

BEFORE THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE STATE OF IDAHO

In the Matter of:

BOUNDARY ABSTRACT CO, LTD [Boundary County]

Idaho Title Agency License No. 5581

Docket No. 18-3848-20

ORDER ADOPTING REPORT OF EXCEPTION EXAMINATION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2019

The State of Idaho, Department of Insurance ("Department"), having conducted an examination of the affairs, transactions, assets, tract indexes, abstract records, and any other records of BOUNDARY ABSTRACT CO, LTD ("BOUNDARY") to ascertain compliance with title 41, Idaho Code, and related rules, pursuant to Idaho Code §§ 41-2710(7) and 41-219(1) and (5), hereby alleges the following facts that constitute a basis for issuance of an order, pursuant to Idaho Code § 41-227(5)(a), adopting the Report of Exception Examination for the Period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2019 of Boundary Abstract Co, LTD, as of December 31, 2019 ("Report"), as filed.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. BOUNDARY is a title agency licensed by the Department to transact title insurance in Boundary County, Idaho, under Title Agency License No. 5581.

- 2. The Department completed an examination of BOUNDARY, pursuant to Idaho Code §§ 41-2710(7) and 41-219(1) and (5) on or about September 3, 2020. The Department's findings are set forth in the Report.
- 3. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 41-227(4), a copy of the Report was filed with the Department on September 3, 2020, and was transmitted to BOUNDARY on September 3, 2020. A copy of the Report is attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- 4. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 41-2710(7), BOUNDARY had twenty-eight (28) days from service of the Report within which to review, comment, or request a hearing on the Report.
- 5. On or about September 15, 2020, the Department received a Waiver from BOUNDARY signed by Sharlene Delaney, its president. By execution of such Waiver, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit B, BOUNDARY consented to the immediate entry of a final order by the Director of the Department ("Director") adopting the Report without any modifications; waived its right to make a written submission or rebuttal to the Report; and waived its right to request a hearing and to seek reconsideration or appeal from the Director's final order.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 6. Idaho Code § 41-227(5) provides that, after expiration of "the period allowed for the receipt of written submissions or rebuttals, the Director shall fully consider and review the report, together with any written submissions or rebuttals and relevant portions of the examiner's work papers" and shall enter an order adopting the report of examination as filed or with modifications or corrections, rejecting the report and reopening the examination, or calling for an investigatory hearing.
- 7. Having fully considered the Report, the Director concludes that, with regard to the matters examined and information provided by BOUNDARY, the comments, findings, and

recommendations contained in the Report are appropriate and are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, based on the foregoing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Report of Exception Examination for the Period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2019 of Boundary Abstract Co, LTD, as of December 31, 2019, is hereby ADOPTED as filed, pursuant to Idaho Code § 41-227(5)(a).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, pursuant to Idaho Code §§ 41-2710(7) and 41-227(8), that the adopted Report is a public record and shall not be subject to the exemptions from disclosure provided in chapter 1, title 74, Idaho Code.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, pursuant to Idaho Code § 41-227(6)(a), that, within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the adopted Report, BOUNDARY shall file with the Department's Examiner Title & Market Insurance Specialist affidavits executed by each of its directors or, if none, its principal officers, stating under oath that they have received a copy of the adopted Report and related orders.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED and EFFECTIVE this day of 7, 2020.

STATE OF IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

DEAN L. CAMERON

Director

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS

This is a final order of the agency. Any party may file a motion for reconsideration of this final order within fourteen (14) days of the service date of this order. The agency will dispose of the motion for reconsideration within twenty-one (21) days of its receipt, or the motion will be considered denied by operation of law. See Idaho Code § 67-5246(4).

Any such motion for reconsideration shall be served on the Director of the Idaho Department of Insurance, addressed as follows:

Dean L. Cameron, Director Idaho Department of Insurance 700 W. State Street, 3rd Floor P.O. Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0043

Pursuant to Idaho Code §§ 67-5270 and 67-5272, any party aggrieved by this final order or orders previously issued in this case may file a petition for judicial review in the district court of the county in which:

- i. A hearing was held;
- ii. The final agency action was taken;
- iii. The party seeking review of the order resides, or operates its principal place of business in Idaho; or
- iv. The real property or personal property that was the subject of the agency action is located.

