

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

JAMES J. DONELON
COMMISSIONER

CEASE AND DESIST ORDER SUMMARY SUSPENSION PRODUCER LICENSE #850554

January 20, 2022

Brandi Miranda Crawford 105 Burnett Street Gilbert, LA 71336 Article # 7020 0640 0001 4919 6324

Brandi Miranda Crawford 1651 Louisville Ave., Mid City Center, 132 Monroe, LA 71201 Article # 7020 0640 0001 4919 6331

Brandi Miranda Crawford 108 Highway 610 Winnsboro, LA 71295 Article # 7020 0640 0001 4919 6348

Via Email: Idbmc009@gmail.com

WHEREAS, IT HAS COME TO MY ATTENTION, as Commissioner of Insurance (Commissioner) of the Louisiana Department of Insurance (LDI), that Brandi Miranda Crawford 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 Brandi Miranda Crawford. Accordingly, pursuant to the power and authority vested in me as the Commissioner, I issue this Order to Cease and Desist and Summary Suspension based on the following, to wit:

You were licensed by the Louisiana Department of Insurance as an insurance producer (License #850554) on October 15, 2019. Currently, your producer license is active, and your license authorities are Life, Accident and Health or Sickness, and Industrial Fire. You held appointments with Union National Life Insurance Company and Union National Fire Insurance Company until you were voluntarily terminated for other employment on or about December 31, 2020.

Union National management performed an account audit, comparing payment records to their customers' premium receipt book records. They found discrepancies within your account showing you collected premium but did not log the transaction with Union National. Union National's audit showed you collected at least \$4,152.64 from policyholders that were not deposited with the company. Your cash bond of \$1,189.71 was applied towards the deficiency amount leaving a premium balance of \$2,962.93 that you owed to Union National.

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The Louisiana Insurance Code, Title 22, R.S. 22:1 et seq. at §2. states:

§ 2. Insurance regulated in the public interest

(1) 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.

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(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.

La. R.S. 22:1562 maintains in pertinent part:

§ 1562. Prohibited acts

D. (2) No person licensed as, or representing himself to be, an insurance producer shall fail 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 belong to policyholders, insurers, beneficiaries, claimants, or other.

La. R.S. 22:1923 maintains in pertinent part:

§ 1923. Definitions

- (2) "Fraudulent insurance act" shall include but not be limited to acts or omissions committed by any person who, knowingly and with intent to defraud:
 - (d) Diverts, attempts to divert, or conspires to divert funds of an insurer, reinsurer, or other entity regulated under the laws of this state, or other persons in connection with:
 - (i) The transaction of insurance or reinsurance.

La. R.S. 22:1924 maintains in pertinent part:

§ 1924 Prohibited activities and sanctions

- A. (1) Any person who, with the intent to injure, defraud, or deceive any insurance company, or the Department of Insurance, or any insured or other party in interest, or any third-party claimant commits any of the acts specified in Paragraph (2) or (3) of this Subsection is guilty of a felony and shall be subjected to a term of imprisonment, with or without hard labor, not to exceed five years, or a fine not to exceed five thousand dollars, or both, on each count and payment of restitution to the victim company of any insurance payments to the defendant that the court determines was not owed and the costs incurred by the victim company associated with the evaluation and defense of the fraudulent claim, including but not limited to the investigative costs, attorney fees, and court costs. However, if the benefit pursued does not exceed one thousand dollars, the term of imprisonment shall not exceed six months, or the fine shall not exceed one thousand dollars, or both, on each count.
 - (2) The following acts shall be punishable as provided in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection:
 - (a) Committing any fraudulent insurance act as defined in R.S. 22:1923.

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The Louisiana Insurance Code, Title 22, La. R.S. 22:1 et seq., authorizes the Commissioner to investigate the affairs and professional conduct of every person engaged in the business of insurance to determine whether such person has been or is engaged in any unfair or deceptive act or practice prohibited by the Louisiana Insurance Code. It is determined that Brandi Miranda Crawford has committed the violations of the Louisiana Insurance Code as listed above.

VIOLATIONS:

While conducting insurance business in Louisiana as a licensed producer, Brandi Miranda Crawford acted with intent and full knowledge of the aforementioned facts by withholding premium monies and failing to submit them to the insurer. These actions constitute violations of La. R.S. 22:1554(A)(3), (4), and (14); La. R.S. 22:1562(D)(2); La. R.S. 22:1924(A)(2)(a) as defined by La. R.S. 22:1923(2)(d)(i).

BE ADVISED:

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, Brandi Miranda Crawford, to CEASE AND DESIST from conducting the business of insurance, and Louisiana Insurance Producer License Number 850554 is 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 of 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. You 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:

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> 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 20th day of January 2022.

JAMES J. DONELON COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE STATE OF LOUISMANA

BY:

Matthew Stewart

Deputy Commissioner

Divisions of Fraud & Enforcement Louisiana Department of Insurance

Telephone: (225) 219-5819

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon **Brandi Miranda Crawford** by mailing a copy thereof properly addressed with postage prepaid, this 20th day of January 2022.

Norrie A. Falgoust, Compliance Investigator