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California Corporations Commissioner
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10 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF CORPORATIONS
11 OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

12 THE CALIFORNIA CORPORATIONS)	File Nos.: 100-0930; 100-0931
13 COMMISSIONER,)	
)	
14 Complainant,)	
)	1) ACCUSATION TO REVOKE
15 vs.)	DEFERRED DEPOSIT
)	TRANSACTION LICENSES
16 CELEBRITY FINANCIAL, LLC, DBA)	
17 SHERMAN OAKS CHECK CASHING;)	2) ACCUSATION TO BAR
18 CHRISTOPHER F. DUNBAR;)	CHRISTOPHER F. DUNBAR
19 CHRISTOPHER F. DUNBAR DBA CANOGA)	
PARK CHECK CASHING II.)	
)	
20 Respondents.)	

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22 Complainant, the California Corporations Commissioner, (“Commissioner”) is informed and
23 believes, and based upon such information and belief, alleges and charges Respondents as follows:

24 **I.**

25 **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

26 On May 20, 2003, Co-Respondent, Christopher F. Dunbar (“Dunbar”), a manager of Co-
27 Respondent Celebrity Financial, LLC, doing business as Sherman Oaks Check Cashing
28 (“Celebrity”), submitted a long-form application on behalf of Celebrity to the Department of

1 Corporations (“Department”) for a license under the California Deferred Deposit Transaction Law
2 (“CDDTL”).

3 On December 23, 2004, Dunbar submitted an additional long-form application to the
4 Department for another CDDTL license on behalf of himself as an individual doing business as
5 Canoga Park Check Cashing II (“Canoga”).

6 In conjunction with the long-form applications for Celebrity and Canoga, Dunbar submitted
7 a Statement of Identity and Questionnaire (“Statement”) for each application on December 23,
8 2004. The Statement requires that the applicant provide true and correct information under penalty
9 of perjury. Question No. 5 on the Statement asks, “Have you ever been convicted of or pleaded nolo
10 contendere to a misdemeanor or felony other than traffic violations?” Dunbar responded “No” to
11 Question No. 5 on both Statements that he submitted on behalf of Celebrity and Canoga. A search
12 of records at the California Department of Justice (“DOJ”) also revealed that no criminal records
13 existed for Dunbar.

14 Based upon the information submitted by Dunbar under penalty of perjury and the criminal
15 records search by the DOJ, the Department issued a deferred deposit originator license to Celebrity
16 (License No. 100-0930) on December 31, 2004, and a deferred deposit originator license to Canoga
17 (License No. 100-0931) on January 5, 2005.

18 Subsequently, during a regulatory examination of Canoga in 2009, the Department
19 discovered that Dunbar was convicted of one felony count of grand theft on November 14, 2002.
20 Dunbar failed to disclose the felony conviction on either Canoga’s or Celebrity’s CDDTL
21 application.

22 **II.**

23 **ORDER REVOKING CALIFORNIA DEFERRED DEPOSIT TRANSACTION LICENSE**

24 California Financial Code section 23011 (a) provides in pertinent part:

25 (a) Upon reasonable notice and the opportunity to be
26 heard, the commissioner may deny the application for any
of the following reasons:

27 (1) any false statement of material fact has been made in
28 the application.

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(2) Any officer, director, general partner, or person owning or controlling, directly or indirectly, 10 percent or more of the outstanding interests or equity securities of the applicant has, within the last 10 years (A) been convicted of or pleaded nolo contendere to a crime, or (B) committed any act involving dishonesty, fraud or deceit, if the crime or act is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a person engaged in business in accordance with this division.

California Financial Code section 23052 provides in pertinent part:

The commissioner may suspend or revoke any license, upon notice and reasonable opportunity to be heard, if the commissioner finds any of the following:

(c) A fact or condition exists that, if it had existed at the time of the original application for the license, reasonably would have warranted the commissioner in refusing the license originally.

The Commissioner finds that Dunbar’s felony conviction for grand theft and subsequent failure to disclose the felony conviction were grounds under Financial Code section 23011 (a) for the Commissioner to deny Celebrity’s and Canoga’s original application, which are grounds to revoke the current deferred deposit transaction license of Celebrity and Canoga.

WHEREFORE, IT IS PRAYED that the deferred deposit transaction licenses of Celebrity Finance LLC, doing business as Sherman Oaks Check Cashing and Christopher F. Dunbar, an individual doing business as Canoga Park Check Cashing II, be revoked.

III.
ORDER BARRING CHRISTOPHER F. DUNBAR FROM ANY POSITION OF EMPLOYMENT, MANAGEMENT, OR CONTROL OF ANY DEFERRED DEPOSIT ORIGINATOR

California Financial Code section 23011.5 provides in pertinent part:

(a) The commissioner may, after appropriate notice and opportunity for hearing, by order, censure or suspend for a period not exceeding 12 months, or bar from any position of employment, management, or control any deferred

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deposit originator, or any other person, if the commissioner finds either of the following:

(1) That the censure, suspension, or bar is in the public interest and that the person had committed or caused a violation of this division or rule or order of the commissioner, which violation was either known or should have been known by the person committing or causing it or has caused material damage to the deferred deposit originator or to the public.

(2) That the person has been convicted of or pleaded nolo contendere to any crime ... if that crime ... involved any offense involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit, or any other offense reasonably related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a person engaged in the business in accordance with the provisions of this division.

The Commissioner finds that Dunbar’s felony conviction for grand theft and submission of a false Statement of Identity and Questionnaire under penalty of perjury to the Department are grounds to bar Christopher F. Dunbar from any position of employment, management or control of any deferred deposit originator and it is in the best interests of the public to do so.

WHEREFORE, IT IS PRAYED that Christopher F. Dunbar be barred from any position of employment, management or control of any deferred deposit originator.

Dated: September 28, 2009
Los Angeles, California

PRESTON DuFAUCHARD
California Corporations Commissioner

By _____
Johnny Vuong
Corporations Counsel
Enforcement Division