DISTRICT COURT TWIN FALLS CO. IDAHO FILED 2012 MAY 30 AH 6: 23

CLERK

DEPUTY

# IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE

# STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS

Heriberto Ramirez,

Petitioner,

Case No. CV 2011-4800

# VS.

### OPINION AFFIRMING LICENSE REVOCATION

State of Idaho, Department of Insurance,

Respondent.

Petition for Judicial Review from the Department of Insurance Administrative Hearing Unit, Jean R. Uranga, Administrative Hearing Officer.

Anthony Valdez, Attorney at Law, for Petitioner Eva L. Ramirez.

Richard B. Burleigh, Deputy Attorney General for Respondent State of Idaho, Department of Insurance.

# INTRODUCTION

This matter is before the Court on Petitioner's, Heriberto Ramirez (hereinafter

"Eddie") Petition for Judicial Review of Administrative Hearing Officer Jean R. Uranga's

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and Preliminary Order, entered September 26,

2011. This matter has been submitted on the briefs and oral argument. For the reasons

set forth below, the decision of the Administrative Hearing Officer is AFFIRMED in PART and REVERSED in PART.

#### FACTS AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Eddie worked as a part time bail agent and employee of Aladdin Bail Bond Office, owned by Two Jinn, Inc. ("TJI"), in Twin Falls, Idaho. His wife Eva Ramirez (hereinafter "Eva") was also a bail agent and was the manager of TJI's Twin Falls office during the relevant time periods in this case. Eddie was issued bail license number 133154 on January 1, 2006. An Aladdin employee reported to TJI concerns about Eva and Eddie's records concerning charged jail fees. TJI responded by initiating an internal investigation. During the investigation, TJI discovered a problem with the jail fees being charged to clients.

On September 2, 2010, following the investigation, TJI terminated Eva and Eddie for poor record keeping and falsifying time records. On October 11, 2010, TJI's attorney notified the Department of Insurance of the termination of Eva and Eddie Ramirez and the irregularities in their charges. An Administrative hearing was held on June 13, 2011. At the hearing, the Department of Insurance presented a summary of a total of 26 erroneous charges, in files attributed to Eddie's license, showing that clients were overcharged for a jail fee.

The authority to charge a "jail fee" is governed by statute. I.C. § 31-3203 authorizes the sheriff of each county to collect fees for certain services. Jail fees are included in this authorization. Jail fees are charged by the Sheriff or the County where an inmate is being housed at the time bail is posted. In the event the Board of County Commissioners does not set the fee, the statute specifies the amount the sheriff is authorized to charge "for the taking of a bond or undertaking in a case." The statutorily authorized fee is \$10. However, the amount actually assessed differs from county to county.<sup>1</sup> The fee is required to be paid at the time the inmate is released. If the client does not possess the necessary cash to pay this fee at the time of release, the bail agent pays the fee. Under TJI's structure, the bail agent notifies TJI that such a fee has been paid on a client's behalf, then TJI bills the client for the fee if there is an outstanding obligation. The bail agent is reimbursed by TJI for the amount claimed.<sup>2</sup>

TJI's internal investigation was extensive. Another branch manager, Stephanie Hoagland ("Hoagland"), audited approximately 1089 of the Twin Falls office's files. Hoagland personally reviewed every file from the Twin Falls office that contained a discrepancy for the period beginning January 1, 2010 through September 2010. She discovered that out of the 314 bonds written by Eddie, twenty eight contained errors involving the amount of the jail fees actually collected by the jail or county compared to the jail fee reported and charged on documents submitted on behalf of Eddie. Two cases showed undercharges and twenty-six showed overcharges. Hoagland testified the agent pays the jail fees and then it is the agent's responsibility to enter the amount of the fees in the computer. The client is billed for the jail fee and the agent is then reimbursed by TJI for the jail fees they enter in the computer as being paid.<sup>3</sup> The record is not clear how this reimbursement occurs. In some cases the bail agent is reimbursed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> It is not clear from the Agency record whether the fees vary from county to county because county commissioners have passed a resolution deviating from the statute, or whether individual jailers may be erroneously charging fees contrary to the statute.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Following the discrepancies discovered in this case, TJI has restructured how these fees are reimbursed. The bail agent must now provide a receipt from the county showing the amount paid to the jail at the time of release before the amount is billed to the client or reimbursed to the bail agent.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Eddie argues that there is no proof in the record that he personally benefitted from the overcharges. The hearing officer found that Hoagland's testimony provided unrefuted evidence that bail agents are reimbursed for the jail fees which the agent paid. See Finding 14.

from "petty cash." In other cases, it appears that the bail agent may be reimbursed from TJI at a later date. In any event, it is undisputed that Eddie was actually reimbursed for the overcharges. The overcharges resulted in a total loss to clients of \$235. The overcharged amounts ranged from \$5 to \$10 per client.

