# REAL ESTATE AGENCY BEFORE THE REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONER

ANNA A KRASKOFF

FINAL ORDER BY DEFAULT

#### PROCEDURAL HISTORY

1.

1.1 On October 21, 2021, the Real Estate Commissioner issued, by certified mail, a *Notice of Intent to revoke* the real estate broker's license of Anna Kraskoff (Kraskoff). The Real Estate Agency (Agency) sent the *Notice of Intent* to Kraskoff's two last known addresses of record with the Agency (PO Box 567, Woodburn, OR 97071 and 8370 Redwood Ln NE, Woodburn, OR 97301). The *Notice of Intent* was also mailed to Kraskoff by regular first-class mail to both of the above addresses in a handwritten envelope. And the notice of intent was also emailed to Kraskoff' at her email address of record.

1.2 On October 27, 2021, the Agency received the certified return receipt from the October 21, 2021, mailing to 8370 Redwood Ln NE, Woodburn, OR 97301. The receipt showed a delivery date of October 25, 2021, and was signed by Kraskoff. The certified mailing to PO Box 567, Woodburn, OR 97071 was returned to the Agency as unclaimed, unable to forward, return to sender. The mailings in the handwritten envelopes were not returned to the Agency.

1.3 The email was not returned as undeliverable. And per DocuSign Certificate of
Completion, the *Notice of Intent* document was viewed by Kraskoff at 1:58PM on October 28,
2021.

1.4 By email dated November 16, 2021, Kraskoff requested a hearing in this matter.

1.5 OREA file was forwarded to the Office of Administrative Hearings. A hearing date was set for December 13, 2022 through December 14, 2022 at 9:00 AM.

1.6 On December 7, 2022, Kraskoff requested a motion to reschedule the hearing.
 2 The motion was granted by the ALJ on December 8, 2022.

3 1.7 A new hearing date was set for March 15, 2023, through March 16, 2023.
4 Kraskoff.

5 1.8 On March 14, 2023, Kraskoff made several attempts to postpone the hearing.
6 The ALJ failed to find good cause for each of the requests for postponement and denied
7 Kraskoff's motions to postpone. Kraskoff did not appear for hearing as scheduled.

1.9 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 the Agency.

19 2.2 Kraskoff's last known address of record with the Agency was 8370 Redwood Ln20 NE, Woodburn, OR 97301.

2.3 A certified mailing of the notice of intent was mailed to Kraskoff at Kraskoff's last known address of record on October 21, 2021. (The notice of intent was received at Kraskoff's address of record on October 25, 2021.)

2.4 The mailing in the handwritten envelope has not been returned to the Agency. 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.

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2.5 Kraskoff is in default for failure to appear at the hearing as scheduled.

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## FINDINGS OF FACT

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3.1 At all times mentioned herein, Kraskoff was licensed as a real estate broker. Kraskoff's license has been associated with several registered business names during the events described below.

3.2 On January 3, 2017, the Agency received an inquiry from the Social Security 6 Administration Office of the Inspector General. An investigation was opened and assigned case number 2017-5.

3.3 On June 30, 2020, the Agency received a complaint from Jeff Seeber against Kraskoff. A separate investigation was opened in regard to this complaint and assigned case number 2020-206.

### Facts Related to Case #2017-5 Investigation:

3.4 On January 4, 2017, Vallerie Bush, with Regional Multiple Listing Service (RMLS) confirmed Kraskoff had listings and closed transactions from 2014 to 2017. During this period, Kraskoff's license had been affiliated with three registered business names (RBN): Real Estate Auctions.com, Artisan Realty Group, and Premier Property Group.

17 3.5 Agency records show that RBN RealEstate Auctions.com had been in void status 18 since November 16, 2016. Kraskoff had been a broker with this RBN from December 23, 2013 through August 12, 2014. In a phone interview on March 1, 2017, Kraskoff explained she 19 20 worked at RealEstateAuctions.com from approximately August 2014 to July 2015. Kraskoff 21 reported a total of 12 closed transactions during her time at RealEstate Auctions.com.

