# SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND REGULATION DIVISION OF INSURANCE

IN THE MATTER OF	)	
HOMELAND HEALTHCARE LLC,	)	FINAL DECISION
LICENSEE	)	<b>INS 18-29</b>

After reviewing the record and the proposed order of the Hearing Examiner in this matter,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that pursuant to SDCL 1-26D-4, the Hearing Examiner's Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Proposed Order, dated November 1, 2018, is adopted in full.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the South Dakota Non-resident Insurance Business Entity License of Homeland Healthcare LLC will hereby be revoked.

Parties are hereby advised of the right to further appeal the final decision to Circuit Court within (30) days of receiving such decision, pursuant to the authority of SDCL 1-26.

Dated this <u>K</u> day of November, 2018.

Marcia Hultman, Secretary South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation 700 Governors Drive Pierre, SD 57501

# STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND REGULATION

# IN THE MATTER OF HOMELAND HEALTH CARE LLC

INS 18-29

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF PROPOSED FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSION OF LAW, AND DECISION AND FINAL DECISION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that attached hereto, is a true and correct copy of the Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Decision, and Final Decision entered by Marcia Hultman, Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation, on November 14, 2018.

Dated this 15th day of November, 2018.

1

Clayton Grueb Legal Counsel South Dakota Division of Insurance 2330 N. Maple Ave. Suite 1 Rapid City, SD 57701 (605) 394-3396

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Clayton Grueb, the undersigned, do hereby certify that on the date shown below, a true and correct copy of the Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Decision, and Final Decision with respect to the above-entitled action was sent U.S. Certified Mail thereon, to the following:

Homeland Healthcare LLC 825 Watters Creek Blvd. Suite 300 Allen, TX 75013

Homeland Healthcare LLC 5001 W. Lemon St. Tampa, FL 33609

Combined Ins Co Of America 8750 W Bryn Mawr Ave 7th Fl Triangle Plaza Chicago, Illinois 60631 Transamerica Life Insurance Company 4333 Edgewood Rd Ne Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52499-0001

Provident Life & Accident Ins Co One Fountain Square Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-0001

Unum Life Ins Co Of America 2211 Congress St Portland, Maine 04122-9548

Dated this 15th day of November, 2018 in Rapid City, South Dakota.

Clayton Grueb Legal Counsel South Dakota Division of Insurance 2330 N. Maple Ave. Suite 1 Rapid City, SD 57701 (605) 394-3396

## STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF HEARING EXAMINERS

## IN THE MATTER OF HOMELAND HEALTHCARE LLC,

### INS 18-29 PROPOSED DECISION

This matter came for hearing before the Office of Hearing Examiners on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, pursuant to a Notice of Hearing issued by the South Dakota Division of Insurance ("Division") on September 20, 2018. Clayton Grueb appeared as counsel for the Division. HOMELAND HEALTHCARE LLC (hereinafter referred to as "HOMELAND HEALTHCARE") did not appear, either in person or through counsel. The Division admitted its Exhibits 1 through 5 into evidence and moved that the Hearing Examiner enter these Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Proposed Decision as a default disposition to this contested case.

#### ISSUE

Whether the Business Entity License of HOMELAND HEALTHCARE should be revoked due to failing to timely respond to the Division; failing to timely report an administrative action(s) to the Division; for demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness, or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of business in this state or elsewhere; and for violating the insurance laws of South Dakota, in violation of SDCL 58-30-167(2), (8) and (9), 58-30-193, 58-33-66, and 58-33-68.

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. HOMELAND HEALTHCARE was licensed by the Division as business entity on July 7, 2010. The license is currently active. (Exhibit 1).
- 2. HOMELAND HEALTHCARE was the subject of administrative actions in a different jurisdiction. (Exhibit 2).
- HOMELAND HEALTHCARE failed to report the administrative actions to the Division within 30 days.
- 4. The Division sent inquiries to HOMELAND HEALTHCARE at its mailing address of record on March 20, 2018 and April 19, 2018. (Exhibits 3-4).
- 5. HOMELAND HEALTHCARE did not respond to the Division's inquiries. (Exhibits 3-4).
- 6. Any additional Findings of Fact included in the Reasoning section of this decision are incorporated herein by reference.
- 7. To the extent any of the foregoing are improperly designated and are instead conclusions of law, they are hereby redesignated and incorporated herein as conclusions of law.

