1 of 17 – Stipulated Final Order- Farrah Farhoud

REAL ESTATE AGENCY 1 BEFORE THE REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER 2 3 In the Matter of the Real Estate License of 4 5 STIPULATED FINAL ORDER **FARRAH FARHOUD** 6 7 8 9 10 The Oregon Real Estate Agency (Agency) and Farrah Farhoud (Farhoud) do hereby 11 agree and stipulate to the following: 12 FINDINGS OF FACT 13 & 14 CONCLUSIONS OF LAW 15 1. 16 1.1 Since October 11, 2016, Farhoud has been licensed as a property manager 17 working under the registered business name Stark Firs Management, Inc. (Stark Firs). In 2018 18 there were several instances where Farhoud's license was inactive and not associated with 19 Stark Firs (May 1, 2018 to June 12, 2018, and November 1, 2018). 20 1.2 On February 25, 2020, the Agency notified Stark Firs by email that clients' trust 21 account ending in #5722 was selected for a mandatory review by the Agency for the month of 22 November 2019. Stark Firs was required to submit trust account reconciliation and supporting 23 documents for the chosen account within 30 days from the date of the email. Due to lack of 24 response, an investigation was opened. 25 1.3 Farhoud's license was inactive for the period of May 1, 2018 through June 11, 26 2018, (42) days due to a late renewal. Farhoud's license was also inactive on November 1, 27 2018 for 1 day. During these timeframes, Farhoud was working for Stark Firs and engaging in 28 the management of rental real estate. 29 **(1)** Violation: Farhoud's property manager license was not active from May 1, 2018 30 through June 11, 2018, and on November 1, 2018, while Farhoud was employed as a

property manager for Stark Firs in violation of ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates ORS 696.020(2) (2017 Edition), which states: (2) An individual may not engage in, carry on, advertise or purport to engage in or carry on professional real estate activity, or act in the capacity of a real estate licensee, within this state unless the individual holds an active license as provided for in this chapter.

- 1.4 Rhonny Mastne (Mastne) was licensed as a property manager and Mastne's license became associated with Stark Firs on October 14, 2014. On November 1, 2018, Mastne's license became inactive and remains inactive. Mastne prepared and reviewed the November 2019 reconciliation for clients' trust account ending in #5722.
- 1.5 Ayla Duran and Serena Schwartz worked for Stark Firs as leasing agents involved in accepting, reviewing and negotiating tenant rental and lease agreements. Duran and Schwartz reviewed and processed paperwork, communicated with prospective tenants, prepared correspondence and documents, conducted background and reference checks and data entry. Lori Hays worked as a leasing agent at the registered branch office for Stark Firs and accepted, reviewed and negotiated tenant rental and lease agreements and also collected rents.
- 1.6 Moe Farhoud worked for Stark Firs and had the authority to handle funds, receive and disburse funds for the clients' trust bank account ending in #5722.
- 1.7 Farhoud did not have any written delegations of authority or written policies in place for employees performing property management duties.
- (2) Violation: By not developing and maintaining written polices for employees and duties they perform, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-0015(1),(2),(3)(a),(c)(A),(B),(C),(D),(E),(F),(G),(4) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions), which requires: (1) Each property manager must develop, maintain and follow written policies for persons and activities under this rule. (2) Each policy must state the effective date of the policy. (3) Policies must specify the duties, responsibilities, supervision and authority, including any authority to handle funds in a clients' trust account or security deposits account, for the following persons: (a) A licensed property manager employed by the property manager, including any authority to negotiate tenant rental and lease agreements; (c) An employee of the property manager, including any authority to: (A) Negotiate tenant rental or lease