3.6 Kraskoff had been a broker with Artisan Realty LLC from August 12, 2014 through April 3, 2015. This RBN was closed effective February 28, 2017. In her interview Kraskoff mentioned, regarding her switch from REalEstateAuctions.com to Artisan, that she had short notice to move her license and it "was stressful because I had active transactions at the time."

Kraskoff reported four of her transactions closed while working under Artisan 27 3.7 28 Realty.

29 Kraskoff's license was associated with Premier Property Group (PPG) effective 3.8 April 3, 2015. David Tangvald, Principal Broker PPG, provided Kraskoff's income data for 30

commissions earned while working under that RBN. Documents indicated that all income had
 been reported under Kraskoff's social security number SSN1.

3.9 Documentation and reports provided from Kraskoff, escrow documents and PPG
4 displayed the following earnings for Kraskoff

• 2014 commissions estimated at \$73,523.00

• 2015 income reported to IRS as \$141,720.90

• 2016 income reported to IRS as \$165,818.77

3.10 Kraskoff was assigned two social security numbers (SSN1 and SSN2) by the Social Security Administration (SSA) as a child. Her parents completed the applications for these numbers using two variations of the family name: "Sharipoft" for SSN1 and "Sharipoff" for SSN2.

3.11 As an adult, Kraskoff did not inform SSA that she had obtained and was actively using two different social security numbers. She used both numbers for different purposes.
SSN1 was used on her employment documents for wage reporting to the IRS. SSN2 was used to apply for and collect, benefits from various federal agencies.

3.12 A lump sum payment of \$39,082 had been reported to the IRS from Artisan Realty Group during the 2014 tax year for SSN1. The payee was listed as Anna Kraskoff and the payer was Artisan Realty Group of Sisters, Oregon.

3.13 When asked about her employment with Artisan, Kraskoff told the SSA, "I have no idea who they are." Additionally, Kraskoff did not report her home to SSA which is an asset in determining eligibility for SSA programs.

3.14 During a phone call on January 11, 2017, Clayton Teel, Investigator with Oregon Department of Human Services, notified the Agency that the Kraskoff family was receiving Medicaid benefits administered through the Oregon Health Plan. Benefits were awarded based off of reported financial need. Regarding these benefits, on November 3, 2014, Kraskoff submitted an application for Oregon Health Plan benefits based on reported family income of less than \$3,211 per month.

3.15 In September 2016, Kraskoff submitted to DHS an application for Oregon Health
Plan benefits. The application contained the following:

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• On page 2, Kraskoff reported her social security number as SSN2.

On page 11, Kraskoff reported her husband Evan Kraskoff as the income source in
their household.

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• Page 12 provided an area to report other income. Kraskoff wrote "N/A."

Page 13 gave the opportunity to report income from other members of the household.
 Kraskoff wrote "N/A."

Page 20 Kraskoff signed, under penalty of perjury that she provided true answers to all
questions and dated the form September 12, 2016.

3.16 On January 3, 2018, Kraskoff was indicted on three counts of Theft of Government Funds.

3.17 Special Assistant U.S. Attorney, Rachel Sowray (Sowray) was assigned to
 prosecute Kraskoff's case. Sowray informed the Agency of additional loss to the Department of
 Education occurring in 2016, when Kraskoff applied for PELL Grant funding for her son. If
 Kraskoff had reported her income, the educational funds would not have been disbursed.

3.18 In February 2018, Sowray provided a summary of the losses the federalagencies sustained as discovered at that time:

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Loss to Social Security Administration -\$19,496.50

• Loss to Department of Health and Human Services -\$47,605.85

• Loss to the U.S. Department of Education -\$5,000.00 (The final judgment ordered restitution of\$16,637.00)

3.19 In June 2018, Kraskoff was charged by Superseding Indictment with four counts of Theft of Government funds.

3.20 On October 16, 2020, a signed plea agreement was filed with the United States
District Court, District of Oregon. In the plea agreement, Kraskoff pled guilty to Count 2 and the
government dismissed the remaining counts at sentencing.

