



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

JAMES J. DONELON
COMMISSIONER

CEASE AND DESIST ORDER
SUMMARY SUSPENSION
PRODUCER LICENSE #708801
AND PRODUCER LICENSE #895434

October 10, 2022

Houston Thomas
17505 Jefferson Hwy. Apt 907
Baton Rouge, LA 70817

Article # 7020 3160 0000 1370 1487

Houston Thomas
8841 Bluebonnet Blvd. Ste. F
Baton Rouge, LA 70810-2847

Article# 7020 3160 0000 1370 1494

Attn: Houston Thomas
Thomas Mutual Insurance Group, Corp
8841 Bluebonnet Blvd. Ste. F
Baton Rouge, LA 70810-2847

Article# 7020 3160 0000 1370 1500

Attn: Houston Thomas
Thomas Mutual Insurance Group, Corp
1765 O'neal Lane Ste 201
Baton Rouge, LA 70816

Article# 7020 3160 0000 1370 1517

Via Email: hueythomas4513@gmail.com

WHEREAS, IT HAS COME TO MY ATTENTION, as Commissioner of Insurance (Commissioner) of the Louisiana Department of Insurance (LDI), that Houston Thomas, a person licensed to do business in Louisiana, has violated certain provisions of the Louisiana Insurance Code, Title 22, La. R.S. 22:1 et seq. As used hereinafter, "you" and "your" refer to Houston Thomas and Thomas Mutual Insurance Group, Corp. Accordingly, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Commissioner, I issue this Cease and Desist Order and Summary Suspension based of the following, to wit:

You, Houston Thomas, were licensed by the Louisiana Department of Insurance as an insurance producer (License #708801) on September 27, 2016. Thomas Mutual Insurance Group, Corp (License #895434) was licensed on December 7, 2020. Both producer licenses are currently active.

On January 20, 2022, a Cease and Desist Order and Summary Suspension was issued against the producer license of Houston Thomas following the Commissioner finding that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively required emergency action due to evidence that Houston Thomas, while conducting insurance business, manufactured fraudulent insurance policy

documents. Thereafter, on June 28, 2022, the Commissioner issued a Notice of Revocation of the producer license of Houston Thomas for the same fraudulent behavior. The Revocation action is on appeal before the Division of Administrative Law, where a stay of the action has been granted pending the appeal.

The LDI has now received new information and documentation from Safepoint Insurance Company (Safepoint) indicating that multiple prospective insureds made payments to you, Mr. Thomas or Thomas Mutual Insurance Group, Corp for Safepoint insurance policies; however, the payment was not remitted to Safepoint and the policies cancelled for nonpayment. The prospective insureds and policy numbers are listed as follows:

Tanisha Cobb	SLAH3013024
Dawn Booker	SLAH3012924 and SLAH3015325
Marcus Johnson	SLAH3007837
Carolyn Ann Cobb-Scott	SLAH3015439
Howard Gross	SLAH3009966 and SLAH3013189
Samuel Winter	SLAH3023229
Alicia Harmason	SLAH3033589
Nolan Brown III	SLAH3039933
Lauri Frazier	SLAH3038470
Linda Beverly	SLAH3012238
Austin Mckee	SLAH3021530
Sheena Thomas	SLAH3013628 and SLAH3014524
Keva Colston	SLAH3034004
Tiffani Trim	SLAH3012317

Further, the LDI has received 3 complaints directly from consumers related to the cancellation of their insurance coverage secured through Houston Thomas and Thomas Mutual Insurance Group, Corp. In an attempt to investigate the complaints, directives to respond were issued by the LDI to Houston Thomas. Houston Thomas was asked within the directive to respond to allegations made against him related to the cancellation of the insureds' homeowners' policies. As of this date, the deadline for response to one directive to respond issued to Houston Thomas by the LDI passed on October 3, 2022 without a response from Houston Thomas.

La. R.S. 22:2 provides in pertinent part:

§ 2. Insurance regulated in the public interest

- A. Insurance is an industry affected with the public interest and it is the purpose of this Code to regulate that industry in all its phases. [I]t shall be the duty of the commissioner of insurance to administer the provisions of this Code.

La. R.S. 22:18 maintains in pertinent part:

§18. Suspension or revocation of insurer's licenses; fines; orders

- A. The commissioner of insurance may, as a penalty, in accordance with R.S. 49:961, refuse to renew, or may suspend, or revoke the certificate of authority or license of an insurer, person, or entity violating any of the provisions of this Code, or in lieu of suspension or revocation of a certificate or license duly issued, the commissioner may levy a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars for each violation per insurer, person, or entity, up to one hundred thousand dollars aggregate for all violations in a calendar year per insurer, person, or entity, when such violations warrant the refusal, suspension, or revocation of such certificate or license, or the imposition of the fine. The commissioner is also authorized to order any insurer, person, or entity to cease and desist any such action that violates any provision of this code.