agreements under OAR 863-025-0045(2); (B) Check applicant or tenant references, including 1 2 credit references; (C) Physically maintain the real estate of an owner; (D) Conduct tenant 3 relations; (E) Collect rent and other payments; (F) Supervise premise managers; or (G) Discuss financial matters relating to management of the real estate with the owner. (4) Policies 4 5 must include provisions that specify the production and maintenance of all reports, records and 6 documents required under this division. 7 (3)(a) Violation: Farhoud failed to prepare written delegations of authority for employees Ayla 8 Duran, Serena Schwartz, and Lori Hays who all accepted, reviewed, and negotiated tenant 9 rental and lease agreements, in violation of ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-10 0015(5)(c) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions), which requires: (5) The following delegations of 11 the property manager's authority must be in writing, dated and signed by the property manager 12 and signed by the individual who is receiving the authority, and kept with written policies: (c) Review, approve and accept tenant rental and lease agreements under OAR 863-025-0045(2). 13 14 (3)(b) Violation: By not preparing a written delegation of authority for Moe Farhoud who received and disbursed funds for the clients trust account ending in #5722, Farhoud violated 15 16 ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-0015(5)(b) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020-17 Editions), which requires: (5) The following delegations of the property manager's authority 18 must be in writing, dated and signed by the property manager and signed by the individual who is receiving the authority, and kept with written policies: (b) Review and approve reconciliations 19 20 and receive and disburse funds under OAR 863-025-0028(5). 21 (3)(c) Violation: By not preparing a delegation of authority for Rhonny Mastne who prepared 22 and reviewed the November 2019 reconciliation for clients' trust account ending in #5722, 23 Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-0015(5)(b) (1-1-2019 and 24 1-1-2020 Edition) which requires: (5) The following delegations of the property manager's 25 authority must be in writing, dated and signed by the property manager and signed by the 26 individual who is receiving the authority, and kept with written policies: (b) Review and approve 27 reconciliations and receive and disburse funds under OAR 863-025-00028(5).

On July 2, 2020, Farhoud provided the property management agreements for five

properties as requested. A review of the property management agreements found that Moe

Farhoud (a non-licensed individual) had signed all of them as a representative of Stark Firs.

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Farhoud stated during the investigation she had never signed a property management agreement and that Moe Farhoud signed all the property management agreements. (4)(a) Violation: By allowing Moe Farhoud, a nonlicensed individual, to sign the property management agreements, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates ORS 696.315(1) (2017 and 2019 Editions) and OAR 863-025-0020(6) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions). ORS 696.315(1) states except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, a real estate licensee may not knowingly permit a nonlicensed individual to engage in professional real estate activity, with or on behalf of the licensee. OAR 863-025-0020(6) states (6) Only a property manager may negotiate and sign a property management agreement, except that a principal real estate broker engaging in the management of rental real estate may delegate such authority under OAR 863-025-0015(6) to a real estate licensee who is under the supervision and control of the principal real estate broker.

- **(4)(b) Violation:** By failing to sign the property management agreements, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates ORS 696.890(3) (2019 Edition) which states: (3) A real estate property manager may engage in the management of rental real estate for an owner of renal real estate only pursuant to a property management agreement.
- 1.9 The property management agreements did not specify if application fees would be kept by the property manager or go to the property owner. Per the property management agreements, security deposits are identified as property income to be collected by the property manager, however, it does not state who will hold and maintain the security deposits.
- 1.10 The property management agreements provided all showed the management fee to be 5% of actual gross rental revenues. In reviewing the May 2020 check registers, deposit registers and general ledgers for the corresponding properties, the management fee paid was not 5% of actual gross rental revenues as outlined in the property management agreements. **(5)(a) Violation:** By failing to address who should receive application fees, and failing to specify who will hold and maintain the security deposits Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-0020(2)(b)(f) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions), which requires (2) A property management agreement must include, but is not limited to: (b) The duties and responsibilities of the property manager and the owner and (f) The management fees, application fees, screening fees, rebates, discounts, overrides and any other form of