3.21 On April 13, 2021, the sentencing hearing was held and Kraskoff was convicted
of Count 2 of Theft of Government Funds (18 U.S.C § 641). That same day, the Judgment was
signed by the judge in the U.S District Court of Oregon. Kraskoff was sentenced to a fine with
supervised probation for a term of three years. Restitution was ordered as follows:

• \$47,605.85 to DHS

• \$19,496.50 to SSA

• \$16,637.00 to DOE.

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Kraskoff did not report this judgment to the Agency.

### Facts Related to 2020-206 Investigation

3.22 Complainant Jeff Seeber (Seeber) was the owner of 7515 SW Mapleleaf in Portland (Mapleleaf).

3.23 Kraskoff's license was associated with Premiere Property Group (PPG) from November 3, 2015 until July 9, 2020. Her license was moved to EXP Realty, LLC where it remained until October 1, 2021, when her license expired for failure to renew during the month of September 2021. Kraskoff renewed her license late on October 1, 2021, and as of October 11, 2021, her license was not associated with a registered business name.

3.24 Per the Oregon Secretary of State records, Kraskoff was listed as the registered agent, organizer and sole member of Sun West Designs, LLC (Sun West).

3.25 In June 2020, Seeber decided to sell Mapleleaf. Beth Fernandez (Fernandez) of PPG represented Seeber in the sale. It was suggested to do an exclusive listing due to Mapleleaf's condition and Seebers were not ready to list on RMLS.

3.26 Initially, Mapleleaf was marketed within the PPG office for \$290,000, but the price was lowered to \$225,000. On June 17, 2020, the same day the price was lowered, Kraskoff submitted a full price all cash offer on behalf of Sun West Designs LLC and/Assigns. According to Fernandez, Kraskoff presented the offer as if she was representing another party.

3.27 On June 26, 2020, Fernandez texted Kraskoff to inquire about the earnest money. Fernandez said it was Kraskoff's text response that made her realize Kraskoff was the buyer. Fernandez stated, "That was the first I knew she was actually the buyer. She didn't disclose it anywhere."

3.28 The Seebers were upset once they learned that Kraskoff was the buyer. Agency staff interviewed Seeber and asked if he heard or saw any communication that Kraskoff was a principal to the Mapleleaf transaction. Seeber said, "We were totally unaware."

3.29 Fernandez texted Kraskoff suggesting she disclose in writing she was a principal. When agency staff interviewed Kraskoff, she stated she did disclose being a 28 29 principal, and said her disclosure was in conversation with Fernandez and later by text.

13.30On June 19, 2020, Kraskoff texted Fernandez, writing the buyer was a local2family who just closed on a sale and were looking to reinvest in a buy and hold rental.

3.31 Fernandez stated Kraskoff never said she was the buyer. According to
Fernandez, it wasn't until after the offer was submitted that Kraskoff claimed she was the
buyer.

3.32 During her interview, Kraskoff maintained she was not the initial buyer forMapleleaf, but that she had an out of state partner investor named Justin.

3.33 In her written response to the Agency, Kraskoff did not mention a partner investor. She also failed to disclose that she stepped in as the buyer. Kraskoff wrote in part, "Our full intention was to purchase this property, working with the sellers on their move out timelines. At the end the decision was made that this project was just not for us, there are too many unknowns..."

3.34 On June 22, 2020, earnest money was due to be deposited by 5pm per the purchase and sale agreement. No earnest money was deposited on that date.

3.35 On June 26, 2020, six days after it was due, Kraskoff deposited the earnest money with escrow.

3.36 On June 23, 2020, Kraskoff created a posting on Craigslist.com under the real estate by owner category, offering Mapleleaf for sale.

3.37 The Agency issued a Subpoena to Craigslist requesting a full copy of the advertisement and posting record. The phone number and email address shown on the posting record for the Craigslist add match the phone number and email address Kraskoff entered on her license record with the Agency.

