COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY ACTION NO. 2010-AH-055

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

COMPLAINANT

VS.

FINAL ORDER

JAMES HIGGINS

RESPONDENT

STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 1. The Department of Financial Institutions ("DFI") is responsible for regulating and licensing mortgage loan companies and mortgage loan brokers doing business in Kentucky in accordance with the provisions of KRS Chapter 286.8, the Mortgage Loan Company and Mortgage Loan Broker Act (the "Act").
- 2. James Higgins ("Higgins") is an individual whose last known mailing address is 5510 Valley Park Drive Louisville, KY.
- 3. Pursuant to the Act, the DFI conducted an examination of Blackhorse Mortgage Corporation in December 2009 to determine whether the activities of Blackhorse Mortgage Corporation were in compliance with applicable laws and regulations; whether the practices and policies of Blackhorse Mortgage Corporation had a potentially adverse impact on prospective borrowers; and whether the business was being operated efficiently, fairly, and in the public interest.
- 4. During the examination, the DFI discovered that Higgins acted as a mortgage loan originator in October 2008 while employed by Blackhorse Mortgage Corporation.

- 5. Higgins was not registered with the DFI as a mortgage loan originator in October 2008.
- 6. On May 20, 2010, the DFI filed an Administrative Complaint against Higgins seeking the imposition of a one thousand dollar (\$1,000) fine for Higgins' violation of the Act.
- 7. The Administrative Complaint was served on Higgins by certified mail return receipt requested on May 22, 2010. Higgins failed to respond to the Administrative Complaint

LEGAL CONCLUSIONS

- 8. Pursuant to KRS 286.8-030(1)(c), "it is unlawful for any natural person to transact business in Kentucky, either directly or indirectly, as a mortgage loan originator or mortgage loan processor, unless otherwise exempted, if the mortgage loan originator or mortgage loan processor is not registered in accordance with KRS 286.8-255."
- 9. Pursuant to KRS 286.8-255(1), "no natural person shall transact business in Kentucky, either directly or indirectly, as a mortgage loan originator or mortgage loan processor unless such mortgage loan originator or mortgage loan processor is registered with the office and has been issued a current certificate of registration by the office, complies with all applicable requirements of this subtitle, and maintains a valid unique identifier issued by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry."
- 10. Pursuant to KRS 286.8-046(1), the Executive Director may assess a fine of not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) nor more than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per violation, "plus the state's costs and expenses for the examination, investigation, and prosecution of the matter, including reasonable attorney's fees and

court costs" against any mortgage loan company or mortgage loan broker that violates any provision of the Act or accompanying regulations.

LEGAL CONCLUSIONS

12. Higgins violated KRS 286.8-030(1)(c).

<u>ORDER</u>

THEREFORE, based upon the foregoing statement of facts, statutory authority, and legal conclusions, the Commissioner HEREBY ORDERS:

- 1. The Respondent, James Higgins, shall pay a fine in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for violations of the Act.
 - 2. This is a **FINAL ORDER**.

This **ORDER** shall become effective upon completion of service as set forth in KRS 13B-050(2).

NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS

Pursuant to KRS 13B.140, you are hereby notified that you have the right to appeal this Final Order of the Commissioner. If you choose to appeal, you must file a written Notice of Appeal with the Franklin Circuit Court within thirty (30) days after entry of this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED on this the 30 day of JUNE 2010

CHARLES A VICE COMMISSIONER

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Final Order was sent by certified mail return receipt requested and by regular mail on this the the day of 10, to the following:

James Higgins 5510 Valley Park Drive Louisville, KY 40299

Simon Berry

Department of Financial Institutions

1025 Capital Center Drive, Suite 200

Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 (502) 573-3390 Ext. 232

(502) 573-2183 (facsimile)