Pursuant to La. R.S. 22:1554, the Commissioner is authorized to take certain regulatory actions against any person who is ...charged with a violation of this Part of Chapter 5, Producers and Other Regulated Entities Part I. Producers. These actions are designed to assist the Commissioner in administering the provisions of the Insurance Code.

La. R.S. 22:1554 maintains in pertinent part:

§ 1554. License denial, nonrenewal, or revocation

- A. The commissioner may place on probation, suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue, renew, or reinstate an insurance producer license, or may levy a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars for each violation occurring, up to ten thousand dollars for each violation aggregate for all violations in a calendar year per applicant or licensee, or any combination of actions, for any one or more of the following causes:

(3) The failure to account for or remit any premiums, monies, or properties belonging to another which come into the possession of the applicant in the course of doing insurance business, or improperly withholding, misappropriating, converting, or failing to timely remit any premiums, monies, or properties received in the course of doing insurance business, whether such premiums, monies, or properties belonging to policyholders, insurers, beneficiaries, claimants, or others.

(4) Using fraudulent, coercive, or dishonest practices or misrepresentation, or demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness, or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of business such as might endanger the public.

(14) The violation of any insurance laws of the United States, this state or any state, province, district, or territory, or violating any lawful rule, regulation, subpoena, or order of the commissioner of insurance or of the insurance officials of another state.

- I. The commissioner of insurance shall retain the authority to enforce the provisions of, and impose any penalty or remedy authorized by, this Subpart against any person who is under investigation for or charged with a violation of this Subpart, even if the person's license has been surrendered or has lapsed by operation of law.

VIOLATIONS:

While conducting insurance business in Louisiana as a licensed producer, Houston Thomas, failed to remit premium payments made to him or his business entity, Thomas Mutual Insurance Group, Corp. demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness, or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of business such as might endanger the public. These actions constitute violations of La. R.S. 22:1554(A)(3), (4), and (14).

COMMISSIONER'S ACTION:

As a result of the investigation and documentation in possession of the LDI, and in accordance with La. R.S. 22:18, La. R.S. 22:1554(A) and La. R.S. 49:961(C), determination has been rendered that you are in violation of the statutes listed above and the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, therefore, you are a danger to the insurance buying public to such a degree that the Louisiana Commissioner of Insurance hereby orders you, **Houston Thomas and Thomas Mutual Insurance Group, Corp**, to **CEASE AND DESIST** from conducting the business of insurance, and Louisiana Insurance Producer License Numbers **708801** and **895434** are hereby **SUSPENDED** effective immediately.

YOUR ACTION:

Be advised that this constitutes an administrative action and that it will be reported to the National Insurance Producer Registry. You may need to report this administrative action to other states in which you hold an active license. Contact that state's insurance department if you are unsure of the requirements.

Pursuant to La. R.S. 22:2191(A)(2), any person aggrieved by an act of the Commissioner may request a hearing. You must make a written demand for an appeal within thirty (30) days from the date of this notice. Failure to file a written demand for an appeal within thirty (30) days from this notice will preclude your right to an administrative hearing. Pursuant to La. R.S. 22:2191(B), your written demand for an appeal (1) shall reference the particular sections of the statutes and rules involved; (2) shall provide a short and plain statement of the matters asserted for review; and (3) shall attach a copy of the order or decision that you are appealing. Appealing this notice does not stay the action of the Commissioner of Insurance. Pursuant to La. R.S. 22:2204 you must request and be granted a stay of this action by the Division of Administrative Law. Your request for a stay may be included in your appeal. Your written demand for an appeal shall be filed with the Louisiana Department of Insurance at the addresses below:

Louisiana Department of Insurance
Attn: J. David Caldwell, Executive Counsel
P. O. Box 94214
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9214

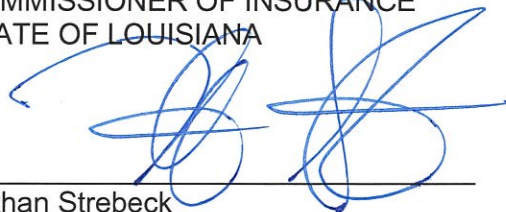
Telephone: (225) 342-4673
Fax: (225) 342-1632

File in Person at:
1702 N. Third Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Signed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana this 10th day of October 2022.

JAMES J. DONELON
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
STATE OF LOUISIANA

BY:



Nathan Strebeck
Deputy Commissioner
Office of Insurance Fraud
Louisiana Department of Insurance
Telephone: (225) 219-5819

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Article # 7020 3160 0000 1370 1487
Article # 7020 3160 0000 1370 1494
Article # 7020 3160 0000 1370 1500
Article # 7020 3160 0000 1370 1517

I hereby certify that I have served this Cease and Desist Order, Summary Suspension upon Houston Thomas and Thomas Mutual Insurance Group, Corp via the U. S. Postal Service return receipt requested, this 10th day of October 2022.



Heath Soileau, Compliance Investigator