3.38 When asked during her interview if she knew anything about the Craigslist ad for Mapleleaf, Kraskoff said, "No I don't. I had nothing to do with any of that."

3.39 After the offer to purchase, Kraskoff had many long appointments to view Mapleleaf, allegedly to bring contractors by the house. There were multiple appointments for several hours.

3.40 Seeber witnessed several well dressed people being brought by the house ontwo different occasions and there was no indication any of them were contractors. There wasno logo or business marking on the vehicles indicating it was related to any business.

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3.41 Fernandez asked Kraskoff to provide copies of any repair estimates received,
 but Kraskoff failed to respond.

3.42 In her written response to the Agency, Kraskoff wrote about multiple contractors
viewing the property and referenced "GC" in multiple instances. During her interview, Kraskoff
said the "GC" mentioned in her written response was her husband. Kraskoff didn't receive any
written bids or repair bids. She said her husband wrote notes down from pictures but nothing
concrete. Also, according to Kraskoff, friends who were contractors stopped in to provide some
general ideas or rough estimates that were given over the phone.

3.43 Kraskoff had scheduled appointments for contractor bids, however Seeber's statement and observations and factors listed below are evidence that the long appointment blocks were in fact showings for prospective buyers without Seeber's prior knowledge or permission: 1) there were unmarked, non-commercial appearing vehicles parked at the property for the appointments; 2) the parties were well-dressed and did not appear to be tradespeople providing bids for work but rather prospective buyers viewing the property; 3) no written estimates or repair bids were provided following these appointments or upon the Agency's request during the investigation; and 4) that Kraskoff placed an undisclosed ad on Craigslist offering the property for sale.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

 By using two social security numbers (SSNs), SSN1 for reporting her income as a broker, and SSN2 to fraudulently apply for, obtain, and actively use benefits from federal agencies, Kraskoff committed an act of fraud and engaged in dishonest conduct substantially related to Kraskoff's fitness to conduct professional real estate activity in violation of ORS 696.301(14) (2013-2017 editions). Kraskoff's conduct was substantially related to her fitness to conduct professional real estate activity because she knowingly used a different SSN to conceal her earnings from professional real estate activity.

2. By failing to report \$39,082 earnings received from Artisan Realty LLC in 2014 to the SSA; by failing to report her home as an asset to the SSA; and by falsely stating to the SSA she had no idea who Artisan Realty was when asked, Kraskoff fraudulently received \$19,496.85 in benefits she did not qualify for. Kraskoff's conduct constitutes

an act of fraud and dishonest conduct in violation of ORS 696.301(14) (2013 edition). Kraskoff's conduct was substantially related to her fitness to conduct professional real estate activity because she knowingly concealed earnings from professional real estate activity and personal assets, and because she made false statements regarding her own professional real estate business.

- 3. By failing to report her earnings from professional real estate activity to the SSA and by falsely attesting on applications for SSA benefits a that the information on her applications was accurate, Kraskoff fraudulently received \$47,505.85 in benefits. Kraskoff's conduct constitutes an act of fraud and dishonest conduct in violation of 696.301(14) (2013 and 2015 Edition). Kraskoff's conduct was substantially related to her fitness to conduct professional real estate activity because she knowingly concealed her earnings from professional real estate activity and made false statements on applications for SSA benefits regarding her real estate earnings.
- 4. By failing to report her earnings from professional real estate activity to the U.S. Department of Education, Kraskoff fraudulently received \$16,367.00 in Pell grants. Kraskoff's conduct constitutes an act of fraud and dishonest conduct in violation of 696.301(14) (2013 and 2015 Edition). Kraskoff's conduct was substantially related to her fitness to conduct professional real estate activity because she knowingly concealed her earnings from professional real estate activity and made false statements on applications for SSA benefits regarding her real estate earnings.
- By failing to report her conviction of Theft of Government Funds (18 U.S.C §641) within twenty calendar days, Kraskoff violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-015-0175(1)(a),(b),(c), and OAR 863-015-0175(4); (1-1-21 Edition).

