STATE OF ALABAMA STATE BANKING DEPARTMENT BUREAU OF LOANS

STATE OF ALABAMA)
STATE BANKING DEPARTMENT)
Complainant,)))
V.)
HOMETOWN LENDERS, INC.)
Respondent.)

Case No. MC-2023-003 License No. MC-20906

FINAL ORDER

Having reviewed the entire record of the above-named proceeding, and the documents filed with the Alabama Banking Department regarding this matter (including the Recommended Order), the Supervisor, Bureau of Loans, makes the following rulings, findings, conclusions, determinations, and dispositions:

PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

The Alabama Banking Department ("the Department") conducted a routine examination of Hometown Lenders, Inc. and discovered that the financial condition of the company warranted special attention. After the examination, the Department received numerous complaints from employees stating they had not received pay for time worked and other allegations. The Department also confirmed allegations that Hometown Lenders failed to timely forward money received from borrowers to government insurance entities. The Department sent a Notice of Intent to Revoke License to Hometown Lenders and its owner, William E. Taylor, Jr., on October 6, 2023. On October 26, 2023, Administrative Law Judge Randy C. Sallé held an administrative hearing on behalf of the Department on its intent to revoke the license of Hometown Lenders. The Department was represented by Anne W. Gunter, Esq., Deputy Attorney General. Examinations Supervisor Jeremy Windham testified on behalf of the Department. Former Hometown employees Christopher Fiorello and Tabatha Russell also testified for the Department. No one representing Hometown Lenders attended the hearing despite being timely served via certified mail and email.

The ALJ entered a Recommended Order on Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on November 14, 2023. The Order held that the Respondents failed to adhere to the Alabama Consumer Credit Act and recommended the revocation of Hometown Lenders, Inc. Consumer Credit license.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Findings of Fact as set forth in ALJ Sallé's November 14, 2023 Recommended Order are approved, adopted, and incorporated herein by reference.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Conclusions of Law as set forth in ALJ Sallé's November 14, 2023 Recommended Order are approved, adopted, and incorporated herein by reference.

DISPOSITION

Accordingly, the Supervisor, Bureau of Loans accepts the recommendation of ALJ Sallé and hereby revokes the license of Hometown Lenders, Inc. (License No. MC- 20906).

THEREFORE, the Department having determined that this Order is necessary and appropriate, the Supervisor of the Bureau of Loans, hereby REVOKES Hometown Lenders, Inc. Consumer Credit license. The provisions of this Order shall be binding upon Hometown Lenders, Inc., any affiliated parties, and any successors and assigns thereof, effective immediately.

DONE and ORDERED by the Supervisor of the Bureau of Loans on the 15th day of November, 2023.

/s/ Scott Corscadden Scott Corscadden Supervisor, Bureau of Loans