STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING
Whether there has been a violation of the
Check Cashers and Sellers Act of Washington by:

PACIFIC CHECKS, INC. dba DOLLARWISE, and CHARLES C. SEIL, Owner and President,

NO. C-07-533-09-CO01

CONSENT ORDER

Respondents.

COMES NOW the Director of the Department of Financial Institutions (Director), through his designee Deborah Bortner, Division Director, Division of Consumer Services, and Pacific Checks, Inc. (hereinafter Respondent Pacific Checks), Charles C. Seil, Owner and President (hereinafter Respondent Seil) by and through their attorney Sally Gustafson Garratt, and finding that the issues raised in the above-captioned matter may be economically and efficiently settled, agree to the entry of this Consent Order. This Consent Order is entered pursuant to chapter 31.45 of Revised Code of Washington (RCW), and RCW 34.05.060 of the Administrative Procedure Act, based on the following:

#### AGREEMENT AND ORDER

The Department of Financial Institutions, Division of Consumer Services (Department) and Respondents have agreed upon a basis for resolution of the matters alleged in Statement of Charges No. C-07-533-07-SC01 (Statement of Charges), entered January 29, 2008, (copy attached hereto). Pursuant to chapter 31.45 RCW, the Check Cashers and Sellers Act (Act) and RCW 34.05.060 of the Administrative Procedure Act, Respondents hereby agree to the Department's entry of this Consent Order and further agree that the issues raised in the above-captioned matter may be economically and efficiently settled by entry of this Consent Order. The parties intend this Consent Order to fully resolve the Statement of Charges and the February 19, 2008, Report of Examination. Respondents are agreeing not to contest the Statement of Charges in consideration of the terms of this Consent Order. The parties agree that Respondents neither admit nor deny any wrongdoing by its entry.

CONSENT ORDER C-07-533-09-C001 PACIFIC CHECKS, INC. dba DOLLARWISE and CHARLES C. SEIL

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Based upon the foregoing:

A. **Jurisdiction.** It is AGREED that the Department has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the activities discussed herein.

- B. Waiver of Hearing. It is AGREED that Respondents have been informed of the right to a hearing before an administrative law judge, and that they hereby waive their right to a hearing and any and all administrative and judicial review of the issues raised in this matter, or of the resolution reached herein.

  Accordingly, Respondents agree to withdraw their appeal and to inform the Office of Administrative Hearings in writing of their withdrawal.
- C. Fine. It is AGREED that Respondents shall pay to the Department a fine of \$8,100, in the form of a cashier's check made payable to the "Washington State Treasurer," upon entry of this Consent Order.
- D. Suspension of License (Stayed). It is AGREED that Respondents are subject to a 120-day suspension of its license to conduct of the affairs of any check casher or seller subject to licensure by the Director, in any manner.

It is further AGREED that this license suspension shall be stayed for a period of two years from the date of entry of this Consent Order subject to the Department's authority to lift the stay and impose a 120-day suspension pursuant to paragraph E of this Consent Order.

It is further AGREED that if, after two years from the date of entry of this Consent Order, the stay has not been previously lifted, and the 120-day suspension has not been previously imposed, and if a notification to lift the stay or proceeding to lift the stay is not then pending by the Director to impose the 120-day suspension, and if Respondents have provided the Department with a written statement signed under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Washington that they have complied with the terms and conditions of this Consent Order, then, in such events, the Department shall consider this paragraph of this Consent Order fully performed and the stayed 120-day suspension will not be imposed on the Respondents.

It is further AGREED that if, after two years from the date of entry of this Consent Order, notification to lift the stay or proceeding to lift the stay is pending by the Director to impose the 120-day suspension, then those proceedings shall continue according to the terms of this Consent Order, as discussed in paragraph E below.

