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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF CORPORATIONS

TO: Auto-tripledeal.com
Lauren Jones
10710 Misty Hollow Ave.
Baton Rouge, LA 70810

DESIST AND REFRAIN ORDER
(For violations of sections 17200, 17210.2 and 17403 of the California Financial Code)

The California Corporations Commissioner finds that:

1. Auto-tripledeal.com and Lauren Jones have engaged in the business of an escrow agent by advertising escrow services over the internet at www.auto-tripledeal.com from 2000 to the present as follows:

a) Auto-tripledeal.com represents on its website that the process works as follows:
The buyer and seller agree to the terms of the transaction. The buyer pays Auto-tripledeal.com, which verifies the payment. Auto-tripledeal.com notifies the seller to ship its merchandise and then verifies that the buyer receives the shipment. The buyer accepts the goods. Auto-tripledeal.com then pays the seller and the transaction is complete.

b) Auto-tripledeal.com claims to protect both the buyer and the seller from fraud with this process.

c) Auto-tripledeal.com and Lauren Jones have represented that the escrow services provided by Auto-tripledeal.com are provided by Internet Escrow Services (IES), and that IES is “fully licensed and accredited as an escrow company and is subject to compliance with all applicable

1 escrow regulations.” In fact, IES is an affiliate of Escrow.com and Auto-tripledeal.com is not
2 affiliated with either IES or Escrow.com.

3 d) Auto-tripledeal.com and Lauren Jones have represented that Auto-tripledeal.com
4 holds escrow license number 963-1167. In fact, California escrow license number 963-1167 was
5 issued to Escrow Services of the Central Coast, Inc. The license was suspended on April 5, 1996,
6 and surrendered on May 20, 1996.

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8 2. Neither Auto-tripledeal.com nor Lauren Jones has been issued a license from the
9 Commissioner authorizing them to conduct business as an escrow agent, as required by California
10 Financial Code section 17200.

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12 3. Neither Auto-tripledeal.com nor Lauren Jones is exempt from the licensing requirements
13 of Section 17200.

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15 4. Neither Auto-tripledeal.com nor Lauren Jones has been issued a license from the
16 Commissioner authorizing them to use words indicating that they are in the escrow business, as
17 required by California Financial Code section 17403.

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19 5. Auto-tripledeal.com and Lauren Jones have disseminated or caused to be disseminated
20 false, misleading and/or deceptive statements or representations which refer to Auto-tripledeal.com’s
21 affiliation with IES, when, in fact, Auto-tripledeal.com is not affiliated with IES in any way.

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23 Based upon the foregoing findings, the California Corporations Commissioner is of the opinion that
24 Auto-tripledeal.com and Lauren Jones and their officers directors, partners, agents, employees and/or
25 servants are in violation of California Financial Code sections 17200, 17210.2(a) and 17403(a).
26 Pursuant to California Financial Code section 17416, Auto-tripledeal.com and Lauren Jones are
27 hereby ordered to desist and refrain from engaging in the business of receiving escrows for deposit or
28 delivery without first obtaining a license from the Commissioner. Pursuant to California Financial

1 Code section 17403(b), Auto-tripledeal.com and Lauren Jones are further ordered to immediately
2 desist and refrain from issuing, circulating, or publishing any advertisement by means of any
3 communication, including any website, or making use of or circulating any letterheads, billheads,
4 blank notes, blank receipts, blank escrow instructions, certificates, circulars, or any written or printed
5 paper containing any fictitious or corporate name or other words indicating that they are in the
6 escrow business. Pursuant to California Financial Code section 17210.2(c), Auto-tripledeal.com and
7 Lauren Jones are further ordered to immediately desist and refrain from disseminating, or causing or
8 permitting to be disseminated, in any manner whatsoever, any statement or representation which is
9 false, misleading, or deceptive, or which omits to state material information, or which refers to the
10 supervision of that agent by the State of California or any department or official thereof. Auto-
11 tripledeal.com and Lauren Jones are further ordered to immediately desist and refrain from
12 disseminating or causing or permitting to be disseminated, in any manner whatsoever, any statement
13 or representation that Eurosafedeals.com is in any manner associated with IES.

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15 This Order is necessary, in the public interest, for the protection of investors and consistent with the
16 purposes, policies and provisions of the California Escrow Law. This order shall remain in full force
17 and effect until further order of the California Corporations Commissioner.

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19 Dated: January 18, 2005
20 Sacramento, California

21 WILLIAM P. WOOD
22 California Corporations Commissioner

23
24 By: _____
25 WAYNE STRUMPFER
26 Acting Deputy Commissioner
27 Enforcement and Legal Services
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