A petition for judicial review must be filed within twenty-eight (28) days of: (a) the service date of this final order, (b) the service of an order denying motion for reconsideration, or (c) the failure within twenty-one (21) days to grant or deny a motion for reconsideration, whichever is later. See Idaho Code § 67-5273. The filing of a petition for judicial review does not itself stay the effectiveness or enforcement of the order under appeal. Idaho Code § 67-5274.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that, on this and correct copy of the foregoing EXAMINATION AS OF DECEMBER designated means:	ORDER AD	OPTING REP	ORT OF EXCEPTION
Boundary Abstract Co, LTD P.O. Box 749 Bonners Ferry, ID 83805-0749			☐ first class mail ☐ certified mail ☐ email
Edith L. Pacillo Lead Deputy Attorney General Idaho Department of Insurance P.O. Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0043 edith.pacillo@doi.idaho.gov			☐ first class mail ☐ certified mail ☑ email
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REPORT OF EXCEPTION EXAMINATION For the Period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2019

Of

BOUNDARY ABSTRACT COMPANY, LTD. (A title agent corporation - license #5581 – Boundary County)

As of

December 31, 2019



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CONCI	USION

Boise, Idaho September 2, 2020

The Honorable Dean L. Cameron Director of the Idaho Department of Insurance 700 West State Street Boise, Idaho 83720

Sir:

Pursuant to your instructions and in conformity with Idaho Code §§ 41-219, 41-220, and 41-2713, an examination has been made of the administrative affairs, books, records and financial condition of;

Boundary Abstract Company, LTD 6977 Main Street Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805 License #5581 – Boundary County

Hereinafter referred to as the "Agent".

The following Report of Exception Examination is respectfully submitted.

FOREWORD

This is an exception examination report of the practices and procedures of Boundary Abstract Company, LTD an Idaho Title Agent licensed in Boundary County. However, failure to identify or criticize specific products, procedures or files does not constitute approval thereof by the Idaho Department of Insurance (the Department).

The examination was conducted remotely from the offices of the Department located at 700 West State Street, 3rd Floor in Boise, Idaho. In performing this examination, the examiner(s) reviewed a sample of the agent's procedures, files, and documentation. Some noncompliant practices may not have been discovered during this examination. As such, this report may not fully reflect all of the procedures and practices of the Agent.

During the examination, the examiner(s) may cite violations made by the Agent. Statutory citations are as of the period under examination unless otherwise noted. The goal of the examination team was to produce an examination report that reflects agreement in content with the agent. The report indicates where agreement was not possible.

The final examination report documents consist of the examiners' report, the Agent's response, and any administrative actions based on the findings of the Idaho Department of Insurance.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF EXAMINATION

The purpose of this examination is to determine compliance with applicable Idaho Statutes, Idaho Department of Insurance regulations, and promulgated rules issued by the Department. In addition, examiners may have documented practices and procedures that did not appear to be in the best interest of Idaho insurance consumers.

The period covered by this examination is January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019. Specific areas examined include operations/management, claims, advertising and marketing, title file review and escrow fiduciary account and file review.

The authority of the Idaho Department of Insurance to perform this examination includes, but is not limited to, Idaho Code §41-2710(7), which grants authority to the Idaho Department of Insurance to regular examination of the tract indexes, abstract records, and any other records to ascertain compliance with title 41, Idaho Code, and related rules, of a title agent not more than every fifth year, unless the agent otherwise requests or the director has cause to believe the same does not comply with this chapter or the rules thereunder.

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

Boundary Abstract Company, LTD was incorporated on April 5, 1915. The first recorded annual statement on file with the Idaho Secretary of State shows that in 1987 Peter B. Wilson was the Registered Agent and President and Rhonda H. Wilson was the Secretary. In July of 2002, there was a change in corporate officers. Timothy B. Wilson became President and Treasurer and Tina G. Wilson became Vice-President and Secretary. In January of 2012, the business was purchased by the current owner, Sharlene Delaney.

PRIOR EXAMINATION

Our examination included a review to determine if exceptions were noted and addressed in the prior November 3, 2017 examination. No exceptions were noted in that examination. No exceptions were noted as a result of this portion of the examination.

PRIOR ESCROW AUDITS

Our examination included a review to determine if exceptions were noted and addressed in the October 11, 2017 escrow audit completed by Mr. Melvin D. Maisey with Fidelity National Financial which covered the period July 1, 2014 through August 31, 2017. No exceptions were noted in that audit. No exceptions were noted as a result of this portion of the examination.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

I. OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

The examination included a review of the agent's operations and management. The focus of this section of the examination includes review of management and control, contracting authority, surety bond, claims, and financial interests of the title entity management and ownership.

A. MANAGEMENT, CONTROL AND FINANCIAL INTERESTS IDAPA 18.05.02.006, 007 & 008

As of May 28, 2019, the Idaho Secretary of State lists Sharlene Delaney as the current Registered Agent, President and Treasurer. John L. Delaney is the Vice President. No exceptions were noted as a result of this portion of the examination.

B. <u>CONTRACTING AUTHORITY</u> Idaho Code § 41-2710(2)

This agent has an underwriting contract with Commonwealth Land Title Insurance Company. The underwriting contract require a high liability approval of \$1,000,000.00 with a \$5,000 deductible for loss. No exceptions were noted as a result of this portion of the examination.

C. SURETY BOND

Idaho Code §§ 41-2710(6), 2711 IDAPA 18.05.01.011.07 & 08

The Idaho Department of Insurance has on file surety bond #34BSBA01304 in the amount of \$50,000.00 issued by The Hartford Fire Insurance Company on behalf of the agent. We confirmed during the examination that this bond is currently active. No exceptions were noted as a result of this portion of the examination.

