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10 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL PROTECTION AND INNOVATION
11 OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
12

13	In the Matter of:)	NMLS ID NO.: 2068278
14)	
15	THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCIAL)	
16	PROTECTION AND INNOVATION,)	
17	Complainant,)	ORDER DENYING MORTGAGE LOAN
18	v.)	ORIGINATOR LICENSE
19	GREGORY ALLAN DAWSON, aka GREG A.)	
20	DAWSON, as an individual)	
21	Respondent.)	

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23
24 The Commissioner of Financial Protection and Innovation (Commissioner) finds that:

25 **I.**

26 **The Application**

27 1. On May 25, 2021, Gregory Allan Dawson, aka Greg A. Dawson filed an application
28 for a mortgage loan originator license (MLO) by filing a Form MU4 through the Nationwide

1 Mortgage Licensing System and Registry (NMLS). Dawson was employed and initially sponsored by
2 Prospect Financial Group, Inc. (Prospect Financial), a finance lender and broker licensed by the
3 Department of Financial Protection and Innovation (60DBO-45222), but Dawson was discharged on
4 August 17, 2021 and Prospect Financial terminated its sponsorship of Dawson.

5 2. A review of Dawson’s criminal background revealed numerous offenses including:

6 a. In October 2008, Dawson pled guilty to theft and fraud by check, series \$500.00 -
7 \$1,000.00 in District Court, Arapahoe County, Colorado. He was sentenced to two years probation
8 and assessed fines, costs, and restitution for on March 11, 2009. Details of the complaint are
9 discussed in paragraph 6, below.

10 b. In 1995, he was arrested with one count charge of larceny misdemeanor under
11 \$100.00.

12 3. Dawson failed to disclose his past criminal record by answering “No” to the
13 Disclosure Question (H)(1) in the MU4 that asked: “[h]ave you ever been convicted of or pled guilty
14 or nolo contendere (“no contest”) in a domestic, foreign, or military court to committing or
15 conspiring to commit a misdemeanor involving: (i) financial services or a financial services-related
16 business, (ii) fraud, (iii) false statements or omissions, (iv) theft or wrongful taking of property, (v)
17 bribery, (vi) perjury, (vii) forgery, (viii) counterfeiting, or (ix) extortion?”

18 4. On or about July 6, 2021, the Department’s special administrator sent Dawson a
19 notification, through NMLS, requesting he amend his response to Disclosure Question (H)(1) in the
20 MU4, including attaching any applicable court/police documents. Dawson’s response was due 90
21 days from July 6, 2021.

22 5. On or about July 7, 2021, Dawson provided a document, from the Colorado Bureau of
23 Investigation – Crime Information Center that listed the crimes he was arrested and charged with
24 dating from 1995 to 2005. The crimes outlined in paragraph 2 were included in the document
25 Dawson provided.

26 6. Dawson also submitted the complaint and sentence order filed against him by the
27 District Court, Arapahoe County, Colorado, in 2008 (Case No. 2008CR002440). In this case,
28 Dawson was charged with theft on October 13, 2008. The complaint alleged that “[b]etween and

1 including August 27, 2007 and November 24, 2007, Gregory Dawson unlawfully, feloniously, and
2 knowingly obtained or exercised control over a thing of value, namely: United States Currency, of
3 Valerie and Tyler McIntyre, US Bank, TCF Bank , and Wells Fargo Bank, with the value of one
4 thousand dollars or more but less than twenty thousand dollars, without authorization, or by threat or
5 deception ... in violation of section 18-4-401(1)(a),(2)(c), C.R.S.” In March 2009, Dawson pled
6 guilty to a felony, “Theft \$1,000-\$20,000”, in which he received a deferred sentence. The felony
7 charge was downgraded to a misdemeanor “Fraud by Check-Series-\$500-\$1,000” to which Dawson
8 pled guilty and was convicted. Dawson was ordered to pay restitution of \$2,373.62 and placed on
9 probation for two years.

10 7. Dawson did not update his MU4 to amend his response to Criminal Disclosure
11 Question (H)(1).

12 8. A review of Dawson’s records also showed several civil judgements filed against him,
13 including one filed in October 2009, for \$1,290.00, in Denver County Court, Case No. 2009C63433,
14 and another filed in August 1995 for \$250.00, in Arapahoe-Aurora County Court, Case No.
15 95BD6040.

