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SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
SPECIAL CIVIL PART - ESSEX COUNTY
DOCKET NO. ESX-DC-016677-23

JUSTIN ZIMMERMAN, ACTING)	
COMMISSIONER OF THE)	<u>Civil Action</u>
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF)	
BANKING AND INSURANCE,)	ORDER FOR FINAL JUDGMENT
)	BY DEFAULT
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	
)	SPECIAL CIVIL PART: STATUTORY
LEONAYAH HICKS,)	PENALTIES
)	
Defendant.)	AMOUNT IN CONTROVERSY:
)	\$8,423.00

THIS MATTER HAVING BEEN opened to the Court on the Application of Matthew J. Platkin, Attorney General of New Jersey, (by Chandra M. Arkema, Deputy Attorney General, appearing), attorney for Plaintiff, Justin Zimmerman, Acting Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance on a motion for final judgment by default; and

Defendant, Leonayah Hicks (“Defendant”), having been duly served with a copy of the Summons and Complaint in the above-captioned 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 making false oral and written statements to an insurance company in support of an automobile insurance application and claim for insurance benefits, in violation of the Fraud Act;

Specifically, Defendant made false representations to Progressive Garden State Insurance Company, in an application and in connection with an automobile insurance claim, that her 2010 Lexus RX 350 was principally garaged in Montclair, New Jersey, when in fact, the vehicle was garaged in Newark, New Jersey, in violation of N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4(a)(1), N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4(a)(3), N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4(a)(4)(a), and N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4(a)(4)(b).

FINAL JUDGMENT is on this 16TH day of FEBRUARY 2024, entered in the amount of \$8,423.00 against Defendant and in favor of Plaintiff, Justin Zimmerman, Acting Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance. This amount consists of \$5,000.00 in civil penalties for two (2) violations of the Fraud Act pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5(b); attorneys’ fees of \$2,423.00 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5(b); and a statutory fraud surcharge of \$1,000.00 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-5.1.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that a copy of this Order be served upon all parties within 10 days of the date of receipt.

Cynthia D Santomauro
CYNTHIA D. SANTOMAURO, J.S.C.

This motion was:

Opposed

Unopposed