

No. **2025-9263**

**Official Order
of the
Texas Commissioner of Insurance**

Date: 04/17/2025

Subject Considered:

Group Sterling Health Services, Inc.
1000 Broadway Ste 200
Oakland, CA 94607-4039

Consent Order
TDI Enforcement File No. 36000

General Remarks and Official Action Taken:

This is a consent order with Group Sterling Health Services, Inc. (Group Sterling) because it failed to comply with requirements to maintain its third-party administrator (TPA) certificate of authority. Group Sterling has agreed to pay an administrative penalty of \$10,000.

Waiver

Group Sterling acknowledges that the Texas Insurance Code and other applicable laws provide certain rights. Group Sterling waives all of these rights, and any other applicable procedural rights, in consideration of the entry of this consent order.

Findings of Fact

1. On May 23, 2017, TDI issued Group Sterling a third-party administrator (TPA) certificate of authority no. 2989456.
2. Texas law states that TPA certificates of authority are effective until suspended, canceled, or revoked.

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3. TPAs must file annual reports by June 30th of each year covering the preceding calendar year. The report must include an audited financial statement performed by an independent certified public accountant.
4. TPAs must pay a nonrefundable \$200 filing fee for each annual report.
5. A TPA is subject to discipline, including revocation of its certificate of authority, if it fails to timely file its annual report.
6. Group Sterling failed to file its annual reports and pay the associated \$200 filing fees for calendar years 2020–2023.
7. Group Sterling has now filed its delinquent annual reports and paid the associated filing fees.

Conclusions of Law

1. The commissioner of insurance has jurisdiction over this matter under TEX. INS. CODE §§ 82.051–82.055, 4151.051, 4151.056, 4151.205, 4151.206, 4151.212, 4151.301–4151.309; TEX. GOV'T CODE §§ 2001.003(1), 2001.051–2001.178; and 28 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§ 7.1601, 7.1603, and 7.1609.
2. The commissioner has authority to informally dispose of this matter as set forth under TEX. GOV'T CODE § 2001.056 and TEX. INS. CODE §§ 82.055 and 36.104.
3. Group Sterling has knowingly and voluntarily waived all procedural rights to which it may have 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.
4. Group Sterling failed to timely file annual TPA reports by June 30th on a form prescribed by the commissioner, in violation of TEX. INS. CODE §§ 4151.205 and 4151.301(14), and 28 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 7.1609.
5. Group Sterling failed to pay the annual \$200 TPA filing fee in violation of TEX. INS. CODE § 4151.206(a)(3) and 28 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 7.1609(a).

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6. Group Sterling has willfully violated an insurance law of this state, as contemplated by TEX. INS. CODE § 4151.301(1).
7. Group Sterling has willfully violated a commissioner rule, as contemplated by TEX. INS. CODE § 4151.301(10).

Order

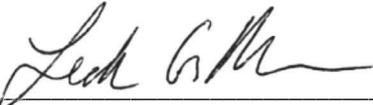
It is ordered that Group Sterling Health Services, Inc. pay an administrative penalty of \$10,000 within 30 days from the date of this order. The administrative penalty must be paid as instructed in the invoice, which TDI will send after entry of this order.

Signed by:

FC5D7EDDFB4F8...

Cassie Brown
Commissioner of Insurance

Recommended and reviewed by:



Leah Gillum, Deputy Commissioner
Fraud and Enforcement Division



Erik Huhn, Staff Attorney
Enforcement

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Affidavit

STATE OF California §
§
COUNTY OF Alameda §

Before me, the undersigned authority, personally appeared Duarte Batista
who being by me duly sworn, deposed as follows:

"My name is Duarte Batista. I am of sound mind, capable of making this statement, and have personal knowledge of these facts which are true and correct.

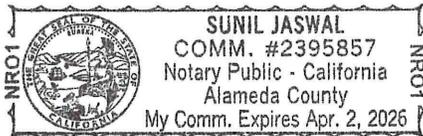
I hold the office of President/CEO and am the authorized representative of Group Sterling Health Services, Inc. I am duly authorized by said organization to execute this statement.

Group Sterling Health Services, Inc 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 3rd APRIL, 2025.

(NOTARY SEAL)



(See comment below)
Signature of Notary Public

SUNIL JASWAL
Printed Name of Notary Public

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on this 3 day of April, 2025 by DUARTE BATISTA

proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) who appeared before me.

(Signature of Notary)