# E. Lifting of Stay and Imposing Suspension. It is AGREED that:

- 1. If the Department determines that Respondents are in violation of RCW 31.45.030(1), RCW 31.45.030(5), RCW 31.45.060, RCW 31.45.070, RCW 31.45.073, RCW 31.45.080, RCW 31.45.082, RCW 31.45.084, RCW 31.45.088(3), or RCW 31.45.105(1) or any of the terms and conditions of this Consent Order and the Department accordingly seeks to lift the stay impose the 120-day suspension, the Department first will notify Respondents in writing of its determination.
- 2. Respondents will be afforded ten (10) business days from the date of receipt of the Department's notification to request in writing an expedited administrative hearing to be held before an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) from the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH).
- 3. Respondents' request for hearing must be sent to the Department and received by the Department within ten (10) business days of the date of the receipt of the Department's notice.
- 4. Respondents, in addition to a request for hearing, may provide a written response to include any information pertaining to the alleged noncompliance.
- 5. The administrative hearing shall be expedited and follow the timing and processes described in this Consent Order.
- 6. If Respondents do not request the expedited hearing within the stated time, the Department will immediately impose the 120-day suspension and pursue whatever action it deems necessary to impose the suspension.
- 7. If requested, the hearing will be held within fifteen (15) business days (or as soon as the schedule of the ALJ permits) from the due date for Respondents' request for hearing or from the date of receipt of Respondents' timely request for hearing, whichever is sooner. The parties will accommodate the prompt scheduling of the hearing.
- 8. The scope and issues of the hearing are limited solely to whether or not Respondents are in violation of RCW 31.45.030(1), RCW 31.45.030(5), RCW 31.45.060, RCW 31.45.070, RCW 31.45.073, RCW 31.45.080, RCW 31.45.082, RCW 31.45.084, RCW 31.45.088(3), or RCW 31.45.105(1) or any of the terms and conditions of this Consent Order.
- 9. At the conclusion of the hearing, the ALJ will issue an initial decision. Either party may file a Petition for Review with the Director of the Department.
- 10. The Department's notification will include:

CONSENT ORDER C-07-533-09-CO01 PACIFIC CHECKS, INC. dba DOLLARWISE and CHARLES C. SEIL

- a) A description of the alleged noncompliance
- b) A statement that because of the noncompliance, the Department seeks to lift the stay and impose the 120 day suspension
- c) The opportunity for Respondents to contest the Department's determination of noncompliance in an administrative hearing before an ALJ of OAH
- d) A copy of this Consent Order. The notification and hearing process provided in this Consent Order applies only to this Consent Order. It is solely provided in the event Respondents choose to contest the Department's determination of noncompliance.
- F. Compliance Examinations. It is AGREED that during the two-year stay Respondents at a minimum will be subject to two compliance examinations to be conducted by the Department at the Department's discretion, at Respondents' expense. Respondents further AGREE to promptly respond and address any and all issues, if any, identified in the compliance examinations to the satisfaction of the Department.
- G. Restitution. It is AGREED that Respondents shall pay \$9,130.75 to 126 borrowers as identified by the parties. If restitution cannot be made to any particular consumer, Respondents shall take the necessary steps to escheat such funds to the State of Washington as unclaimed property in the name of the consumer. Within 120 days of the entry of this Consent Order, Respondents shall provide the Department with an affidavit signed by Respondent Seil attesting to the payment of restitution and providing written proof that the entire restitution amount has either been received by consumers or escheated to the state. The "written proof" at a minimum must consist of copies of the front and back of cancelled checks or documentation of a reduction in the borrower's account balance owed to Respondents.
- H. Investigation Fee. It is AGREED that Respondents shall pay to the Department an investigation fee of \$1,731, in the form of a cashier's check made payable to the "Washington State Treasurer," upon entry of this Consent Order.

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CONSENT ORDER

C-07-533-09-CO01

CHARLES C. SEIL

PACIFIC CHECKS, INC. dba DOLLARWISE and

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DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE THIS ORDER ENTERED THIS Financial Legal Examiner nforcement Chief



Division of Consumer Services

Department of Financial Institutions

Director

CONSENT ORDER C-07-533-09-CO01 PACIFIC CHECKS, INC. dba DOLLARWISE and CHARLES C. SEIL

# STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING Whether there has been a violation of the Check Cashers and Sellers Act of Washington by: NO. C-07-533-07-SC01

PACIFIC CHECKS, INC., dba DOLLARWISE and CHARLES C. SEIL, President and Owner,

STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ENTER AN ORDER TO REVOKE LICENSE, IMPOSE FINES, COLLECT INVESTIGATIVE FEE AND COSTS, AND BAN FROM INDUSTRY

Respondents.

#### INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to RCW 31.45.110 and RCW 31.45.200, the Director of the Department of Financial Institutions of the State of Washington (Director) is responsible for the administration of chapter 31.45 RCW, the Check Cashers and Sellers Act (Act)<sup>1</sup>. After having conducted an investigation pursuant to RCW 31.45.040 and RCW 31.45.100, and based upon the facts available as of the date of this Statement of Charges, the Director institutes this proceeding and finds as follows:

# I. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

# 1.1 Respondents.

- A. Pacific Checks, Inc. (Pacific Checks) was licensed by the Department of Financial Institutions of the State of Washington (Department) to conduct business as a check casher on or about January 15, 1992, and has continued to be licensed to date. Respondent Pacific Checks, Inc. is licensed to conduct the business of a check casher with a small loan endorsement at twelve (12) locations.
  - B. Charles C. Seil (Seil) is President and 91% Owner of Respondent Pacific Checks.
- C. Respondent Pacific Checks submitted applications to the Department for licenses to conduct business as a check casher with a small loan endorsement at the following locations:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> RCW 31.45 (Effective January 1, 1992).

15001 Pacific Highway 5, Tukwila, WA 98188
2816 Auburn Way North, Auburn, WA 98008
22848 Pacific Highway South, Des Moines, WA 98198
31007 Pacific Highway South, Federal Way, WA 98003
10426 Kent Kangley Road, Kent, WA 98031
9211 Delridge Way SW, Seattle, WA 98106
19410 State Highway 410 E, Tukwila, WA 98390
3825 Pacific Ave. #3, Tukwila, WA 98408
9671 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale, WA 98001
2416 SW 336 <sup>th</sup> Street, Federal Way, WA 98188
5500 Olympic Dr NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98335
27112 167 <sup>th</sup> Place SE, Covington, WA 98042

- D. Respondent Seil is listed as President of Respondent Pacific Checks in the applications.
- 1.2 Criminal Conviction. The Department received an anonymous tip on or about October 10, 2007, stating that Respondent Seil was operating Respondent Pacific Checks from prison.

On or about October 13, 2006, Respondent Seil was charged with the following felonies: Count 1)

Watercraft Homicide—DUI pursuant to RCW 79A.60.050; or in the alternative Count 2) Watercraft

Homicide—Reckless pursuant to 79A.60.050; Count 3) Watercraft Assault pursuant to RCW 79A.60.060; and

Count 4) Watercraft Assault pursuant to RCW 79A.60.060 in the Superior Court of Washington for Grant

County case number 06-1-00666-9. Respondent Seil pleaded guilty to one count of Watercraft Homicide—

Reckless on or about June 13, 2007.

- 1.3 Failure to Notify Department of Significant Changes. As a licensee or controlling person,
  Respondent Seil had an obligation to notify the Department within 15 days of his conviction. WAC 208-630-460(4). Respondent did not provide notice to the Department of the criminal conviction.
- 1.4 On-Going Investigation. The Department's investigation into the alleged violations of the Act by Respondents continues to date.

## II. GROUNDS FOR ENTRY OF ORDER

2.1 Requirement to Notify Department of Significant Changes and Criminal Conviction. Based on the Factual Allegations set forth in Section I above, Respondent Seil is in apparent violation of RCW 31.45.110(1) and WAC 208-630-460(4) for committing a crime against the laws of the state of Washington involving moral turpitude and failing to notify the Director in writing within fifteen days of the occurrence of

the following significant development: a licensee, key officer, board director, or principal having been convicted of a crime. Respondent Pacific Checks is in apparent violation of WAC 208-630-460(4) for failing to notify the Director in writing within fifteen days of the occurrence of the following significant development: a licensee, key officer, board director, or principal having been convicted of a crime.

