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5	Los Angeles, California 90013 Telephone: (213) 576-7594 Facsimile: (213) 576-7181		
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7	Attorneys for Complainant		
8	BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS OVERSIGHT		
9	OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
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11	In the Matter of:	) File No.: 603-K061	
12	THE COMMISSIONER OF BUSINESS	) DESIST AND REFRAIN ORDER PURSUANT	
13	OVERSIGHT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,	) TO CALIFORNIA FINANCIAL CODE ) SECTION 22712	
14		)	
15	Complainant,	) )	
16	vs.	)	
17	CASH4RENT, INC. a.k.a.	)	
18	LOANME, INC. a.k.a. MORTGAGECALL, INC.,	) )	
19		, )	
20	Respondent.	_)	
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22	The Complainant is informed and believes and based upon such information and belief, alleges and charges the Respondent as follows:		
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25	<u>Introduction</u>		
26	1. Cash4Rent, Inc. a.k.a. LoanMe, Inc. a.k.a. MortgageCall, Inc. ("Cash4Rent") is a		
27	finance lender licensed since September 24, 2013 by Complainant, the Commissioner of Business		
28	Oversight ("Commissioner") pursuant to the California Finance Lender Law ("CFLL") (Fin. Code		
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§ 22000 et seq.). Cash4Rent's license number is 603-K061 and licensed location is One City Boulevard West, Suite 1900, Orange, California 92868. Cash4Rent also does business as "LoanMe, Inc." at 1900 S. State College Boulevard, Anaheim, California 92806 and operates a website at www.loanme.com.

2. Neither Cash4Rent's use of the name, "LoanMe, Inc." nor its business location of 1900 S. State College Boulevard, Anaheim, California 92806 has been authorized by the Commissioner.

## II Application, License, and Proposed Amendments to License

- 3. On or around October 29, 2012, Cash4Rent filed an application for a CFLL license pursuant to Financial Code section 22101 (File number 603-K061, hereinafter "Application"). The Application identified John Paul Reddam ("Reddam") as the president, secretary, treasurer, sole shareholder, sole director and person in charge of Cash4Rent. Reddam executed the Application under penalty of perjury as president of Cash4Rent.
- 4. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 10, section 1422, the Application included a Statement of Identity and Questionnaire ("SIQ") for Reddam, dated on or around October 24, 2012. On the basis of the Application and submissions of Cash4Rent, on or around September 24, 2013, CFLL license # 603-K061 was issued to Cash4Rent. Between October 24, 2012 and September 24, 2013, Cash4Rent made no amendments, updates, or revisions to Reddam's SIQ.
- 5. On or around October 23, 2013, Cash4Rent notified the Commissioner of Cash4Rent's intent to modify its business plan to begin making mortgage loans rather than unsecured consumer loans; to change its name to MortgageCall, Inc. ("MortgageCall"); and to change its place of business to 1600 Douglass Road, Suite 200, Anaheim, California 92806.
- 6. On or around November 8, 2013, Cash4Rent Cash4Rent, changed its name to MortgageCall, Inc. ("MortgageCall") by filing an Amended Statement of Designation by Foreign Corporation with the California Secretary of State.

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- 7. On or around November 20, 2013, Cash4Rent again notified the Commissioner of its intent to change its name to MortgageCall and its address to 1600 S. Douglass Road, Suite 200, Anaheim, California 92806, and to transition its business to mortgage lending. Cash4Rent registered MortgageCall with the National Mortgage Licensing System and Registry ("NMLS"), and was issued a unique identifier, NMLS identification number 1139057. However, Cash4Rent's request for name and address changes have not yet been authorized, and its status to be a mortgage lender has not been approved but is still pending.
- 8. On or around January 2, 2014, Cash4Rent, using the unauthorized name, MortgageCall, notified the Commissioner of its intent to change its address from 1600 S. Douglass Road, Suite 200, Anaheim, CA 92806 to One City Boulevard West, Suite 900, Orange, California 92868.
- 9. On or around January 16, 2014, Cash4Rent changed its name from MortgageCall back to Cash4Rent, Inc. by filing another Amended Statement of Designation by Foreign Corporation with the California Secretary of State.
- 10. On or around April 28, 2014, Cash4Rent notified the Commissioner that it had undergone a 100% change of ownership when on or about April 15, 2014, Reddam purportedly sold all of the issued and outstanding shares of Cash4Rent to MOW, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company owned by three individuals in equal proportions.
- 11. On or around May 15, 2014, Cash4Rent changed its name to LoanMe, Inc. ("LoanMe") by filing an Amended Statement of Designation by Foreign Corporation with the California Secretary of State.
- 12. On or around June 4, 2014, Cash4Rent notified the Commissioner of its intended name change to LoanMe as well as address change from Suite 1900 to Suite 900, indicating that the correct contact information for Cash4Rent's license # 603-K061 was One City Boulevard West, Suite 900, Orange, California 92868. However, to date, the Commissioner has not authorized the proposed name or address changes.