Based upon the evidence, the Hearing Officer concluded that Eddie had committed four law violations: (1) violation of Idaho Code section 41-1016(1)(d) by misappropriating or converting monies received during an insurance transaction; (2) violation of Idaho Code section 41-1016()(h) by using fraudulent or dishonest practices or demonstrated incompetence, untrustworthiness or financial irresponsibility which was a source of injury or loss to the public; (3) violation of Idaho Code section 41-1042 by collecting money in a bail transaction not authorized by statute; and (4) violation of Idaho Code section 41-1323 by willfully collecting jail fees in excess of fees charged by the jail. The Officer's Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law were filed on September 26, 2011. Accordingly, his bail bond license was revoked and a \$1000 administrative penalty was imposed. He seeks judicial review of the Hearing Officer's decision.

#### **GOVERNING AUTHORITY**

Judicial review pursuant to the Administrative Procedures act permits reversal or modification of an Agency decision only under limited circumstances. I.C. § 67-5279(3) (d). Such circumstances include instances where an agency's findings, inferences, conclusions or decisions: (a) violate statutory or constitutional provisions; (b) exceed the agency's statutory authority; (c) are made upon unlawful procedure; (d) are not supported by substantial evidence in the record; or (e) are arbitrary, capricious, or an abuse of discretion. I.C. § 67-5279(3). Judicial review of administrative orders is confined to the record. *St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Med. Ctr., Ltd. V. Bd. Of* 

### **OPINION AND ORDER AFFIRMING LICENSE REVOCATION - 4**

*County Comm'rs of Gooding County*, 149 Idaho 584, 587, 237 P.3d 1210, 1213 (2010). The reviewing court may not substitute its judgment for that of the administrative agency on questions of fact. I.C. § 67-5279(1). The court must defer to the agency's findings of fact unless such findings are clearly erroneous. *Castaneda v. Brighton Corp.*, 130 Idaho 923, 926, 950 P.2d 1262, 1265 (1998). A reviewing court will uphold an agency's finding of fact if supported by substantial and competent evidence. *St. Luke's*, 149 Idaho at 586, 237 P.3d at 1213. It is the burden of the party contesting an administrative agency's decision to show the agency's decision was unsupportable and to establish that a substantial right has been prejudiced. *Wheeler v. Idaho Department of Health and Welfare*, 147 Idaho 257, 260, 207 P.3d 988, 991 (2009).

#### **ISSUE PRESENTED**

1. Was the hearing officer's decision supported by substantial evidence in the record as required by Idaho Code § 67-5279(3)?

#### ANALYSIS AND DECISION

# A. <u>Violation of Idaho Code Sections 41-1016(1)(d)</u>, 41-1016(1)(h), and 41-1042(1)

Eddie was found in violation of Idaho Code section 41-1016(1)(d) which prohibits "improperly withholding, misappropriating or converting any moneys or properties received in the course of doing insurance business." As noted during TJI's investigation, 28 out of 314 bonds written by Eddie contained improper charges, 26 of which were overcharges. This equated to \$235 in overcharges. According to Hoagland, Eddie was reimbursed for that amount. Clients were billed for this amount. There is no evidence in the record that Eddie made any effort to return the overage amounts to his clients or TJI. Since the money was kept as his own, Eddie improperly misappropriated client payments. Substantial and competent evidence was provided to the Hearing Officer to support such a finding.

Eddie was also found in violation of Idaho Code Section 41-1016(1)(h) which prohibits "using fraudulent, coercive or dishonest practices, or demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness or financial irresponsibility, or being a source of injury and loss to the public or others, in the conduct of business in this state or elsewhere." As noted, the evidence presented at the hearing demonstrates that 28 out of 314 bail bonds written by Eddie during the relevant period contained improper charges, 26 of which were overcharges. Certainly overcharging is a dishonest practice. The exhibits presented at hearing demonstrate that Eddie did not personally enter the incorrect jail fees into TJI's computer system. However, as Hoagland testified, "it is the responsibility of the agent who takes ownership of the file to insure that it is entered in its entirety and executed in our system." Tr. p. 47, 1.2. The hearing officer specifically found that Eddie signed as the bail agent on the three specific cases attributed to him at the hearing. "Consequently [he] knew or should have known he was legally responsible le for the misconduct of Eva (who actually entered the data) on those three cases."<sup>4</sup> Finding 17.