# III. AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE SANCTIONS

- 3.1 Authority to Revoke License. Pursuant to RCW 31.45.110(1) and (2)(a), the Director may revoke a license if a licensee commits a crime against the laws of the state of Washington involving moral turpitude, is violating or has violated the Act including rules and orders, or commits any act or engages in conduct that demonstrates incompetence or untrustworthiness or is a source of injury or loss to the public.
- Authority to Impose Fine. Pursuant to RCW 31.45.110(1) and (2)(c), the Director may impose a fine, not to exceed one hundred dollars per day for each day's violation of the Act, on any licensee or applicant, or any director, officer, sole proprietor, partner, controlling person, or employee of a licensee or applicant, that commits a crime against the laws of the state of Washington involving moral turpitude, is violating or has violated the Act including rules and orders, or commits any act or engages in conduct that demonstrates incompetence or untrustworthiness or is a source of injury or loss to the public.
- 3.3 Authority to Remove and Ban from the Industry. Pursuant to RCW 31.45.110(1) and (2)(e), the Director may remove from office or ban from participation in the conduct of the affairs of any licensee any director, officer, sole proprietor, partner, controlling person, or employee of a licensee that commits a crime against the laws of the state of Washington involving moral turpitude, is violating or has violated the Act including rules and orders, or commits any act or engages in conduct that demonstrates incompetence or untrustworthiness or is a source of injury or loss to the public.
- Authority to Collect Investigation Fee and Costs. Pursuant to RCW 31.45.050(1), RCW 31.45.100, WAC 208-630-350, and WAC 208-630-380, the Director shall collect from the licensee the actual cost of an examination or investigation of the business, books, accounts, records, files, or other information of a licensee or person who the Director has reason to believe is engaging in the business governed by the Act. The investigation

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charge will be calculated at the rate of sixty-nine dollars (\$69) per hour that each staff person devoted to the investigation, plus actual expenses.

#### IV. NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ENTER ORDER

Respondents' violations of the provisions of chapter 31.45 RCW and chapter 208-630 WAC, as set forth in the above Factual Allegations and Grounds for Entry of Order, constitute a basis for the entry of an Order under RCW 31.45.110 and RCW 31.45.200. Therefore, it is the Director's intention to ORDER that:

- 4.1 Respondent Pacific Checks, Inc.'s license to conduct the business of a check seller check casher with a small loan endorsement be revoked; and
- 4.2 Respondents Pacific Checks, Inc. and Charles C. Seil jointly and severally pay a fine of \$1,500; and
- 4.3 Respondent Pacific Checks, Inc. be banned from participation in the conduct of the affairs of any check casher or check casher with a small loan endorsement or check seller subject to licensure by the Director, in any manner, for a period of seven (7) years; and
- 4.4 Respondent Charles C. Seil be banned from participation in the conduct of the affairs of any check casher or check casher with a small loan endorsement or check seller subject to licensure by the Director, in any manner, for a period of seven (7) years; and
- 4.5 Respondents Pacific Checks, Inc. and Charles C. Seil jointly and severally pay an investigation fee. Calculated as of the date of this Statement of Charges, the investigative fee totals at least \$1,731.90.

## V. AUTHORITY AND PROCEDURE

This Statement of Charges and Notice of Intention to Enter an Order to Revoke License, Impose Fines, Collective Investigative Fee and Costs, and Ban From Industry (Statement of Charges) is entered pursuant to the provisions of RCW 31.45.110 and RCW 31.45.200, and is subject to the provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW (The Administrative Procedure Act). Respondents may make a written request for a hearing as set forth in the NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO DEFEND AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING accompanying this Statement of Charges.

Dated this day of January, 2008.

DEBORAH BORTNER

Director

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Division of Consumer Services
Department of Financial Institutions

STATEMENT OF CHARGES C-07-533-07-SC01 Pacific Checks, Inc., dba Dollarwise and Charles C. Seil

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3	DEBORAH PINSONNEAULT
4	Financial Legal Examiner
5	Approved by:
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