## REAL ESTATE AGENCY BEFORE THE REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER

In the Matter of the Real Estate of	
RANDAL TY REINHART	ORDER ON DEFAULT
	1.

- 1.1 On February 21, 2012, the Real Estate Commissioner issued, by certified mail, a notice of intent to revoke the real estate broker's license of Randal Ty Reinhart (Reinhart). The Real Estate Agency (OREA) sent the notice of intent to Reinhart's last known address of record with the OREA. The notice of intent was also mailed to Reinhart by regular first class mail in a handwritten envelope.
- 1.2 On March 19, 2012, the notice of intent sent by certified mail was returned to OREA "unclaimed."
- 1.3 As of March 19, 2012, the notice of intent mailed by regular first class mail has not been returned to OREA.
- 1.4 Over twenty (20) days have elapsed since the mailing of the notice issued in this matter and no written request for hearing has been received.
- 1.5 Copies of the entire investigation file are designated as the record for purposes of default, including any submission from respondent and all information in the administrative file relating to the mailing of notices and any responses received.

2.

Based upon the foregoing and upon a review of the above described investigation reports, documents and files, the Real Estate Commissioner finds:

2.1 Oregon Administrative Rule 863-001-0006 states, in part, that a notice of intent is properly served when deposited in the United States mail, registered or certified mail, addressed to the real estate licensee or to any other person having an interest in a proceeding before the Commissioner at the licensee's or other person's last known address of record with OREA.

2.2 Reinhart's last known address of record with OREA was PO Box 7882, Bend OR 97708.

- 2.3 A certified mailing of the notice of intent was mailed to Reinhart at his last known address of record on February 21, 2012.
- 2.4 The mailing in the handwritten envelope has not been returned to OREA. In accordance with ORS 40.135(1)(q), there is a presumption that the mailing properly addressed and placed with the U.S. Postal Service was delivered. That presumption has not been overcome by any evidence.
- 2.5 Over twenty (20) days have elapsed since the mailing of the notice and no written request for a hearing has been received.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

3.

- 3.1 At all times mentioned herein, Reinhart was licensed as a principal broker doing business under the registered business name of 4 Rent Property Management, LLC.
- 3.2 Reinhart registered this business name on February 1, 2010, and is the only real estate licensee associated with the business.
- 3.3 On April 27, 2010, OREA received two telephone calls alleging that Larry Betker (Betker) was acting as an unlicensed property manager in the name of 4 Rent Property Management from his home in Bend, Oregon. When interviewed, Betker stated that he is the Operations Manager for 4 Rent Property Management.
- 3.4 On February 2, 2011, OREA conducted an in-person interview with Reinhart and Betker. After being told that OREA did not have a record of clients' trust account inventory for 4 Rent Property Management, Reinhart stated that he was not aware that the clients' trust account had to be registered with the state. Reinhart stopped the interview, refused to produce the files for the clients under management with 4 Rent Property Management and said that another appointment needed to be scheduled with their attorney.
- 3.5 OREA met with Reinhart, Betker and their attorney, Andrew Balyeat (Balyeat) on March 25, 2011 and reviewed the files for the 37 clients under management with 4 Rent Property Management, and found the areas of non-compliance listed below.