- compensation to be received by the property manager for management of rental real estate including when such compensation is earned and when it will be paid.
- (5)(b) Violation: By not receiving the amount stated in the property management agreement for management fees Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates ORS 696.890(3),(4)(c),(e) (2019 Edition), which states (3) A real estate property manager may engage in the management of rental real estate for an owner of renal real estate only pursuant to a property management agreement, and (4) A real estate property manager owes the property owner the following affirmative duties: (c) To exercise reasonable care and diligence;
  - 1.11 Prior to March 20, 2020, security deposits were held in the property operating bank accounts set up for each property. Farhoud failed to confirm during the investigation if the property operating bank accounts were actually clients' trust account bank accounts. Beginning March 20, 2020, new bank accounts were set up for each property to hold only security deposits.

(e) To act in a fiduciary manner in all matters relating to trust funds.

- (6)(a) Violation: By holding tenant security deposit funds in a bank account that was not a designated as a Clients' Trust Account Tenant Security Deposit Account, Fauhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-0025(6) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions), OAR 863-025-0030(1)(a),(b),(c),(d) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions), and OAR 863-025-0065(4) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions). OAR 863-025-0025(6) states, except as provided in OAR 863-025-0065 a property manager who receives security deposits on behalf of an owner must open and maintain a security deposits account, as defined in OAR 863-025-0010, that is separate from the property manager's clients' trust account. OAR 863-025-0030(1)(a),(b),(c),(d) requires: (1) Except as provided in section (3) of this rule, all tenants'
- security deposits received by a property manager must be deposited and maintained in a security deposits account until: (a) The property manager forwards the tenant's security deposit to the owner of the property according to the terms of the tenant's rental or lease agreement and the property management agreement; (b) The property manager disburses the tenant's security deposit for purposes authorized by the tenant's rental or lease agreement and the property management agreement; (c) The property manager refunds a deposit to the tenant according to the terms of the tenant's rental or lease agreement and the property

management agreement; or (d) The property management agreement is terminated and the property manager transfers the tenant's security deposit to the owner unless the owner directs the property manager, in writing, to transfer the security deposits and fees to another property manager, escrow agent or person. OAR 863-025-0065(4) requires: (4) All funds, whether in the form of money, checks, or money orders belonging to others and accepted by any property manager while engaged in property management activity, must be deposited prior to the close of business of the fifth banking day following the date of the receipt of the funds into a clients' trust account or security deposits account as defined in OAR 863-025-0010 and established by the property manager under ORS 696.241. The property manager must account for all funds received.

- (6)(b) Violation: By holding tenant security deposit funds in the Stark Firs operating bank accounts, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it violates ORS 696.241(2) (2019 Edition) and ORS 696.890(4)(c),(e) (2019 Edition). ORS 696.241(2) requires: (2) A licensed real estate property manager, or a principal real estate broker who engages in the management of rental real estate, shall open and maintain in this state one or more separate federally insured bank accounts that are designated clients' trust accounts under ORS 696.245. A principal real estate broker who engages in the management of rental real estate or a licensed real estate property manager shall deposit in a clients' trust account all trust funds received or handled by the principal real estate broker, licensed real estate property manager or real estate licensees subject to the supervision of the principal real estate broker. ORS 696.890(4)(c),(e) states: (4) A real estate property manager owes the property owner the following affirmative duties: (c) To exercise reasonable care and diligence; (e) To act in a fiduciary manner in all matters relating to trust funds.
- 1.12 Farhoud was notified on February 25, 2020, that Farhoud was selected for a mandatory clients' trust account reconciliation review for the month of November 2019 for clients' trust account ending in #5722 and had 30 days to submit documents for the review. On April 7, 2020, a second notice was sent to Farhoud stating action was required as no documents had been received yet. On April 15, 2020, the Agency had received no response from Farhoud.
- (7) Violation: By failing to respond to the April 7, 2020 notification, Farhoud violated ORS