D. CLAIMS

Idaho Code § 41-2708(1) & (2)

The agent reported no claims during the examination period. There does not appear to be any problems with the title plant. No exceptions were noted as a result of this portion of the examination.

II. ADVERTISING AND MARKETING

Idaho Code § 41-2708(3) & (4) IDAPA 18.05.03

The examination included a review of the agent's marketing and sales practices. A general ledger for each year under examination for all accounts involving contributions, donations, sales expenses, travel and meal expenses, Title agent/staff function expenses, as well as samples of listing packages or property profiles were requested and received. After a cursory review of the general ledgers, samples were picked within our examination parameters. Supporting documents for the samples were requested, received, and reviewed. No exceptions were noted as a result of this portion of the examination.

III. <u>TITLE FILE REVIEW</u>

Idaho Code §§ 41-2702, 2708 & 2709 IDAPA 18.05.02 004 & 005, Exhibit 1(9)

The title department is managed by Sharlene Delaney and consists of her and one (1) title officer. This location owns its title plant. A sample of title files were reviewed within the parameters of our examination for the rates charged, the correct insured amount of the owner's and mortgagee's policies, proper countersignatures, double sales, proper use of the Standards of Liability and liens and encumbrance rules, cancellation fees, and unique kind or class of risk. No exceptions were noted as a result of this portion of the examination.

IV. ESCROW FIDUCIARY ACCOUNTS AND FILE REVIEW

The Title Agent's Escrow Department is managed by Sharlene Delaney and is comprised of her and one (1) escrow assistant.

A. <u>FIDUCIARY ACCOUNTS</u> IDAPA 18.05.02.011.04, 05 & 09

This examination included a review of the fiduciary accounts utilized during the examination period. The accounts were reviewed for correct labeling, separation from operating funds, reconciliation and negative balances. The accounts are balanced daily and reconciled on a monthly basis by US ProServ. Monthly reconciliations are reviewed by Sharlene Delaney. No exceptions were noted as a result of this portion of the examination.

B. <u>ESCROW FILE REVIEW</u> Idaho Code § 41-2705(3) IDAPA 18.05.02.011 & 12

A sample of the escrow files were reviewed within the parameters of our examination for adequate written instructions conformity to the written instructions, rates charged as filed, signed settlement statements, receipt and disbursement ledgers, evidence of receipts and disbursements made, file overdrafts and business interests of escrow officers. No exceptions were noted as a result of this portion of the examination.

CONCLUSION

I certify and attest that I have examined the Title Agent's tract indexes, abstract records, as well as other records, and the operation of the Title Agent's business and other matters relevant to the affairs of the Title Agent. I further certify that I have no relationship, other than in my capacity as examiner and/or regulator, with the Title Agent or its employees and that no conflict of interest exists that would prevent me from conducting the examination. I acknowledge the assistance and cooperation of the Title Agent's employees during the examination. Based on my examination, I prepared this Examiner's Report of Exceptions (the "Report") in accordance with Idaho Code § 41-2710(7). I confirm that the findings, conclusions, and recommendations contained in this report are my own.

Respectfully submitted,

James Scanlon, MCM

Examiner Title and Market Insurance Specialist

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this _____ day of September, 2020.

AMANDA HEBERT
NOTARY PUBLIC
State of Idaho
Commission No. 20180740
My Commission Expires: 4/25/2024

Re

Notary Public for Idaho

Residing at: 100 Stakest Borse Id 83720

Commission Expires: 4-25 2024

State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

BRAD LITTLE Governor 700 West State Street, 3rd Floor
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720M0043
Phone (208)334-4250
FAX# (208)334-4398

DEAN L CAMERON Director

WAIVER

In the matter of the Report of Examinations as of December 31, 2019, of:

Boundary Abstract Company, LTD 6977 Main Street Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805 License #5581 – Boundary County

By executing this Waiver, the Agent hereby acknowledges receipt of the above-described examination report, verified as of the 3rd day of September 2020, and by this Waiver hereby consents to the immediate entry of a final order by the Director of the Department of insurance adopting said report without any modifications.

By executing this Waiver, the Company also hereby waives:

- 1. its right to examine the report for up to thirty (28) days as provided in Idaho Code section 41-2710(7),
- 2. its right to make additional written submissions or rebuttals to the report prior to entry of a final order as provided in Idaho Code section 41-2710(7) and,
- 3. any right to request a hearing under Idaho Code sections 41-227(5) and (6), 41-232(2)(b), or elsewhere in the Idaho Code, and
- 4. any right to seek reconsideration and appeal from the Director's order adopting the report as provided by section 41-227(6), Idaho Code, or elsewhere in the Idaho Code.

Dated this 15h day of September, 2020

BOUNDARY ABSTRACT COMPANY, LTD

Name (print)

Name (signature)

Title

EXHIBIT

B