As a bail agent, Eddie is responsible for the actions of anyone acting on his behalf in regard to his bail transactions. *See* Idaho Code § 41-1045. Overcharging the jail fees was incompetent and caused harm to the 26 individuals who paid unnecessary fees. The Hearing Officer stated in Findings of Fact No.15 that "even if the overcharges were not intentional, they represent egregious and serious errors in record keeping

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The record is clear that Eva often entered the data in the computer on Eddie's behalf. However, even though the bonds contained Eva's typed name, in the examples giving at hearing, Eddie crossed out the typed name and signed his own, thus indicating that he was responsible for the bond.

detrimental to the clients." Sufficient evidence was provided to support a finding that

Eddie violated this statute.

The third violation found by the hearing officer involved Idaho Code section 41-1042,

which provides:

Collections and charges permitted. -

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a bail agent in any bail transaction shall not, directly or indirectly, charge or collect money or other valuable consideration from any person except for the following:

(a) To pay premiums at the rates established by the insurer;

(b) To provide collateral;

(c) To reimburse the bail agent for actual expenses incurred in connection with the bail transaction, limited to the following:

> (i) Expenditures actually and reasonably incurred to verify underwriting information or to pay for notary public fees, recording fees, or necessary long distance telephone or telegram fees; provided however, that the total of all such expenditures reimbursed shall not exceed fifty dollars; and

(ii) Travel expenses incurred more than twentyfive miles from a bail agent's place of business...

(2) Except as permitted under this section, a bail agent shall not make any charge for his service in a bail transaction and the bail agent shall fully document all expenses for which the bail agent seeks reimbursement.

The Hearing Officer found that Eddie was in violation of this statute since he had collected money not expressly permitted by the statute. Eddie caused fees that were never rightfully incurred to be charged to clients. Charging these fees is a violation of the statute. While Eddie may not have personally charged the clients by actually entering data into the computer, the law is clear that his is personally responsible for anyone acting on his behalf in regards to bail transactions. See I.C. § 41-1045. Furthermore, the statute specifically prohibits "directly or indirectly" charging the client

any fee that is not expressly permitted. Sufficient evidence was presented to show that the overcharges were billed to and collected from clients. Sufficient evidence was also presented showing the charges were made to clients for which Eddie had signed a bond receipt, ultimately making the transactions his responsibility. This evidence is substantial and supports a finding of a violation of this statute.

Nevertheless, Eddie argues that these violations are not supported by substantial evidence since there is no evidence in the record to show that he acted willfully or intentionally. He argues that the incorrect charges were mistakes which should be excused since the jail fee system differs in each county. While the evidence does show that the fees could vary, none of the three statutes discussed above requires any intent, willfulness, or knowledge. Eddie argues that the computer system and other employees' actions contributed to the errors, which may also be true. However, the Idaho Code states that "the bail agent is responsible for the actions of the bail agent's employees, contractors and agents acting on the bail agent's behalf in relation to bail transactions and matters arising out of bail transactions." I.C. § 41-1045. Since Eddie holds the bail agent license, he is ultimately responsible for any actions taken on bonds he has written. His argument that another employee entered some of the data in the computer does not absolve him of liability under any of these three statutes. Therefore, the mistakes of others or complications of the system fail to provide a defense to his actions.

Substantial evidence was presented to show that Ramirez did in fact overcharge clients in 26 cases, causing his clients to be billed and him to be reimbursed for money which was never actually paid out, \$235 in total, acts which violate Idaho Code sections

41-1016(d)(1), 41-1016(1)(h), and 41-1042(1). The Hearing Officer's decision to revoke Ramirez's license and impose a fine based on these three violations is supported by substantial and competent evidence and is upheld.

