

4638

No. _____

**OFFICIAL ORDER
of the
TEXAS COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE**

Date: AUG 30 2016

Subject Considered:

LONE STAR TITLE COMPANY OF EL PASO, INC.
6701 N. Mesa
El Paso, Texas 79912

CONSENT ORDER
TDI ENFORCEMENT FILE NO. 10981

General remarks and official action taken:

The commissioner of insurance considers whether disciplinary action should be taken against Lone Star Title Company of El Paso, Inc., of Texas, which holds a title agency license issued by the Texas Department of Insurance.

Waiver

Lone Star Title Company of El Paso, Inc. acknowledges that the Texas Insurance Code and other applicable laws provide certain rights. Lone Star Title Company of El Paso, Inc. waives all of these rights, and any other applicable procedural rights, in consideration of the entry of this consent order.

Pursuant to TEX. INS. CODE § 82.055(b), Lone Star Title Company of El Paso, Inc. agrees to this consent order with the express reservation that it does not admit to a violation of any provision of the Insurance Code or rule or regulation of the department and Lone Star Title Company of El Paso, Inc. maintains the existence of any violation is in dispute.

Findings of Fact

1. Lone Star Title Company of El Paso, Inc. holds title agency license no. 1876915, which was issued on July 1, 1999, and is effective until August 1, 2017.
2. Lone Star Title Company of El Paso, Inc. offered to provide discounts in the Homes for Heroes program from approximately February 8, 2016, to April 8, 2016.
3. Lone Star Title Company of El Paso, Inc. paid a \$250 membership fee to participate in the Homes for Heroes program, www.homesforheroes.com. The program provides closing fee discounts to "heroes," who included veterans, police officers, fire fighters, teachers, emergency medical technicians, health care workers, and other individuals who provided quality services to the public.

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COMMISSIONER'S ORDER
Lone Star Title Company of El Paso, Inc.
TDI Enforcement File No. 10981
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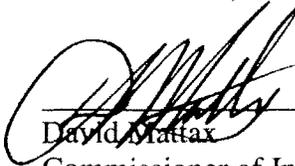
4. A webpage on the Homes for Heroes website included Lone Star Title Company of El Paso, Inc.'s name and logo, and stated: "Lone Star Title Company – El Paso \$125 Discount on Title Closing Fees." The webpage directed Texas consumers to call Lone Star Title Company of El Paso, Inc. or visit their company website.
5. Lone Star Title Company of El Paso, Inc. provided no discounts to customers through the Homes for Heroes program. Upon Lone Star Title Company of El Paso's request, Homes for Heroes, refunded the \$250 fee that Lone Star Title of El Paso paid to Homes for Heroes in exchange for offering a discount on their website.

Conclusions of Law

1. The commissioner has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to TEX. INS. CODE §§ 82.051-82.055, 84.021-84.022, and 2502.051; and TEX. GOV'T CODE §§ 2001.051-2001.178.
2. The commissioner has the authority to dispose of this case informally pursuant to the provisions of TEX. GOV'T CODE § 2001.056, TEX. INS. CODE §§ 82.055 and 36.104, and 28 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 1.47.
3. Lone Star Title Company of El Paso, Inc. violated TEX. INS. CODE § 2502.051, which prohibits a commission, rebate, discount, portion of a title insurance premium, or other thing of value from being directly or indirectly paid, allowed, or permitted by a person engaged in the business of insurance or received or accepted by a person for engaging in the business of title insurance or for soliciting or referring title insurance.

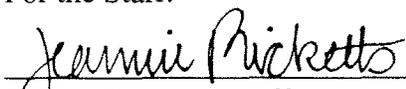
Order

The commissioner orders Lone Star Title Company of El Paso, Inc. to pay an administrative penalty of \$2,500. The penalty must be paid in full on or before 30 days from the entry of this Order. The administrative penalty must be paid by cashier's check or money order made payable to the "State of Texas" and transmitted to the Texas Department of Insurance, Attn: Enforcement Section, Division 40111, MC 9999, P.O. Box 149104, Austin, Texas 78714-9104.



David Mattax
Commissioner of Insurance

For the Staff:



Jeannie Ricketts, Staff Attorney
Compliance Division, Enforcement Section
Texas Department of Insurance

