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SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION - UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. UNN-L-002981-21

MARLENE CARIDE,

COMMISSIONER OF THE

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF

BANKING AND INSURANCE,

Plaintiff,

V.

V.

Defendant.

THIS MATTER HAVING BEEN opened to the Court on the application of Matthew J. Platkin, Acting Attorney General of New Jersey, (by William E. Vaughan, Deputy Attorney General, appearing), attorney for Plaintiff, Marlene Caride, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance on a motion for judgment by default; and

Defendant, Felix Vega ("Defendant"), having been duly

served with a copy of the Summons and Complaint in the abovecaptioned action, and default having been entered for Defendant's failure to appear, answer, or otherwise defend;

This Court now finds that Defendant violated the New Jersey Insurance Fraud Prevention Act, N.J.S.A. 17:33A-1 to -30 ("Fraud Act") by knowingly making false statements to an insurance company in support of an automobile insurance application and claim.

Specifically, (a) Defendant misrepresented in an application for automobile insurance that Defendant resided in Plainfield, New Jersey when, in fact, Defendant resided in Bronx, New York, in violation of N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4(a)(4)(a), N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4(a)(4)(b), and N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4(a)(3); and (b) Defendant made false oral statements in connection with an automobile insurance claim that Defendant resided in Plainfield, New Jersey when, in fact, Defendant resided in Bronx, New York, in violation of N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4(a)(1); and

FINAL JUDGMENT is on this day of 2022, entered in the amount of \$9,734.50 against Defendant, and in favor of Plaintiff, Marlene Caride, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance as follows:

- (a) \$5,000.00 in civil penalties for two (2) violations of the Fraud Act, N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5(b);
- (b) attorneys' fees of \$3,584.50 pursuant to N.J.S.A.

17:33A-5(b);

- (c) costs of service in the amount of \$150.00 against Defendant pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5(b); and
- (d) a statutory fraud surcharge of \$1,000.00 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5.1.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:6A-15, Defendant's driving privileges will be suspended for a period of one (1) year from the date of this judgment.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that a copy of this Order be served upon all parties within ______ days of the date of receipt.

J.S.C.

This motion was:

HON. MARK P. CIARROCCA, P.J.Cv.

_____Opposed _____Unopposed