#### B. Violation of Idaho Code Section 41-1323

Eddie was found in violation of Idaho Code section 41-1323(2). It reads in part, "No person shall willfully collect as a premium or charge for insurance any sum in excess of the premium or charge applicable to such insurance, and as specified in the policy, in accordance with the applicable classifications and rates as filed with and approved by the director." I.C. § 41-1323(2). The term willful is not defined in Title 41, chapter 13. The Department argues it should be defined as an act "when done on purpose. One can act willfully without intending to violate the law, to injure another, or to acquire any advantage." See I.C. §18-101(1) Specifically, the Department does not contend that willful means to act "with specific intent."

Eddie argues that his mistakes cannot be a willful violation. First, he argues that other employees were usually responsible for entering the fees into the computer system, known as BMA. He also argues that there is no evidence of willfulness because in addition to overcharging clients, there are also instances where clients were undercharged. He argues this undermines the theory that he was conspiring to defraud clients or "steal" money. He asserts that there is no evidence that he directly overcharged clients. The hearing officer agreed with this argument but nevertheless concluded that the overcharges were intentional. There is no explanation in the Hearing Officer's findings explaining how Eddie intentionally overcharged approximately 10% of his cases. There is evidence that someone at TJI posted these overcharges, but the

### **OPINION AND ORDER AFFIRMING LICENSE REVOCATION - 9**

record is devoid of evidence that Eddie either created the entries into the computer system or conspired with someone to do so. The finding that "they represent egregious and serious errors in record keeping detrimental to the clients" does not equate with either intentional or willful conduct. The hearing officer's findings regarding this code section are not supported by substantial evidence and must be set aside.

#### CONCLUSION

Eddie has failed to demonstrate that the Hearing Officer's decision was unsupported by substantial evidence as to code sections 41-1016(1)(d), (1)(h) or 41-1042. This Court finds that the Hearing Officer's Conclusions of Law, finding these violations, are supported by substantial and competent evidence and the decision of the Administrative Hearing Officer is AFFIRMED as to those counts. However there is not substantial evidence to support a finding of a violation of Idaho Code §41-1323 and the Order regarding this count is therefore REVERSED. Nevertheless, a finding of violation under any of the first three counts is sufficient to support a revocation of Eddie's bail bond license and a \$1000 administrative penalty, and therefore this aspect of the underlying Order is AFFIRMED.

DATED thisday of May, 2012.
AMAG
Randy J. Støker District Judge

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 30 day of May, 2012, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the foregoing, by the method indicated below, and addressed to the following:

Anthony Valdez 2217 Addison Avenue East Twin Falls, Idaho 83301 ( ) U.S. Mail
( ) Hand delivered
( ) Faxed
( ) Court Folder

Richard B. Burleigh Deputy Attorney General State Of Idaho, Department of Insurance 700 W. State Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor PO Box 83720 Boise, Idaho 83720-0043 ✓ U.S. Mail
 ( ) Hand delivered
 ( ) Faxed
 ( ) Court Folder

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JEAN R. URANGA Hearing Officer 714 North 5th Street P.O. Box 1678 Boise, Idaho 83701 Telephone: (208) 342-8931 Facsimile: (208) 384-5686 Idaho State Bar No. 1763



SEP 2 7 2011

Department of Insurance State of Idaho

#### BEFORE THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

STATE OF IDAHO

In the Matter of:	)
	)
HERIBERTO P. RAMIREZ,	
Resident Bail Agent License	
No. 133154,	

Docket No. 18-2668-11

HEARING OFFICER'S FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND PRELIMINARY ORDER

This matter came on for hearing before the designated Hearing Officer, Jean R. Uranga, on June 13, 2011. Eva L. Ramirez appeared by and through her attorney of record, Douglas Nelson, and the Department of Insurance appeared in person and by and through its Deputy Attorney General, Richard Burleigh. The evidentiary hearing was consolidated with the case involving Heriberto "Eddie" Ramirez, who also appeared in person and by an through his attorney of record, Anthony Valdez. Following the evidentiary hearing a briefing schedule was established. The Department's Final Reply Brief was received August 22, 2011.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Eva L. Ramirez and Heriberto Ramirez, also known as Eddie, are husband and wife. Eva Ramirez was a bail agent and the manager of the Aladdin Bail Bond office, owned by Two Jinn, Inc., in Twin Falls, Idaho. Eddie worked as a part-time bail agent. Eva was issued License No. 123421 on May 18, 2055. Eddie was issued License No. 133154 on January 1, 2006.