16 II.

17 **Financial Responsibility, Character, and General Fitness**

18 9. Under the provisions of Financial Code sections 22109.1 and 50141, an MLO
19 applicant must demonstrate such financial responsibility, character, and general fitness as to
20 command the confidence of the community and to warrant a determination that the MLO will operate
21 honestly, fairly, and efficiently. (Fin. Code sections 22109.1(a)(3) and 50141(a)(3).)

22 10. As described in paragraphs 2 (a) and 6, Dawson was charged with theft on October 13,
23 2008. In March 2009, Dawson pled guilty to felony “Theft \$1,000-\$20,000” in which he received a
24 deferred sentence. The felony charge was downgraded to a misdemeanor and Dawson was convicted
25 for “Fraud by Check-Series-\$500-\$1,000” where he was ordered to pay restitution of \$2,373.62 and
26 placed on probation for two years. As described in paragraph 6, Dawson provided a copy of the
27 complaint and sentence order filed against him by the District Court, Arapahoe County, Colorado in
28 2008. However, Dawson failed to disclose the 2009 conviction by answering “No” to Disclosure

1 Question (H)(1) in the MU4 that asked: “[h]ave you ever been convicted of or pled guilty or nolo
2 contendere (“no contest”) in a domestic, foreign, or military court to committing or conspiring to
3 commit a misdemeanor involving: (i) financial services or a financial services-related business, (ii)
4 fraud, (iii) false statements or omissions, (iv) theft or wrongful taking of property, (v) bribery, (vi)
5 perjury, (vii) forgery, (viii) counterfeiting, or (ix) extortion?” To date, Dawson has not updated his
6 MU4 to amend his response to Criminal Disclosure Question (H)(1).

7 11. As described in paragraph 8, the review process also showed several civil judgements
8 filed against Dawson including one filed in October 2009, for \$1,290.00, in Denver County Court,
9 Case No. 2009C63433, and another filed in August 1995 for \$250.00, in Arapahoe-Aurora County
10 Court, Case No. 95BD6040.

11 12. The Commissioner finds that Dawson has not demonstrated financial responsibility,
12 character, and general fitness as to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a
13 determination that he will operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently as an MLO under Financial Code
14 sections 22109.1, subdivision (a)(3) and 50141, subdivision (a)(3).

15 **III.**

16 **Applicable Law**

17 13. Section 22109.1, subdivision (a)(3) of the California Financial Lending Law and
18 section 50141, subdivision (a)(3) of the California Residential Mortgage Lending Law, contain
19 substantially similar language and provide in relevant part:

20 (a) The commissioner shall deny an application for a mortgage loan
21 originator license unless the commissioner makes, at a minimum, the
22 following findings:

23 . . .

24 (3) The applicant has demonstrated such financial responsibility,
25 character, and general fitness as to command the confidence of the
26 community and to warrant a determination that the mortgage loan
27 originator will operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the
28 purposes of this division.

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IV.

Notice of Intention to Deny Application for Mortgage Loan Originator License

14. On October 7, 2021, the Commissioner issued a Notice of Intention to Deny Application for Mortgage Loan Originator License, Statement of Issues, and accompanying documents (Notice of Intention to Deny) based on the above findings.

15. On October 11, 2021, the Commissioner served Dawson with the Notice of Intention to Deny at the latest address on file and his most recent residential address in Erie, Colorado. Dawson did not request a hearing and the time to request a hearing has expired.

16. On October 12, 2021, Dawson filed a request to withdraw his MLO license application through NMLS. Dawson, however, has never responded to the Notice of Intention to Deny. To date, there has been no communication from Dawson concerning the Notice of Intention to Deny or a follow-up to his request to withdraw his mortgage loan originator license.

NOW GOOD CAUSE APPEARING THEREFOR, it is hereby ordered that the Application filed by Gregory Allan Dawson, aka Greg A. Dawson for a mortgage loan originator license is denied.

Dated: January 4, 2022
Los Angeles, California

CLOTHILDE V. HEWLETT
Commissioner of Financial Protection and Innovation

By: _____
MARY ANN SMITH
Deputy Commissioner
Enforcement Division