- 1.13 Per Farhoud, in January 2020 they lost financial data when doing a reimplementation of their financial software system. When the reimplementation was done, data was lost that had existed previously. They had been under the impression that all of their financial data would be downloaded by their software specialist, but unfortunately it was not.
- 1.14 This lost data impacted Farhoud's ability to produce the November 2019 reconciliation for clients' trust account ending in #5722 to the Agency. Due to the lost data, Farhoud and Stark Firs employees had to manually find data and input it into spreadsheets to recreate reports. Farhoud requested an extension to provide the reconciliation documents. Farhoud told Agency staff the reconciliation had to be recreated due to the loss of financial data from the software reimplementation.
- (8)(a) Violation: By not backing up the computerized system, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-0035(3)(a) (1-1-2019 Edition), which requires (3) If a property manager uses a computerized system for creating, maintaining and producing required records and reports: (a) The property manager must back up any data that is stored in the computerized system at least once every month.
- (8)(b) Violation: By not preserving a file with the November 2019 reconciliation and supporting documents for clients' trust account ending in #5722, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-0028(2)(e) (1-1-2019 Edition), which requires (2) A property manager must reconcile each clients' trust account within 30 calendar days of the date of the bank statement pursuant to the requirements contained in this section, (e) The property manager must preserve and file in logical sequence the reconciliation document, bank statement, and all supporting documentation including, but not limited to, copies of the record of receipts and disbursements or check register and a listing of each owner's ledger balance as of the date of the bank statement.

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- (8)(c) Violation: By not backing up the computerized system and not preserving a file with the November 2019 reconciliation and supporting documents for clients' trust account ending in # 5722, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates ORS 696.890(4)(c),(d) (2019 Edition), which states (4) A real estate property manager owes the property owner the following affirmative duties: (c) To exercise reasonable care and diligence; (d) To account in a timely manner for all funds received from or on behalf of the owner.
  - 1.15 Per Farhoud they had been using their financial software system since 2015. She said sometimes they did the clients' trust account reconciliation in their financial software system and sometimes they did it in Excel. Farhoud also stated they did not always do a bank reconciliation.
  - (9) **Violation:** By not always reconciling clients' trust account ending in #5722, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates ORS 696.890(4)(c)(d) (2019 Edition) and OAR 863-025-0028(2)(d)(A),(B),(e) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions). ORS 696.890(4)(c),(d) states (4) A real estate property manager owes the property owner the following affirmative duties: (c) To exercise reasonable care and diligence; (d) To account in a timely manner for all funds received from or on behalf of the owner. OAR 863-025-0028(2)(d)(A)(B)(e) requires: (2) A property manager must reconcile each clients' trust account within 30 calendar days of the date of the bank statement pursuant to the requirements contained in this section. (d) Within 30 calendar days from the date of the bank statement, the property manager must: (A) Complete the reconciliation document; and (B) Sign and date the reconciliation document, attesting to the accuracy and completeness of the reconciliation; and (e) The property manager must preserve and file in logical sequence the reconciliation document, bank statement, and all supporting documentation including, but not limited to, copies of the record of receipts and disbursements or check register and a listing of each owner's ledger balance as of the date of the bank statement.
  - 1.16 On June 2, 2020, Farhoud submitted clients' trust account November 2019 bank statement for account ending in #5722 to the Agency. On June 3, 2020, Farhoud submitted the trust account balance worksheet, Stark Firs ledger, deposit register, check register and reconciliation worksheet. The reconciliation worksheet did not have a date as to when it was prepared, and was also not signed and dated by Farhoud.

(10) Violation: By failing to sign and date the reconciliation document for the November 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

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2019 reconciliation for clients' trust account ending in #5722 Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-0028(2)(d)(A),(B),(e) (1-1-2019 1-1-2020 Editions), which requires (2) A property manager must reconcile each clients' trust account within 30 calendar days of the date of the bank statement pursuant to the requirements contained in this section. (d) Within 30 calendar days from the date of the bank statement, the property manager must: (A) Complete the reconciliation document; and (B) Sign and date the reconciliation document, attesting to the accuracy and completeness of the reconciliation; and (e) The property manager must preserve and file in logical sequence the reconciliation document, bank statement, and all supporting documentation including, but not limited to, copies of the record of receipts and disbursements or check register and a listing of each owner's ledger balance as of the date of the bank statement.