Roger Hayes testified he is the Director of Business 2. Development for Two Jinn, Inc. Two Jinn received information from an Aladdin employee regarding alleged irregularities in the operation of the bail bond business by Eva and Eddie Ramirez. Two Jinn initiated an internal investigation, including speaking to involved employees and obtaining sample files. The concerns included allegations that there was a problem with the jail fees being charged to clients and that Eddie was getting credit for bonds written by Eva. Many of the bonds credited to Eddie showed he was working another job on the days some bonds were written. Eva and Eddie were terminated by Two Jinn for poor record keeping and falsifying time records. Eva and Eddie were fired September 2, 2010.

3. As part of their investigation, Two Jinn had Stephanie Hoagland, the Branch Manager for their Boise office, audit the bond files written out of Two Jinn, Inc.'s Twin Falls office. Ms. Hoagland reviewed approximately 1089 files covering January 1, 2010, to late September, 2010 and found that, in several cases, jail fees were incorrectly charged to clients. Ms. Hoagland checked with the respective counties to determine what jail fees were actually collected by the counties for each bond and checked the bond files to determine what fees were charged to the client. She found multiple discrepancies. Ms. Hoagland testified the agent pays the jail fees and then it is the agent's responsibility to enter the amount of the fees in the computer. The client is billed for the jail fees and the agent is then reimbursed by Two Jinn for the jail fees they enter in the computer as being paid. Each county has different amounts for jail fees.

4. Exhibit 1, prepared by Don Jackson, an internal auditor for Two Jinn, is a summary of Two Jinn's audit findings. They found that, with respect to the 348 bonds written by Eva Ramirez, Eva had forty-one cases with errors in the amount of the jail fees actually collected by the county and the jail fee reported and charged by Eva. Three cases were undercharges and thirty-eight were overcharges. This resulted in overcharges to clients in thirty-eight cases in the total amount of \$605. The overcharges were amounts ranging from \$5 to \$85 with most being in the range of \$10 per client.

5. With respect to 314 bonds written in the name of Eddie Ramirez, there were errors in the amount actually paid to the county and the amount reported and charged to the client in twentyeight cases. Two of these cases were undercharges and twenty-six were overcharges. The overcharges to clients were in the total amount of \$235. In Eddie's cases, the overcharges were in the

HEARING OFFICER'S FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND PRELIMINARY ORDER - 3 range of \$5 to \$10.

6. Dale Freeman, an investigator with the Department of Insurance, selected six (6) files to be used as representative exhibits.

7. Exhibit 2 is a bond file for Fred Crist. Ms. Hoagland's audit shows that Gooding County was paid \$25 for jail fees, but Eva Ramirez reported jails fees of \$30 which was then the amount charged to the client for "jail fees". (Pages 15 and 16.) A receipt signed by Eva shows receipt from the client of a check for \$100 on August 2, 2010, for two bond fees of \$35 each and \$30 for jail fee. (Page 32.) Eddie was credited for this bond, but Eva signed the client receipt and entered the jail fee and bond information into the computer. The typed agent name on the Bond Receipts is Eva, but Eddie's name was added in handwriting. (Pages 33 and 34.)

8. Exhibit 3 is the bond file related to Sophia Garza. Page 38 shows that Eva Ramirez made the computer entry which claimed the "jail fee" was \$20. Page 62 is a receipt from the county which shows that, in fact, only \$10 was paid for the jail fee. Two Jinn refunded the \$10 difference to the client. (Page 40.) Eddie was credited with and signed this bond, but Eva's name also appears on the bond as the bail agent. (Page 65.)

9. Exhibit 4 is the bail file for Ajbin Hadzialijagic. The Court repository page found at Page 69 of Exhibit 4 shows that jail fees were paid by Aladdin Bail Bonds in amount of \$10 cash on July 7, 2010. Page 71 indicates the client was charged \$20 for the jail HEARING OFFICER'S FINDINGS OF FACT,

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND PRELIMINARY ORDER - 4

fee. Page 96 indicates Eva Ramirez was the bond agent on this bond, but Eddie signed and was credited for this bond.