By failing to disclose being a Principal in the transaction on the June 17, 2020, offer to purchase the Mapleleaf property, Kraskoff acted as an agent and undisclosed principal in violation of ORS 696.301(5),(12),(14) and (15) (2019 Editions). Additionally, Kraskoff violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates ORS 696.810(2)(a) (2019 Edition) and OAR 863-015-0145(1) (1-1-20 Edition).

7. Kraskoff communicated to the listing agent on the Mapleleaf transaction that the buyer was a local family. In a written statement to the Agency Kraskoff stated her full intention

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26 27 was to purchase Mapleleaf, yet in a later interview she reported to the Agency the buyer was an individual from another state. By making multiple representations regarding her involvement on the Mapleleaf transaction, Kraskoff violated ORS 696.301(12),(14), and (15) (2019 Editions). She also violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates 696.810(2)(a)(c) (2019 Edition). Licensee's statements were made in the course of professional real estate activity and demonstrated dishonest conduct and bad faith in dealing with agents and other principals in the transaction.

- 8. By depositing the earnest money on the Mapleleaf transaction six days after it was due, Kraskoff violated ORS 696.301(12),(14), and(15) (2019 Editions). Kraskoff also violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates 696.810(2)(a) (2019 Edition). Licensee's conduct demonstrated untrustworthiness and lack of good faith in dealing with agents and other principals in the transaction.
- 9. By listing the Mapleleaf property on Craigslist.com and offering it for sale, Kraskoff violated 696.301(1),(4),(6),(12),(14), and (15) (2019 Edition). Kraskoff also violated ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates OAR 863-015-0125(2)(a),(b) (1-1-20 Edition). Kraskoff's conduct created a reasonable probability of damage or injury to a potential buyer because at the time of the Craigslist listing Kraskoff was not the legal owner and did not have a right to transfer title to the property.
  - 10. By asking the Seebers to vacate the property so she could get repair bids, but using that time to show the property to prospective buyers, Kraskoff violated ORS 696.301(12),(14),(15) (2019 Editions) and ORS 696.301(3) as it incorporates 696.810(2)(a)(c) (2019 Edition). Kraskoff's conduct demonstrated dishonesty, untrustworthiness and lack of good faith in dealing with agents and principals in a real estate transaction.
  - 11. The material facts established that Kraskoff's conduct resulted in significant damage and injury to multiple agencies that provided benefits to Kraskoff when she misrepresented her earnings in order to obtain those benefits. Kraskoff's conduct in connection with the facts above demonstrated incompetence in the performance of professional real estate activity and dishonestly and fraudulent conduct. Revocation of
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| 1        | Kraskoff's real estate license is an appropriate sanction under ORS 696.396(2)(c)(A),             |
|----------|---|
| 2        | (B) and (C).  |
| 3        | 12. Licensee is in default for failure to appear at the hearing as scheduled.                     |
| 4        |   |
| 5        | ORDER   |
| 6        | Based on the foregoing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Kraskoff's broker license is                    |
| 7        | revoked. Revocation of Kraskoff's license is appropriate even if one or more of the violations    |
| 8        | above are reversed or remanded on appeal.   |
| 9        |   |
| 10       | Dated this <u>20th</u> _day of <u>March</u> , 2023.   |
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| 12       | OREGON REAL ESTATE AGENCY   |
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| 10       | · STEVEN STRODE   |
| 18       | Real Estate Commissioner  |
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| 22       | NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL: You are entitled to judicial review of this Order. Judicial            |
| 23       | review may be obtained by filing a petition for review within 60 days from the date of service of |
| 24       | this order. Judicial review is to the Oregon Court of Appeals, pursuant to the provisions of      |
| 25       | ORS 183.482.  |
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|          | 11 of 11 – Final Order by Default – Anna A Kraskoff   |