- 1.17 The November 2019 reconciliation provided for clients' trust account ending in #5722 was not an actual three way reconciliation as required. The reconciliation worksheet reconciled the bank statement to the check register and the Stark Firs ledger. The reconciliation did not contain the sum of all positive owners' ledger as of the date of the bank statement. The reconciliation did not reconcile the bank statement, check register, and sum of the owners' ledgers balances.
- **Violation:** By not including the sum of all positive owners' ledgers as of the date of the bank statement and not reconciling the bank statement, check register, and sum of the owner's ledgers balances, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-0028(2)(a)(A),(B),(C)(b) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions), which requires: (2) A property manager must reconcile each clients' trust account within 30 calendar days of the date of the bank statement pursuant to the requirements contained in this section. (a) The reconciliation must have three components that are contained in a single reconciliation document: (A) The bank statement balance, adjusted for outstanding checks and other reconciling bank items; (B) The balance of the record of receipts and disbursements or the check register as of the date of the bank statement; and (C) The sum of all positive owners' ledgers as of the date of the bank statement. (b) The balances of each component in section (2)(a) of this rule must be equal to and reconciled with each other. If any adjustment is needed, the adjustment must be clearly

identified and explained on the reconciliation document.

1.18 The November 2019 reconciliation for clients' trust account ending in #5722 listed outstanding checks by check number and amount. The reconciliation failed to list the payee and issue date for each outstanding check.

(12)(a)Violation: By not listing the payee and issue date for each outstanding check, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-0028(2)(c) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions), which requires: (2) A property manager must reconcile each clients' trust account within 30 calendar days of the date of the bank statement pursuant to the requirements contained in this section. (c) Outstanding checks must be listed by check number, issue date, payee and amount.

(12)(b)Violation: By not including the sum of all positive owners' ledgers as of the date of the bank statement and not reconciling the bank statement, check register, and sum of the owner's ledgers balances, and not listing the payee and issue date for each outstanding check, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates ORS 696.890(4)(c),(d) (2019 Edition), which states (4) A real estate property manager owes the property owner the following affirmative duties: (c) To exercise reasonable care and diligence; (d) To account in a timely manner for all funds received from or on behalf of the owner.

- 1.19 Review of the financial documents for clients' trust account ending in #5722 shows payments for office mortgages, payroll, supplies, gas, food, uniforms and other miscellaneous operating expenses for Stark Firs.
- 1.20 Farhoud admitted that clients' trust account ending in #5722 was used to receive and disburse business operating expenses for Stark Firs. Additionally, Farhoud stated the clients' trust account bank account was used to receive money owed to Stark Firs including management fees and application fees. Payments were made out of the account for Stark Firs payroll, operating expenses, maintenance supplies, general supplies.
- (13)(a)Violation: By using the clients' trust account ending in # 5722 to pay business operating expenses for Stark Firs and to receive money owed to Stark Firs Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-0065(6) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions), which requires (6) A property manager may not deposit any funds received on behalf of an owner in the property manager's personal account or commingle any such funds received with

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1 personal funds of the property manager.

(13)(b)Violation: By using the clients' trust account ending in #5722 to receive money owed to

- 3 | Stark Firs, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-025(5)(a)(b) (1-
- 4 | 1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions), which states (5) Only the following funds may be held in a
- 5 | clients' trust account: (a) Funds received by a property manager on behalf of an owner; and (b)
- 6 Interest earned, but only if the account is a federally insured interest-bearing account and the
- 7 property management agreement complies with OAR 863-025-0020(3).
- 8 (13)(c)Violation: By using the clients' trust account ending in #5722 to pay business operating
- 9 expenses for Stark Firs and to receive money owed to Stark Firs Farhoud violated ORS
- 10 | 696.301(3) as it incorporates ORS 696.241(5)(a),(b) (2019 Edition), which states (5) A
- 11 | principal real estate broker or licensed real estate property manager may not commingle any
  - other funds with the trust funds held in a clients' trust account, except for: (a) Earned interest
  - on a clients' trust account as provided in subsections (7) and (8) of this section; and (b) Earned
- 14 compensation as provided in subsection (9) of this section.
  - 1.21 Each property had its own operating bank account. Typically money was electronically transferred from the operating account into the clients' trust account bank account.
  - 1.22 According to the property management agreement the property manager was required to:
    - "To compute, bill and collect all rent and/or lease payments, security, cleaning and other deposits and all other deposits and all other expenses chargeable to or payable by tenants pursuant to the terms of their leases due to Owner from the Property (the "Property Income"), giving in each instance a receipt for payment thereof upon request from any such tenant and to deposit all such Property Income in a Bank Account(s) maintained by Manager on behalf of the Owner under the name of the Owner at such bank or banks as are selected by Manager; provided all such deposits are federally insured. The Bank Account may designate only Manager as signatory, and Manager, acting alone shall have the power to withdraw funds there from."
    - 1.23 Regarding property owner Joseph Khouri, the operating bank accounts had been

set up by Khouri. Farhoud could review the operating accounts relating to Khouri's properties but could not receive or disburse funds for these accounts. Money from Khouri's operating accounts was not transferred into the clients' trust account. Each month Khouri would cut a check from Stark Firs in the amount of the management fee and that was deposited into the clients' trust account bank account.

(13)(d)Violation: By failing to deposit property income collected for Joseph Khouri properties into the clients' trust account ending in #5722, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates ORS 696.241(2) (2019 Edition), which requires (2) A licensed real estate property manager, or a principal real estate broker who engages in the management of rental real estate, shall open and maintain in this state one or more separate federally insured bank accounts that are designated clients' trust accounts under ORS 696.245. A principal real estate broker who engages in the management of rental real estate or a licensed real estate property manager shall deposit in a clients' trust account all trust funds received or handled by the principal real estate broker, licensed real estate property manager or real estate licensees subject to the supervision of the principal real estate broker.

(13)(e)Violation: By not having access to receive and disburse funds for the operating accounts used to hold the funds for property owner Joseph Khouri, Farahoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates, ORS 696.890(4)(c),(e) (2019 Edition), which states (4) A real estate property manager owes the property owner the following affirmative duties: (c) To exercise reasonable care and diligence; (e) To act in a fiduciary manner in all matters relating to trust funds.

- 1.24 The November 2019 check register for clients' trust account ending in #5722 did not include the following information for receipts of funds: the purpose of the funds and identity of the person who tendered the funds. For disbursement of funds, the check register failed identify the purpose of the disbursement, and did not contain identifying codes.
- (14) Violation: By failing to include the required transaction detail for entries in the check register for clients' trust account ending in #5722 Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-0040(2)(a)(C),(b)(D),(c) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions), which requires (2) A record of receipts and disbursements or a check register must contain at least the following information: (a) For each receipt of funds: (C) The purpose of the funds and

identity of the person who tendered the funds. (b) For each disbursement of funds: (D) The purpose of the disbursement, and (c) If there is more than one property in a clients' trust account, each entry for a receipt, deposit or disbursement must be identified with the applicable identifying code.

