, with an office located at 8459-D U.S. 42, Florence, KY 41042 with Deferred Deposit License #160-1. (ICIE# 325103)

3. DFI conducted a routine examination of Respondent on March 2, 2015. During the examination, the DFI discovered that Respondent violated KRS 286.9-140(1) when Respondent improperly closed the accounts of two customers in the Veritec database. When the loans were reopened, the customers had aggregate amounts in violation of the limits set forth in KRS 286.9-100(9).

4. DFI possesses a range of administrative authority in addressing violations of the Act, including license revocation or denial, as well as the imposition of civil penalties in an amount up to \$5,000 per violation. See KRS 286.9-110; 286.9-991.

5. In this case, the DFI assessed a civil penalty against Respondent in the amount of four thousand dollars (\$4,000) for the above-described violations of KRS 286.9-100(9) and 286.9-140(1).

6. In the interest of economically and efficiently resolving the violation(s) described herein, and without Respondent admitting or denying the statements of fact and legal conclusions herein, DFI and Respondent agree as follows:

a. Respondent agrees to a civil penalty assessment in the amount of four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) for the violation(s) described herein;

b. Respondent agrees to and shall pay the total civil penalty assessed herein of four thousand dollars (\$4,000), which shall be due upon entry of the Agreed Order. The payment shall be in the form of a certified check or money order made payable to "Kentucky State Treasurer" and mailed to the Department of Financial Institutions, Attn: Non-Depository Division - Order, 1025 Capital Center Drive, Suite 200, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601;

c. Respondent agrees to make restitution, by check drawn on the Respondent's account, to all affected customers by refunding the service fees on the transactions that created the database violation and to maintain records – consistent with KRS 286.9-074 – that such refund checks were issued to the customers and were processed for payment by the customers. Respondent shall provide copies of the checks issued to the customers and shall provide proof that the checks were processed for payment by the customers with the signed agreed order. Should Respondent fail to provide the copies of the checks

**and that the checks were processed for payment by the customers, the agreed order will not be entered; and**

**d. Respondent shall devote the time and resources necessary to ensure continual and full compliance with all statutory requirements set forth in KRS Chapter 286.9.**

**7. Respondent waives its right to demand a hearing at which it would be entitled to legal representation, to confront and cross examine witnesses, and to present evidence on its own behalf, or to otherwise appeal or set aside this Order.**

**8. Respondent consents to and acknowledges the jurisdiction of DFI over this matter and that this Agreed Order is a matter of public record and may be disseminated as such.**

**9. In consideration of execution of this Agreed Order, Respondent for itself, and for its successors and assigns, hereby releases and forever discharges the Commonwealth of Kentucky, DFI, Office of Legal Services, and each of their members, agents, and employees in their individual capacities, from any and all manner of actions, causes of action, suits, debts, judgments, executions, claims and demands whatsoever, known and unknown, in law or equity, that Respondent ever had, now has, may have or claim to have against any or all of the persons or entities named in this paragraph arising out of or by reason of this investigation, this disciplinary action, this settlement or its administration.**

**10. By signing below, the parties acknowledge they have read the foregoing Agreed Order, know and fully understand its contents, and that they are authorized to enter into and execute this Agreed Order and legally bind their respective parties.**

11. This Agreed Order shall constitute the Final Order in this matter.

IT IS SO ORDERED on this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHARLES A. VICE  
COMMISSIONER

*Charles Vice*

**Consented to:**

This 10th day of November, 2015.

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

Tammy R. Scruggs  
Tammy Scruggs, Director  
Division of Non-Depository Institutions  
Department of Financial Institutions

Bridgette Roman  
Authorized Representative  
Buckeye Check Cashing of Kentucky,  
Inc. d/b/a Check\$mart, Deferred Deposit  
License #160-1

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

STATE OF Ohio )  
COUNTY OF Union )

On this the 24th day of July, 2015, before me Bridgette Roman, the undersigned, Secretary, did personally appear and acknowledge himself/herself to be the authorized representative of Buckeye Check Cashing of Kentucky, Inc., d/b/a Check\$mart, and that he/she, being authorized to do so, entered into and executed the foregoing instrument for the purposes therein contained.

My Commission Expires: 7-22-2016

Shawnee R. Parks  
Notary Public



Shawnee R. Parks  
Notary Public, State of Ohio  
My Commission Expires 07-22-2016

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing **Agreed Order** was sent on this the 13<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015, by certified mail, return receipt requested, to:

Ms. Karen Wheeler  
Buckeye Check Cashing of Kentucky, Inc.  
d/b/a Check\$mart  
6785 Bobcat Way, Suite 200  
Dublin, OH 43016

And by Hand-Delivery to:

Hon. Gary A. Stephens  
1025 Capital Center Drive, Suite 200  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
Counsel for Department of Financial Institutions

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
~~Christina Hayden~~ Kelly Childers  
Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions