1 MARY ANN SMITH **Deputy Commissioner** 2 DANIEL P. O'DONNELL Assistant Chief Counsel 3 PAUL YEE (State Bar No. 142381) Senior Counsel 4 Department of Business Oversight One Sansome Street, Suite 600 5 San Francisco, California 94104-4448 Telephone: (415) 972-8544 Facsimile: (415) 972-8500 6 7 Attorneys for Complainant 8 9 10 11 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS OVERSIGHT 12 OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 13 14 In the Matter of: NMLS ID.: 752586 15 THE COMMISSIONER OF BUSINESS STATEMENT OF ISSUES IN SUPPORT OF OVERSIGHT, NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE ORDER 16 DENYING MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATOR APPLICATION Complainant, 17 (Financial Code section 50141) V. 18 CASSANDRA KAY ROMAN, 19 Respondent. 20 21 Jan Lynn Owens, the Commissioner of Business Oversight (Commissioner), is informed and 22 believes and based upon such information and belief, alleges and charges as follows: 23 I. 24 **Introduction** 25 The proposed order seeks to deny the issuance of a mortgage loan originator license to 26 Cassandra Kay Roman (Roman) pursuant to Financial Code § 50141, in that Roman fails to 27 demonstrate the requisite financial responsibility, character, and general fitness required for issuance 28 of a license due to falsely providing an answer on the Form MU4 submitted to the Commissioner in

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connection with the mortgage loan originator license application, falsely claiming that she had not been previously terminated from employment due to violation of statute, regulation, rule or industry standard.

II.

## **Statement of Facts**

## A. The Application

- 1. On January 7, 2019, Roman filed an application on NMLS<sup>1</sup> for a mortgage loan originator license with the Commissioner pursuant to Financial Code § 50140. The application was for approval of employment as a mortgage loan originator with, or working on behalf of, Quicken Loans Inc. located at 100 Public Square, Suite 400, Cleveland, Ohio, 44113. The application was submitted to the Commissioner by filing Form MU4 through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System & Registry (NMLS).
- 2. In submitting her application, under the heading "Termination Disclosure" Roman answered "no" to question (Q) (1) on Form MU4, which specifically asked:
  - (Q) Have you ever voluntarily resigned, been discharged, or permitted to resign after allegations were made that accused you of:
  - (1) violating statute(s), regulation(s), rule(s), or industry standards of conduct?
  - (2) fraud, dishonesty, theft, or the wrongful taking of money?
- 3. In submitting his application, Roman attested that the answers were true and complete to the best of her knowledge.

# **B.** The Amended Application

4. On January 28,2019, after a review of Roman's application, Department of Business

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> NMLS stands for Nationwide Multistate Licensing System & Registry and is the system of record for non-depository, financial services licensing or registration in participating agencies. including the District of Columbia and U.S. Territories of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam. In these jurisdictions, NMLS is the official system for companies and individuals seeking to apply for, amend, renew and surrender licenses authorities managed through NMLS.

Oversight (DBO) created a "license item" on NMLS for Roman, instructing her to amend the MU4 application and provide a detailed explanation with supporting documentation regarding the Roman's termination from employment from several companies including KeyBank National Association (KeyBank). Roman had not disclosed on her application her terminations from several service-related employers, including KeyBank.

- 5. Thereafter, on January 25, 2019, Roman amended her response to questions (Q)(1) from "no" to "yes," and provided an explanation but again did not provide any supporting documents. Roman explanation for her termination from KeyBank was that she had been managing the retail bank branch for two years when a well-known client of hers emailed her a request to wire transfer funds for a business transaction. Roman explained that due to their prior business relationship, she went ahead with the request. Within three days of the email request, the client informed Roman that the client's email had been hacked and the email was a fraud. Roman reported that the fraud resulted in Roman's employer taking a loss of \$12,000³. Roman stated that she was then terminated because any loss over \$1,000 can lead to termination of employment.
- 6. In submitting the January 25, 2019 amended application, Roman attested to and swore that the answers were true and complete to the best of her knowledge.
- 7. On January 28, 2019, DBO placed an "license item" on NMLS for Roman to upload applicable documents related to her termination of employment from KeyBank.
- 8. On January 30, 2019, Roman complied with the license item and uploaded into NMLS a KeyBank document which indicated that Roman was terminated effective October 4, 2018 for violation of bank policies that resulted in a controllable loss of \$19,571.50. KeyBank indicated that Roman was employed by KeyBank since June 12, 2107 and was a branch manager. Roman was trained in policies and procedures of KeyBank. KeyBank charged that on August 10, 2018, Roman failed to conduct proper due diligence when she received an email requesting a wire transfer.

A "license item" is a request from a regulator such as DBO on the NMLS website to a licensee or applicant to respond to a question or take an action. The NMLS website automatically generates an email to the licensee or applicant directing the person to check the NMLS website for the license item.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Roman reported that the KeyBank's loss was \$12,000. KeyBank reported the loss being \$19,571.50.

Roman believed the email originated from a "well-known" client and did not validate the identity of the source of the request. Roman attempted to call the client one time during the course of the transaction but was unable to reach the client. Roman did not leave a message or wait for a call back from the client before proceeding with the wire transfer. The email from the "well-known" client was fraudulent, resulting in a controllable loss to the bank. During the course of the processing the wire transfer, Roman violated bank policies which state, "Do not accept or process not in person wire transfer requests from clients' requests from clients who submit the requests by email, fax, phone, or mail."

#### III.

## **Character of the Applicant**

- 9. Financial Code section 50141 provides in relevant part:
  - (a) The commissioner shall deny an application for a mortgage loan originator license unless the commissioner makes at a minimum the following findings:

. . .

(3) The applicant has demonstrated such financial responsibility, character, and general fitness as to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a determination that the mortgage loan originator will operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the purposes of this division.

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10. Roman's false response on the application for a mortgage loan originator license and termination from KeyBank for violation of a significant policy which resulted in financial loss to the bank, show the applicant's failure to demonstrate such financial responsibility, character and general fitness as to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a determination that she will operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently as a mortgage loan originator. Roman initially provided a false response to question (Q) regarding termination for violation of rules or industry standards when she did not disclose nor describe her termination from KeyBank. Such incorrect response on the initial Form MU4 is false and misleading.

#### VI.

### **Conclusion**

The Commissioner finds, by reason of the foregoing, that Roman's false response on the

application for a mortgage loan originator li	cense fails to demonstrate such character and general		
fitness as to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a determination that she will			
operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently as a mortgage loan originator.			
THEREFORE, the Commissioner is mandated under Financial Code § 50141 to deny			
Casandra Kay Roman's mortgage loan originator license application.			
WHEREFORE IT IS PRAYED that the mortgage loan originator application filed by			
Cassandra Kay Roman be denied.			
Dated: March 4, 2019 San Francisco, California	JAN LYNN OWEN Commissioner of Business Oversight		
	By PAUL YEE Senior Counsel		
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