

BEFORE THE DIVISION OF INSURANCE
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND REGULATION
STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF
CARLOS MERIDA

)
)

CONSENT ORDER

In resolution of the above matter and in lieu of issuance of a Notice of Hearing and a formal hearing, the undersigned parties do hereby agree to the following:

CARLOS MERIDA, whose address of record is 13465 SW HWY 484, Dunnellon, FL 34432, is an applicant for a nonresident producer license in the State of South Dakota;

CARLOS MERIDA is aware the South Dakota Division of Insurance ("Division") has conducted an investigation;

The Division alleges the following with regard to CARLOS MERIDA:

- 1) CARLOS MERIDA submitted a nonresident insurance producer application on April 15, 2020;
- 2) CARLOS MERIDA answered "No" to the question concerning administrative actions, in violation of SDCL §§ 58-30-167(1) and (8);
- 3) CARLOS MERIDA failed to provide the necessary documentation with his initial application, in violation of SDCL § 58-30-167(1);
- 4) CARLOS MERIDA was subject to administrative actions in the states of Florida in 2008 and New York in 1990;
- 5) The Division wrote to CARLOS MERIDA on April 21, 2020; May 8, 2020; May 29, 2020; and June 11, 2020 to request documentation relating to CARLOS MERIDA's administrative actions;
- 6) CARLOS MERIDA responded to the Division on May 5, 2020; June 4, 2020; June 11, 2020; and July 8, 2020 with the majority of the documentation requested by the Division;
- 7) CARLOS MERIDA failed to provide 2 documents requested by the Division, in violation of SDCL § 58-30-167(1);
- 8) Pursuant to SDCL §§ 58-30-167(1), (2) & (8), the Director of Division may deny CARLOS MERIDA's application for any of the above-cited reasons.

CARLOS MERIDA is aware of and understands the nature of the allegations and has been informed that he has the right to a Notice of Hearing, counsel and appeal and that by agreeing to sign this Consent Order, waives these rights;

In return for CARLOS MERIDA agreeing to and complying with the provisions of this Consent Order, the Division agrees not to proceed with the denial of CARLOS MERIDA's application and subsequent administrative hearing and agrees that this Consent Order will constitute an informal and complete disposition of this licensing matter and the prior period of non-registration pursuant to SDCL § 1-26-20;

CARLOS MERIDA agrees to pay \$500 pursuant to SDCL §§ 58-30-167(1), (2), and 58-4-28.1, in lieu of an application denial, administrative hearing, and Final Decision;

CARLOS MERIDA further agrees to conduct himself in accordance with the insurance laws and regulations of the State of South Dakota;

CARLOS MERIDA further agrees that this Consent Order may be considered for the purpose of determining the appropriate sanction in any future actions with the Division for any violations of the laws or regulations of the State of South Dakota or for failing to abide by any order of the Director;

CARLOS MERIDA waives his right to contest the allegations contained in this Consent Order in any future actions or licensing procedures;

Wherefore, good cause appearing from the foregoing, it is hereby ORDERED that CARLOS MERIDA pay a monetary penalty in the amount of \$500 payable to "South Dakota Division of Insurance" for deposit in the general fund of the State of South Dakota; and it is further

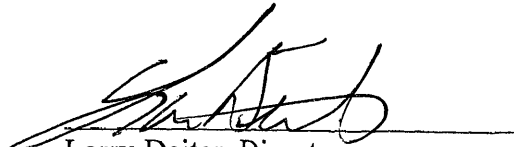
ORDERED that CARLOS MERIDA abide by the agreements made by her in this Consent Order; and it is further

ORDERED that the nonresident insurance producer application from CARLOS MERIDA as amended to date is approved for licensure as of the effective date of this Consent Order; and it is further

ORDERED that the use of this Consent Order for competitive purposes by an insurance agent or third-party administrator holding a license in the State of South Dakota, or by any company holding a Certificate of Authority, or by anyone on their behalf, may be deemed unfair competition and be grounds for suspension or revocation of said license or authority; and it is further

ORDERED that the provisions of this Consent Order shall be effective from the date the Director signs this Order.

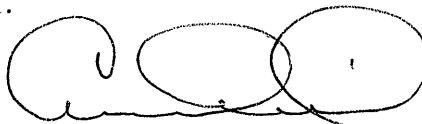
Dated at Pierre, South Dakota this 20th day of JANUARY, 2021.


Larry Deiter, Director
South Dakota Division of Insurance

[SIGNATURE ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

I have read and understand the terms of this Consent Order and the waiver of my due process rights and voluntarily enter into this Consent Order.

Dated this 11 day of January, 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

Signature

CARLOS A. MERINO

Printed Name