

1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
2 BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY  
3 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL PROTECTION AND INNOVATION

4 TO: Sentra Financials LLC  
5 50 Iron Point Suite 300  
6 Oxnard, CA 93036  
7 info@sentrafinancials.com

8 **DESIST AND REFRAIN ORDER**  
9 **(For violations of Financial Code section 22100)**

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

11 1. The Commissioner is authorized to pursue administrative actions and remedies against  
12 persons who engage in violations of the California Financing Law (Cal. Fin. Code §§ 22000 –  
13 22780.1) (CFL).

14 2. At all relevant times, Sentra Financial LLC (Sentra) is a business entity of unknown  
15 form doing business in California, using the business address 50 Iron Point Suite 300, Oxnard, CA  
16 93036; the email address info@sentrafinancials.com; and the phone number 1-888-738-0005. There  
17 is no record of any corporate filings for an entity named Sentra Financials LLC or Sentra Financials  
18 US LLC in California.

19 3. Beginning in at least May of 2022, Sentra engaged in the business of a finance lender  
20 and/or broker in California by accepting loan applications from prospective borrowers and entering  
21 into a loan agreement with at least one California resident (prospective borrower).

22 4. Sentra’s main point of contact with the prospective borrower was an individual  
23 purportedly named Thomas Scott (Scott). Scott contacted the prospective borrower via both phone  
24 calls and emails promoting and advertising Sentra’s loan services and products. In emails, Scott  
25 touted Sentra as a “full-service, locally owned financial institution.”

26 5. On or around May 3, 2022, the prospective borrower went through the process of  
27 applying for a loan with Sentra, and quickly received loan approval documents.

28 6. The terms of the loan agreement consisted of a \$30,000 loan to be paid at 2.92%  
interest. Scott requested that the prospective borrower send multiple ‘fees’ as a prerequisite to

1 receiving loan funds. Such fees included a “File Processing Fee” of \$501.10, “Closing Costs” of  
2 \$1,575, “Security Authentication Amount” fees of \$2,111.34, “Reimbursable” fees of \$3,115.56,  
3 “Transfer Fees” of \$2220, and “Tax Charges” of \$3,156.93.

4 7. Scott promised to distribute loan funds to the prospective borrower after the he paid  
5 each requested fee. However, each time the borrower made a fee payment, Scott requested another  
6 fee. No loan funds were distributed.

7 8. The borrower paid the fees by mailing cashier’s checks to a purported escrow  
8 company based in Denver, Colorado. The purported escrow company is not licensed to offer escrow  
9 services in California.

10 9. To date, Sentra has not sent the prospective borrower any of the loan funds despite  
11 numerous requests. Nor has Sentra reimbursed the prospective borrower for any part of the  
12 \$12,679.93 in fees the prospective borrower paid in expectation of receiving the loan. Nor has the  
13 purported escrow company returned any monies paid.

14 10. California Financial Code section 22100(a) provides, “No person shall engage in the  
15 business of a finance lender or broker without obtaining a license from the commissioner.”

16 11. Sentra has not been issued a license by the Commissioner authorizing it to engage in  
17 the business of a finance lender and/or broker under the California Financing Law.

18 12. Sentra is not exempt from the licensing requirements of California Financial Code  
19 section 22100.

20 Based on the foregoing findings, the Commissioner is of the opinion that Sentra has engaged  
21 in the business of finance lender and/or broker without a license from the Commissioner in violation  
22 of California Financial Code section 22100.

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Pursuant to California Financial Code section 22712, Sentra is hereby ordered to desist and refrain from engaging in the business of a finance lender and/or broker in the State of California without first obtaining a license from the Commissioner, or otherwise being exempt.

This Order is necessary, in the public interest, for the protection of consumers and is consistent with the purposes, policies and provisions of the California Financing Law.

Dated: February 5, 2024  
San Diego, California

CLOTHILDE V. HEWLETT  
Commissioner of Financial Protection and Innovation



By \_\_\_\_\_  
MARY ANN SMITH  
Deputy Commissioner  
Enforcement Division