- 3.6 During the course of the investigation, OREA corresponded by email with Reinhart's attorney, Balyeat back and forth 10 times between February 3, 2011 and May 23, 2011, attempting to get the names on the clients' trust accounts into compliance, repeatedly citing the rules defining the requirements of these accounts.
- 3.7 On June 24, 2011, OREA mailed a letter to Reinhart defining 14 statute and rule violations found in the investigation and offering to settle the matter by entering into a stipulated order resulting in a suspension of his license.
- 3.8 A settlement conference was held on September 12, 2011, with Reinhart, Betker and their attorney Jeff Eager (Eager.) On that date, several of the violations had been corrected; they provided a revised property management agreement and written policies/procedures outlining Betker's duties for OREA "approval," they had opened a clients' trust account and their bank accounts were no longer accruing interest.
- 3.9 Even though many of the violations outlined in the June 24, 2011 letter were not addressed during the 10 weeks before the settlement conference, OREA was willing to stipulate to a reprimand on the conditions that Reinhart took the 60 hour property manager pre-licensing course and he was able to provide documentation to OREA that he had corrected the remaining violations by 5:00 pm, September 16, 2011. Those documents were proof they had properly opened a clients' trust account-security deposits, established an owner's ledger for each property management agreement, established a tenant's ledger for each tenant, established a record of all deposits for each clients' trust account, and submitted copies of the Inventory of and Authorization to Examine Clients' Trust Accounts form and the Notice of Clients' Trust Account form.
- 3.10 OREA was not contacted by Reinhart, Betker or either of their attorneys and no additional documents were submitted on or before September 16, 2011.
- 3.11 OREA contacted Eager by email on September 21, 2011, asking when the above-referenced documentation would be submitted. That same day, OREA received from Eager's office an Inventory of and Authorization to Examine Clients' Trust Accounts form and Notice of Clients' Trust Account form (both dated September 13, 2011), three pages showing "Homeowner" names, months in 2011, "check #" and "4 Rents %", and four pages showing "Tenant" names, months in 2011, "Amount", "Date in", and "Security IN."

- 3.12 On September 30, 2011, OREA contacted Reinhart by email, explaining that the owner and tenant ledgers were still out of compliance, that we still needed a corrected Inventory and Authorization to Examine Clients' Trust Accounts form and requesting that a telephone conference call be scheduled for October 14, 2011.
- 3.13 On October 3, 2011, OREA received an email from Balyeat stating that Eager was out of the office until October 17, 2011, and that either Reinhart or Betker would be contacting OREA regarding the issues described in the September 30, 2011 email to Reinhart.
- 3.14 Between October 3 and 5, 2011, multiple emails were exchanged between OREA and Betker in an effort to bring 4 Rent's owner and tenant ledgers into compliance.
- 3.15 A conference call was held on October 21, 2011 with Reinhart, Betker and Eager. As of this date, the owner and tenant ledgers had been corrected and brought into compliance, but OREA had still not received a corrected Inventory and Authorization to Examine Clients' Trust Accounts form. At this time, OREA was willing to stipulate to a 60 day suspension with the conditions that Reinhart complete the 60 hour property manager pre-licensing course and that the corrected Inventory and Authorization to Examine Client's Trust Account form be submitted to the Agency by 8:00 am, October 24, 2011.
- 3.16 On October 24, 2011, OREA received an email from Eager stating that 4 Rent was "in the process of selling its book of business to another licensed realtor" and expected to have ceased all property management activity by October 28, 2011, and that either he or "4 Rent" would contact OREA following "cessation of all property management activities to confirm this." The email also stated that "4 Rent will not be providing you with the authority to examine client trust account document today as we discussed last week, as it will soon no longer have client trust accounts and has no interest in continuing to provide property management services."
- 3.17 OREA was not notified about the closure of 4 Rent until Reinhart submitted an Inactivate License form on January 11, 2012.
- 3.18 It is important to note that during the course of the investigation and subsequent attempts to settle this matter, Reinhart had little to no involvement in responses to OREA.

  Answers and actions came from Balyeat, Betker and/or Eager.

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## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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4.1 Reinhart failed to establish written policies outlining Betker's duties.

*Violation:* OAR 863-025-0015, which states that each property manager must maintain written policies that specify the duties of an employee of the property manager.

4.2 Reinhart failed to establish a clients' trust account.

**Violation:** ORS 696.241(1) and OAR 863-025-0025(2), which require that at least one clients' trust account be opened and maintained for all trust funds handled by the licensee.