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13. Pursuant to Financial Code section 22700, the CFLL license # 603-K061 issued to Cash4Rent has not been surrendered, revoked, or suspended and hence remains in effect, as none of the proposed amendments to its name and address as stated above have been authorized.

## III

## <u>Violation of Financial Code Section 22155:</u> Transacting Business Using Unauthorized Name and Address

- 14. Starting from at least July, 2014, Cash4Rent engaged in the business of finance lending under a name and/or address location not authorized in the license.
- 15. For example, on or around July 21, 2014, Cash4Rent executed a loan contract with at least one California resident indicating the "Finance Lenders Name and Address" to be LoanMe, Inc., One City Boulevard West Suite 900, Orange, CA 92868. The stated amount financed was \$2,525.00 with an annual percentage rate of 203.2%. The promissory note and disclosure statement further stated, "For information, contact the Department of Business Oversight, State of California, License No. 603-K061."
- 16. While Cash4Rent's proposed name and address changes were still pending authorization by the Commissioner, Cash4Rent also engaged in the business of finance lending via the website, <a href="www.loanme.com">www.loanme.com</a>. As of at least December 12, 2014, the website offered the general public personal, small business, and auto loans, stating:

California loans are made pursuant to LoanMe's California Department of Business Oversight Finance Lenders Law License #603K061. Credit approval is subject to LoanMe's credit standards, and actual terms (including actual loan amount) may vary by applicant. LoanMe requires certain supporting documentation with each new application. LoanMe provides complete disclosures of APR, fees, and payment terms with each loan document. If you have any questions regarding this, call us at 844-311-2274. LoanMe is located at 1900 S. State College Boulevard, Suite 300, Anaheim, CA 92806. © Copyright 2014 LoanMe, Inc. All Rights Reserved. NMLS Number: 1139057- NMLS Consumer Access can be found here.

17. Furthermore, between December 3, 2014, and December 10, 2014, Cash4Rent directly offered loans to at least one California resident via emails in the following manner:

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- ii. Despite no response from the California resident, a second email dated December 7, 2014, was sent to the California resident stating, in relevant part: "Hello. I just tried reaching you in regards to your loan application . . . Can you please call me directly at 949-535-7338 when you get this? Your first Payment won't be due until JANUARY. We can get cash into your account as quickly as Monday! We work with bad credit/less than perfect credit . . . This is NOT a Pay Day loan . . . . "
- iii. Despite no response from the California resident to the first or second emails, a third email dated December 10, 2014 was sent to the California resident stating, in relevant part: "LoanMe Pre-Qualification . . . I have received a half completed application. Contact me ASAP to move forward with your application to see exactly what your (sic) pre-qualified for or not. Talk to you soon . . . ."
- 18. Financial Code section 22155 provides, in relevant part:

  No finance lender, broker, or mortgage loan originator licensee shall transact the business licensed or make any loan provided for by this division under any other name or at any other place of business than that named in the license except pursuant to a currently effective written order of the commissioner authorizing the other name or other place of business. The commissioner's order, while effective, shall be deemed to amend the original license issued pursuant to Section 22105 or 22109.1 . . . .
- 19. The Commissioner has not issued an order amending Cash4Rent's original license (license # 603-K061) issued on September 24, 2013. As such, Cash4Rent has transacted business as a finance lender under the unauthorized name, LoanMe, and at an unauthorized location, 1900 S.

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State College Boulevard, Suite 300, Anaheim, CA 92806, in violation of Financial Code section 22155. **Violation of Financial Code Section 22161:** Making False, Misleading, or Deceptive Representations 20. Since at least December, 2014, Cash4Rent has displayed or caused to be displayed on the website, www.loanme.com, the following information: California loans are made pursuant to LoanMe's California Department of Business Oversight Finance Lenders Law License #603K061. Credit approval is subject to LoanMe's credit standards, and actual terms (including actual loan amount) may vary by applicant. LoanMe requires certain supporting documentation with each new application. LoanMe provides complete disclosures of APR, fees, and payment terms with each loan document. If you have any questions regarding this, call us at <u>844-</u> 311–2274. LoanMe is located at 1900 S. State College Boulevard, Suite 300, Anaheim, CA 92806. © Copyright 2014 LoanMe, Inc. All Rights Reserved. NMLS Number: 1139057- NMLS Consumer Access can be

found here.