Exhibit 7 is the bail file for Ramiro Banuelos. Page 110 10. indicates the Twin Falls County Court issued a receipt to Aladdin Bail Bonds on January 28, 2010, for \$10 cash for the "Sheriff's Fees" on one case and Page 111 is a receipt on January 28, 2010, for \$10 cash payment for the "Sheriff's Fees" on another case. Total jail fees paid was \$20. Page 112 indicates the client was charged \$25 for these fees. The repository pages for the two criminal cases shows the payment of \$10 in each of the two cases for a total of \$20 for Sheriff's fees. (Pages 113 and 114.) Pages 119 and 120 indicate this bond was written by Eva Ramirez. Eva provided a receipt for this client for a cash payment on January 28, 2010, which included \$25 for these Sheriff's Fees. (Pages 129 and 131.)

11. Exhibit 8 is the bail file related to Briana Carey. The Court repository records in this case found at Page 137 shows the payment of \$10 cash by Aladdin for Sheriff's Fees on June 15, 2010. Page 138 shows the client was charged by Eva Ramirez \$20 in "Jail Fees". Page 140 indicates this bond was written by Eva Ramirez. The client was charged \$20 for those jail fees. (Page 151.)

12. Exhibit 9 is the bail file for Jacob Duncan. The Court repository record shows \$10 in cash was received from Aladdin as payment of "Sheriff's Fees" at Page 156. Page 157 shows that Eva Ramirez entered information in the computer and charged the client \$20 for "Jail Fees". Page 159 shows this bond was written by Eva

HEARING OFFICER'S FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND PRELIMINARY ORDER - 5 Ramirez. The client was charged \$20 for those fees. (Page 168.)

13. On October 11, 2010, the attorney for Two Jinn, Inc., Scott McKay notified the Department of Insurance of the termination of Eva and Eddie and irregularities in Eva and Eddie's charges. (Exhibit 6.) Additional followup information was provided by Scott McKay to the Department on December 9, 2010. (Exhibit 5.)

14. Eva and Eddie argue there is no proof they personally benefitted from the overcharges. However, Stephanie Hoagland's unrefuted evidence establishes bail agents are reimbursed for the jail fees which the agent has paid.

15. Eva and Eddie further argue these were merely clerical errors and there were some undercharges. There were overcharges in approximately 10% of the cases and undercharges in less than 1%. The evidence establishes the jail fees were paid and computer entries made and payments received from clients the same day. The evidence establishes the overcharges were intentional. Even if the overcharges were not intentional, they represent egregious and serious errors in record keeping detrimental to the clients.

16. The evidence establishes that Eva Ramirez improperly overcharged clients for jail fees and received personal reimbursement for those overcharges.

17. Eddie correctly argues that no evidence was presented to establish that he directly overcharged jail fees to clients or ever entered jail fees into the computer. However, the evidence clearly establishes he signed as the bail agent on the three specific cases attributable to him. Consequently, knew or should have known he was legally responsible for the misconduct of Eva on those three cases.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

18. A bail agent is responsible for maintaining complete records of any charges collected as part of a bail transaction. Idaho Code §41-1041(2).

19. Pursuant to Idaho Code §41-1045, a bail agent is responsible for the actions of others acting on his behalf.

20. Respondent violated Idaho Code §41-1016(1)(d) by misappropriating or converting monies received during an insurance transaction.

21. Respondent violated Idaho Code §41-1016(1)(h) by using fraudulent or dishonest practices or demonstrated incompetence, untrustworthiness or financial irresponsibility which was a source of injury or loss to the public.

22. Respondent violated Idaho Code §41-1042 by collecting money in a bail transaction not authorized by statute.

23. Respondent violated Idaho Code §41-1323 by wilfully collecting jail fees in excess of fees charged by the jail.

24. Respondent's violations provide grounds to revoke Respondent's Resident Bail Agent License and impose a \$1,000 fine. Idaho Code §§41-1016(1) and 41-117.

#### PRELIMINARY ORDER

Based upon the foregoing, the Hearing Officer orders that the bail bond license of Heriberto Ramirez be REVOKED and a \$1,000 administrative penalty imposed.

DATED This Duday of September, 2011.

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JEAN R. URANGA

Hearing Officer

#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY That on this day of September, 2011, I served true and correct copies of the foregoing HEARING OFFICER'S FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND PRELIMINARY ORDER by depositing copies thereof in the United States mail, postage prepaid, in envelopes addressed to:

> Anthony M. Valdez Attorney at Law Valdez Law Office, PLLC 2217 Addison Avenue East Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

Richard B. Burleigh Deputy Attorney General Idaho State Department of Insurance 700 W. State Street, 3rd Floor Boise, Idaho 83720-0043

JEAN R. URANGA