- 1.25 The November 2019 bank statement for clients' trust account ending in #5722 was labeled as Stark Firs Business Advantage Checking. The identifying words "Clients' Trust Account" or "Client Trust Account" do not appear on the bank statement. Additionally, check images show the name Stark Firs. The checks did not contain the identifying words "Clients' Trust Account" or "Client Trust Account."
- (15)(a)Violation: By failing to have the required identifying language of, "Clients' Trust Account or Client Trust Account" on the bank statement and checks for clients trust account ending in #5722, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-0025(1)(a) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions) and OAR 863-025-0027(2)(c) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions). OAR 863-025-0025(1)(a) requires (1) All clients' trust accounts and security deposits trust accounts must be labeled on all bank records and checks as: (a) "Clients' Trust Account" or "Client Trust Account. OAR 863-025-0027(2)(c) requires (2) A property manager must maintain and account for all checks used for a clients' trust account or security deposits account including, but not limited to, voided checks. All such checks must: (c) If the account is a clients' trust account, include the words "clients' trust account" or "client trust acct", but may include additional identifying language.
- 1.26 The November 2019 bank statement for clients' trust account ending in #5722 shows check card transactions linked to the account for withdrawals and other debits. The statement shows check card transactions for card accounts ending in #6822, #8109 and #9042. The Stark Firs ledgers shows the check card transactions were for Stark Firs business expense payments.
- (15)(b)Violation: By having check cards ending in #6822, #8109, and #9042 linked to clients trust account ending in #5722, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-0025(12) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions), which requires (12) A property manager may not utilize any form of debit card issued by financial institutions on a client trust account or security deposits account.

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1.27 Per Farhoud each property managed had their own operating bank account. Money collected on behalf of each property was deposited into the property's operating bank account. Money collected included rents, parking fees, garage fees, laundry (from washers and dryers located at property), application fees, water, sewer, and garbage payments. Farhoud was unable to confirm if the operating bank accounts were actual clients' trust accounts.

(16) Violation: By depositing funds received and collected on behalf of the owner into bank

(16) Violation: By depositing funds received and collected on behalf of the owner into bank accounts that were not designated as clients' trust accounts, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates ORS 696.241(2) (2019 Edition), ORS 696.890(4)(c), (e) (2019 Edition) and OAR 863-025-0065(4) (1-1-2019 and 1-1-2020 Editions). ORS 696.241(2) requires (2) A licensed real estate property manager, or a principal real estate broker who engages in the management of rental real estate, shall open and maintain in this state one or more separate federally insured bank accounts that are designated clients' trust accounts under ORS 696.245. A principal real estate broker who engages in the management of rental real estate or a licensed real estate property manager shall deposit in a clients' trust account all trust funds received or handled by the principal real estate broker, licensed real estate property manager or real estate licensees subject to the supervision of the principal real estate broker. ORS 696.890(4)(c),(e) states (4) A real estate property manager owes the property owner the following affirmative duties: (c) To exercise reasonable care and diligence; (e) To act in a fiduciary manner in all matters relating to trust funds. OAR 863-025-0065 (4) states (4) All funds, whether in the form of money, checks, or money orders belonging to others and accepted by any property manager while engaged in property management activity, must be deposited prior to the close of business of the fifth banking day following the date of the receipt of the funds into a clients' trust account or security deposits account as defined in OAR 863-025-0010 and established by the property manager under ORS 696.241. The property manager must account for all funds received.

1.28 A review of the May 2020 property operating bank account reconciliations and supporting documents for Alder Creek, Country Rambler, Ever Green Park, Parker Townhomes and Surrey Square shows that not all the money collected and deposited into the property operating bank account was transferred to the clients' trust account ending in #5722.