21. In fact, LoanMe is not the name associated with the Department's CFLL license # 603-K061 and the address location of 1900 S. State College Boulevard, Suite 300, Anaheim, CA 92806, is not an authorized licensed location for any CFLL licensee. The website omits to state that the NMLS ID # 1139057 does not correspond with an approved mortgage lender, and that Cash4Rent's status as a mortgage lender is still pending and not approved.

22. Financial Code section 22161 states, in relevant part:

No person subject to this division shall do any of the following:

- (a) Make a materially false or misleading statement or representation to a borrower about the terms or conditions of that borrower's loan, when making or brokering the loan.
- (b) Advertise, print, display, publish, distribute, or broadcast, or cause or permit to be advertised, printed, displayed, published, distributed, or broadcast in any manner, any statement or representation with regard to the business subject to the provisions of this division, including the rates, terms, or conditions for making or negotiating loans, that is false, misleading, or deceptive, or that omits material information that is necessary to make the statements not false, misleading, or deceptive, or in the case of a licensee, that refers to the supervision of the business by the state or any department or official of the state.

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- 23. Therefore, on or around July 21, 2014, by executing a loan contract with at least one California resident indicating the "Finance Lenders Name and Address" to be LoanMe, Inc., One City Boulevard West Suite 900, Orange, CA 92868, Cash4Rent made a materially false or misleading statement or representation to a borrower about the terms or conditions of that borrower's loan when making or brokering the loan, in violation of Financial Code section 22161, subdivision (a).
- 24. In addition, Cash4Rent has advertised, printed, displayed, published, distributed, or broadcasted, or caused or permitted to be advertised, printed, displayed, published, distributed, or broadcast via the website, <a href="www.loanme.com">www.loanme.com</a>, statements that are false, misleading, or deceptive, or omitted material information necessary to make the statements not false, misleading, or deceptive, and as a licensee, referred to the supervision of the business by the California Department of Business Oversight, in violation of Financial Code section 22161, subdivision (b).

## V Desist and Refrain Order

- 25. The Department of Business Oversight, through the Commissioner of Business Oversight, is vested with the authority to license and regulate finance lenders and brokers in the State of California pursuant to the CFLL.
  - 26. Financial Code section 22712, subdivision (a), provides in relevant part:

Whenever, in the opinion of the commissioner, any person is engaged in the business as a broker or finance lender, or a mortgage loan originator, as defined in this division, without a license from the commissioner, or any licensee is violating any provision of this division, the commissioner may order that person or licensee to desist and to refrain from engaging in the business or further violating this division. If, within 30 days after the order is served, a written request for a hearing is filed and no hearing is held within 30 days thereafter, the order is rescinded. For purposes of this section, "licensee" includes a mortgage loan originator.

NOW, BASED UPON THE FOREGOING, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, under the provisions of Financial Code section 22712, that Cash4Rent, Inc. a.k.a. LoanMe, Inc. a.k.a. MortgageCall, Inc., and any and all officers, directors, employees, independent contractors, or agents operating on behalf of Cash4Rent, Inc. a.k.a. LoanMe, Inc. a.k.a. MortgageCall, Inc., and

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their successors or assigns immediately desist and refrain from transacting the business licensed or making any loan provided for by this division under any other name or at any other place of business than that named in the license except pursuant to a currently effective written order of the commissioner authorizing the other name or other place of business, in violation of Financial Code section 22155.

Furthermore, Cash4Rent, Inc. a.k.a. LoanMe, Inc. a.k.a. MortgageCall, Inc., and any and all officers, directors, employees, independent contractors, or agents operating on behalf of Cash4Rent, Inc. a.k.a. LoanMe, Inc. a.k.a. MortgageCall, Inc., and their successors or assigns, are ordered to immediately desist and refrain from making a materially false or misleading statement or representation to a borrower about the terms or conditions of that borrower's loan, when making or brokering the loan, in violation of Financial Code section 22161, subdivision (a); and advertising, printing, displaying, publishing, distributing, or broadcasting, or causing or permitting to be advertised, printed, displayed, published, distributed, or broadcast in any manner, any statement or representation with regard to the business subject to the provisions of this division, including the rates, terms, or conditions for making or negotiating loans, that is false, misleading, or deceptive, or that omits material information that is necessary to make the statements not false, misleading, or deceptive, or in the case of a licensee, that refers to the supervision of the business by the state or any department or official of the state, in violation of Financial Code section 22161, subdivision (b).

Dated: February 18, 2015

Los Angeles, CA

JAN LYNN OWEN

Commissioner of Business Oversight

 $By_{\underline{\ }}$ Mary Ann Smith

**Deputy Commissioner** 

**Enforcement Division**