4.3 Reinhart failed to establish a clients' trust account – security deposits.

**Violation:** ORS 696.241(1) and OAR 863-025-0025(4), which require that a property manager who receives security deposits on behalf of an owner must open and maintain a security deposits clients' trust account that is separate from the property manager's clients' trust account.

4.4 Reinhart deposited tenant rent checks into the property management's operating account.

**Violation:** OAR 863-025-0065(3), which requires that all funds accepted by a property manager while engaged in property management activity must be deposited into a clients' trust account or security deposits account.

4.5 Reinhart failed to establish an owner's ledger for each property management agreement.

**Violation:** OAR 863-025-0035(1)(c) and OAR 863-025-0055(1), which requires that a property manager's records must include an owner's ledger for each property management agreement for all monies received and disbursed.

4.6 Reinhart failed to establish a tenant's ledger for each tenant.

**Violation:** OAR 863-025-0035(1)(f) and OAR 863-025-0050(1), which require that a property manager must prepare and maintain a tenant's ledger for each tenant from whom funds are received.

4.7 Reinhart failed to establish a record of all deposits for each clients' trust account and security deposits account.

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 **Violation:** OAR 863-025-0065(4), which requires that a property manager must obtain a deposit slip and make a written notation for each deposit made.

4.8 Reinhart failed to complete or submit to OREA the Inventory of and Authorization to Examine Clients' Trust Accounts form.

**Violation:** ORS 696.241(2)(3), which require that a principal real estate broker must file approved forms with OREA defining each individual clients' trust account and giving the OREA authority to examine any clients' trust account.

4.9 Reinhart failed to complete the Notice of Clients' Trust Account form.

**Violation:** ORS 696.245, which requires that a principal real estate broker, at the time a clients' trust account is opened, must provide the bank written notice that the account is a clients' trust account.

4.10 Reinhart failed to indicate in the tenant rental agreement that any interest earned on the security deposit shall be the property of the property management company.

**Violation:** OAR 863-025-0020(3)(b), which requires that interest earned on security deposits and paid to the property manager must be stated in the property management agreement.

4.11 Reinhart failed to include language in the property management agreement relating to disposition of records upon termination of the agreement.

**Violation:** OAR 863-025-0020(2)(h), which requires that the property management agreement include the disposition of the property manager's records upon termination of the agreement.

4.12 Reinhart failed to disclose in the property management agreement the use of employees or a business in which the property manager has a pecuniary interest at the time of the execution of the property management agreement that will provide services for the owner's property.

**Violation:** OAR 863-025-0020(2)(i), which requires that the property management agreement include the disclosure of the use of employees or a business in which the property manager has a pecuniary interest that will provide services for the owner's property.

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4.13 Reinhart failed to include in the property management agreement an identifying code, which would include a unique series of letters and/or numbers assigned by a property manager to a property management agreement.

**Violation:** of OAR 863-025-0020(2)(k), which requires that the property management agreement include an identifying code.

4.14 Reinhart put the disclosure that the interest earnings inure to the benefit of the property manager in the rental agreement and not in the property management agreement.

**Violation:** OAR 863-025-0020(3)(b)(B), which requires that, if a property manager and owner agree that the interest earned on clients' trust accounts be paid to the property manager, those terms must be included in the property management agreement.

4.15 Given the number of non-compliance issues, Reinhart was not sufficiently supervising Betker.

**Violation:** ORS 696.026(6), which requires that a real estate licensee must supervise and control the professional real estate activity conducted under their registered business name.

## **ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the real estate broker's license of Randal Ty Reinhart be revoked, with said revocation to be effective the date of this order.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ Z l = C day of March, 2012.

OREGON REAL ESTATE AGENCY

**GENE BENTLEY** 

Real Estate Commissioner

DATE of service: 3/28/12

**NOTICE:** You are entitled to judicial review of this order. Judicial review may be obtained by filing a petition for review within 60 days from the date of service of this order and is pursuant to the provisions of ORS 183.482.