- (17) Violation: By not transferring all the property income collected for these properties from the property operating bank accounts to the clients' trust account ending in #5722, Farhoud violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-025-0065(4) (1-1-2020 Edition) and ORS 696.890(4)(c),(e) (2019 Edition). OAR 863-025-0065(4) requires (4) All funds, whether in the form of money, checks, or money orders belonging to others and accepted by any property manager while engaged in property management activity, must be deposited prior to the close of business of the fifth banking day following the date of the receipt of the funds into a clients' trust account or security deposits account as defined in OAR 863-025-0010 and established by the property manager under ORS 696.241. The property manager must account for all funds received. ORS 696.890(4)(c),(e) states (4) A real estate property manager owes the property owner the following affirmative duties: (c) To exercise reasonable care and diligence; (e) To act in a fiduciary manner in all matters relating to trust funds.
- 1.29 All of the above demonstrate incompetence or untrustworthiness in performing any act for which the real estate licensee is required to hold a license and conduct below the standard of care for the practice of professional real estate activity in Oregon.
- (18) Violation: ORS 696.301(12) and (15) (2017 and 2019 Editions) which state a licensee's real estate license may be disciplined if they have: (12) Demonstrated incompetence or untrustworthiness in performing any act for which the real estate licensee is required to hold a license, and (15) Engaged in any conduct that is below the standard of care for the practice of professional real estate activity in Oregon as established by the community of individuals engaged in the practice of professional real estate activity in Oregon.

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- 2.1 The foregoing violations are grounds for discipline pursuant to ORS 696.301. Based on these violations a reprimand is appropriate for violations of ORS 696.301(3), (12), and (15).
- 2.2 The Agency reserves the right to investigate and pursue additional complaints that may be received in the future regarding this licensee.
- 2.3 In establishing the violations alleged above, the Agency may rely on one or more of the definitions contained in ORS 696.010.

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2.4 According to ORS 696.775, the lapsing, expiration, revocation or suspension of a real estate license, whether by operation of law, order of the Real Estate Commissioner or decision of a court of law, or the inactive status of the license, or voluntary surrender of the license by the real estate licensee does not deprive the commissioner of jurisdiction to: (1) proceed with an investigation of the licensee; (2) conduct disciplinary proceedings relating to the licensee; (3) Take action against a licensee, including assessment of a civil penalty against the licensee for a violation of ORS 696.020(2); or (4) revise or render null and void an order suspending or revoking a license.

## STIPULATION & WAIVER

I have read and reviewed the above findings of fact and conclusions of law which have been submitted to me by the Agency and further, the order which follows hereafter. I understand that the findings of fact, conclusions of law and this stipulation and waiver embody the full and complete agreement and stipulation between the Agency and me. I further understand that if I do not agree with this stipulation I have the right to request a hearing on this matter and to be represented by legal counsel at such a hearing. Hearings are conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in ORS Chapter 183 and in accordance with the Rules of Practice and Procedure adopted by the Attorney General of the State of Oregon. I freely and voluntarily waive my rights to a hearing, to representation by legal counsel at such a hearing, and to judicial review of this matter.

I hereby agree and stipulate to the above findings of fact and conclusions of law and understand that the order which follows hereafter may be completed and signed by the Real Estate Commissioner or may be rejected by the Real Estate Commissioner. I understand that, in accordance with the provisions of ORS 696.445(3), notice of this order shall be published in the Oregon Real Estate News Journal.

I agree once the Commissioner executes this stipulated order, I will accept service of the final order by email, and hereby waive the right to challenge the validity of service.

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ORDER 1 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Farrah Farhoud's property manager license be, and 2 3 hereby is reprimanded. 4 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Farhoud complete the 27-hour Property Manager Advanced Practices Course, (as detailed in OAR 863-022-0022, 1-1-2021 Edition) within four 5 months from when the Commissioner signs this order. Farhoud must submit a certificate to 6 7 the Agency showing completion of the 27-hour Property Manager Advanced Practices Course. 8 This certificate must be submitted to the Agency no later than the 10 days after the education 9 has been completed. 10 IT IS SO STIPULATED: IT IS SO ORDERED: 11 12 13 DocuSigned by: Farrali Farlioud Steven Strode 14 FARRAH FARHOUD STEVEN STRODE 15 Real Estate Commissioner 16 Date 4/15/2021 | 9:27 AM PDT Date 4/15/2021 | 10:19 AM PDT 17 18 Date of Service: 04/15/202119 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30