#### REASONING

This case involves a request by the Division to revoke the South Dakota Business Entity License of HOMELAND HEALTHCARE. As a consequence of the potential loss of Respondent's livelihood from the lack of licensure, the burden of proof in this matter is higher than the preponderance of evidence standard, which applies in a typical administrative hearing. "In matters concerning the revocation of a professional license, we determine that the appropriate standard of proof to be utilized by an agency is clear and convincing evidence." *In re Zar*, 434 N.W.2d 598, 602 (S.D. 1989). Our Supreme Court has defined "clear and convincing evidence" as follows:

The measure of proof required by this designation falls somewhere between the rule in ordinary civil cases and the requirement of our criminal procedure, that is, it must be more than a mere preponderance but not beyond a reasonable doubt. It is that measure or degree of proof which will produce in the mind of the trier of facts a firm belief or conviction as to the allegations sought to be established. The evidence need not be voluminous or undisputed to accomplish this.

Brown v. Warner, 78 S.D. 647, 653, 107 NW2d 1, 4 (1961).

SDCL 58-30-193 states that "[A]n insurance producer shall report to the director any administrative action taken against the insurance producer in another jurisdiction... within thirty days of the final disposition of the matter. This report shall include a copy of the order, consent order, or other relevant legal documents." SDCL 58-33-66(1) requires HOMELAND HEALTHCARE to respond to the Division and supply requested documents within twenty days from the receipt of a request. In addition, the Division considers SDCL 58-30-167 (shown in pertinent part) as follows:

The director may... revoke or refuse to continue, any license issued under this chapter... after a hearing... The director may... revoke... an insurance producer's... for any one or more of the following causes:

- (2) Violating any insurance laws or rules, subpoena, or order of the director or of another state's insurance director, commissioner, or superintendent;
- (8) Using fraudulent, coercive, or dishonest practices, or demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness, or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of business in this state or elsewhere;
- (9) Having an insurance producer license, or its equivalent, denied, suspended, or revoked in any other state, province, district, or territory;

The evidence indicates that HOMELAND HEALTHCARE violated the insurance laws of another jurisdiction, failed to report that action, and failed to respond to Division inquiries regarding the action. Applying the law to the Findings of Fact it is clear the Business Entity License of HOMELAND HEALTHCARE is subject to revocation and should be revoked.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Division has jurisdiction over HOMELAND HEALTHCARE and the subject matter of this contested case. The Office of Hearing Examiners is authorized to conduct the hearing and issue a proposed decision pursuant to SDCL 1-26D-4.
- 2. The Division bears the burden of establishing the alleged statutory violations by clear and convincing evidence.
- 3. The Division established by clear and convincing evidence that HOMELAND HEALTHCARE violated SDCL § 58-30-193.
- 4. The Division established by clear and convincing evidence that HOMELAND HEALTHCARE violated SDCL § 58-33-66.
- 5. The Division established by clear and convincing evidence that HOMELAND HEALTHCARE violated SDCL §§ SDCL 58-30-167 (2), (8), and (9).
- 6. The Division established by clear and convincing evidence that the South Dakota Business Entity License of HOMELAND HEALTHCARE is subject to revocation.
- 7. Any additional Conclusions of Law included in the Reasoning section of this decision are incorporated herein by reference.
- 8. To the extent any of the foregoing are improperly designated and are instead findings of fact, they are hereby redesignated and incorporated herein as Findings of Fact.

Based on the above Findings of Fact, Reasoning, and Conclusions of Law, the Hearing Examiner enters the following:

#### PROPOSED DECISION

The South Dakota Business Entity License of HOMELAND HEALTHCARE should be revoked.

Dated this / day of November, 2018.

Catherine Duenwald, Hearing Examiner Office of Hearing Examiners 523 East Capitol Pierre, SD 57501

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify on November  $1^{5^{\prime}}$ , 2018, at Pierre, South Dakota, a true and correct copy of this Proposed Decision was mailed to each of the parties below.

Ashley Parsons Office of Hearing Examiners

HOMELAND HEALTHCARE 825 Watters Creek Blvd. Suite 300 Allen, TX 75013

HOMELAND HEALTHCARE 5001 W. Lemon St. Tampa, FL 33609 Clayton Grueb Division of Insurance 2330 N. Maple Ave, Suite 1 Rapid City, SD 57701