## No. 2024-8557

### Official Order of the Texas Commissioner of Insurance

### Date: 2/29/2024

### **Subject Considered:**

Yoakum County Title, LLC PO Box 266 Plains, Texas 79355-0266

Consent Order TDI Enforcement File No. 33760

### General remarks and official action taken:

This is a consent order with Yoakum County Title, LLC (Yoakum County Title). The Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) alleges that Yoakum County Title has failed to file an annual trust fund account audit report. Yoakum County Title has agreed to pay a \$25,000 administrative penalty for these violations.

### Waiver

Yoakum County Title acknowledges that the Texas Insurance Code and other applicable law provide certain rights. Yoakum County Title waives all of these rights, and any other applicable procedural rights, in consideration of the entry of this consent order.

### **Findings of Fact**

1. Yoakum County Title, firm identification number 112581, holds a title agency insurance license issued by the TDI.

# 2024-8557

Commissioner's Order Yoakum County Title, LLC Page 2 of 4

- 2. Title agencies are required to file with TDI an annual trust fund account audit report prepared by a certified public accountant. The report is due before the 91st day after the end of the agency's fiscal year.
- 3. Yoakum County Title's fiscal year ends on March 31st.
- 4. Yoakum County Title's annual trust fund account audit report is due on June 30th.
- 5. Yoakum County Title has not submitted annual trust fund account audit report for the year 2023.
- 6. On July 17, 2023, August 16, 2023, and September 18, 2023, warning letters were sent to Yoakum County Title advising it that the violation could result in disciplinary action and the imposition of sanctions pursuant to TEX. INS. CODE §§ 82.051-82.055, 84.021, and 84.022..
- 7. The commissioner previously disciplined Yoakum County Title for violating TEX. INS. CODE § 2651.151 in Official Order No. 2017-5318, entered on December 20, 2017, for failing to timely submit the 2016 annual trust fund account audit report, and in Official Order No. 2022-7537, entered on September 30, 2022, for failing to timely submit the annual trust fund account audit reports for the years 2020, 2021, and 2022.

### **Conclusions of Law**

- 1. The commissioner has jurisdiction over this matter under TEX. INS. CODE §§ 82.051–82.055, 84.021–84.044, 2551.001, 2551.003, 2651.151-2651.157, and 4005.102-4005.104; and TEX. GOV'T CODE §§ 2001.051-2001.178.
- 2. The commissioner has the authority to informally dispose of this matter as set forth in TEX. GOV'T CODE § 2001.056; TEX. INS. CODE § 36.104 and 82.055; and 28 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 1.47.
- 3. Yoakum County Title has knowingly and voluntarily waived all procedural rights to which it has been entitled regarding the entry of this order, including, but not limited to, issuance and service of notice of intention to institute disciplinary action, notice of hearing, a public hearing, a proposal for decision, rehearing by the commissioner, and judicial review.

## 2024-8557

Commissioner's Order Yoakum County Title, LLC Page 3 of 4

4. Yoakum County Title violated TEX. INS. CODE § 2651.151-2651.157 by failing to timely submit an annual trust fund account audit report.

### Order

It is ordered that Yoakum County Title pay an administrative penalty of \$25,000 within 30 days from the date of this order. The administrative penalty must be paid as instructed in the invoice, which TDI will send after entry of this order.

It is ordered that Yoakum County Title submit the annual trust fund account audit reports to TDI for the year 2023 within 30 days from the date of this order.

It is ordered that Yoakum County Title must send all submissions required under the terms of this order by email to: EnforcementReports@tdi.texas.gov and TitleExaminations@tdi.texas.gov.

DocuSigned by: mour C5D7EDDFFBB4F8

Cassie Brown Commissioner of Insurance

Recommended and reviewed by:

Leah Gillum, Deputy Commissioner Fraud and Enforcement Division

Sydney Moore, Staff Attorney Enforcement

## 2024-8557

Commissioner's Order Yoakum County Title, LLC Page 4 of 4

#### Affidavit

STATE OF TEXAS § § COUNTY OF YOAKUM 5

Before me, the undersigned authority, personally appeared <u>Jim Boulter</u> who being by me duly sworn, deposed as follows:

"My name is <u>Jim Boulter</u>. I am of sound mind, capable of making this statement, and have personal knowledge of these facts which are true and correct.

I hold the office of **Escrow** Officer and am the authorized representative of Yoakum County Title, LLC. I am duly authorized by said organization to execute this statement.

Yoakum County Title, LLC has knowingly and voluntarily entered into the foregoing consent order and agrees with and consents to the issuance and service of the same by the commissioner of insurance of the state of Texas."

Affiant

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me on <u>February 13</u>, 2024.

(NOTARY SEAL)



Signature of Notary Public

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Printed Name of Notary Public

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