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# STATE OF OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES DIVISION OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE SECURITIES

## BEFORE THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES

In the Matter of: I-11-0001

CREDIT PAYMENT SERVICES, INC. and CREDIT PROTECTION DEPOT, INC.,

FINAL ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST AND ORDER ASSESSING CIVIL PENALTY ENTERED BY DEFAULT

Respondents.

On February 7, 2011, the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services for the State of Oregon (hereafter "the Director"), acting by and pursuant to the authority of the Oregon Consumer Finance Act, Oregon Revised Statutes ("ORS") chapter 725, and other applicable authority, issued Administrative Order No. I-11-0001, ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST, PROPOSED ORDER ASSESSING CIVIL PENALTY AND NOTICE OF RIGHT TO A HEARING ("the Proposed Order") against Respondents Credit Payment Services, Inc. and Credit Protection Depot, Inc.

On February 19, 2011, Respondents Credit Payment Services, Inc. and Credit Protection Depot, Inc. were duly served with a true copy of the Proposed Order by certified United States Mail, postage prepaid, Item No. 7007 0220 0004 7206 3385, and addressed to Aaron Shoaf, Credit Payment Services, Inc. and Credit Protection Depot, Inc., at the following last known address: 3315 Hwy 50, Silver Springs, Nevada 89429.

On February 19, 2011, Respondents Credit Payment Services, Inc. and Credit Protection Depot, Inc. were duly served with a true copy of the Proposed Order by certified United States Mail, postage prepaid, Item No. 7007 0220 0004 7206 3378, and addressed to Credit Payment Services, Inc. and Credit Protection Depot, Inc., in care of Silver Shield Services, Inc. at PO Box 3540, Silver Springs, Nevada 89429.

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Respondents Credit Payment Services, Inc. and Credit Protection Depot, Inc. have not made a written request for a contested case hearing in this matter and time to do so has now expired.

NOW THEREFORE, after consideration of the file in this matter maintained by the Division of Finance and Corporate Securities, including any materials that Respondents may have submitted, the Director hereby issues the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Final Order.

T.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

The Director FINDS that:

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- Credit Payment Services, Inc. ("Credit Payments Services") and Credit Protection Depot, Inc. ("Credit Protection Depot" and collectively "Respondents") are businesses registered with the State of Nevada Secretary of State. The Nevada registered agent for both Respondents is Silver Shield Services, Inc., located at 2840 Hwy. 95 Alt. S. #7, Silver Springs, Nevada 89429. Neither Credit Protection Depot nor Credit Payment Services are registered to do business in Oregon with the Oregon Secretary of State.
- 2. Respondents are associated companies that hold themselves out to be, and in fact are, in the business of making payday loans to Oregon consumers. Respondents together do business under a number of assumed business names including: MyCashNow, Payday Max, and Discount Advances, among others. Respondents have also established websites using these assumed business names. None of these assumed business names have been registered with the Oregon Secretary of State.
- At all relevant times herein, Respondents were not licensed in Oregon with the Director as consumer lenders.
- 4. At all times relevant to this matter, individuals identified herein as "BO", "GB", "JH", "KJ", "RG", and "WB" (collectively "borrowers") were residents of the State of Oregon Page 2 of 6 – FINAL ORDER ENTERED BY DEFAULT/Credit Payment Services, Inc. (I-11-0001)

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who obtained consumer loans from Respondents through one or more of the Respondents' assumed business names using Internet websites.

- 5. During the period August 2007 to July 2009, each of the borrowers negotiated two or more consumer loans with Respondents through one or more of the Respondents' associated businesses. Borrower "BO" obtained three loans. Borrower "GB" obtained two loans. Borrower "JH" obtained three loans. Borrower "KJ" obtained eight loans. Borrower "RG" obtained two loans. Borrower "WB" obtained ten loans.
- 6. The principal amounts of the loans ranged from \$205 to \$840. All negotiations for the loans were conducted via the Internet while the borrowers were physically present in Oregon.
- 7. The term of each loan was 14 days. Most loans were "rolled over" or renewed for a new term of 14 days.
  - 8. Each of the loans was made primarily for personal, family or household purposes.
- 9. Each of the borrowers provided Respondents with their respective bank account information which Respondents used in debiting the borrowers' accounts for loan fees. Each of the borrowers' bank accounts was with a branch of a financial institution located in Oregon.
- 10. The interest rates for the loans made to the borrowers ranged from 400 percent to 2292 percent.
- 11. Respondents collected fees from each of the borrowers and interacted directly with the borrowers by virtue of the debiting of their Oregon bank accounts. Respondents also acted as intermediaries between the Oregon borrowers and other lenders either associated with Respondents or who had contracted with Respondents to refer borrowers to those lenders.

II.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- The Director CONCLUDES that:
- 12. Respondents, acting in concert or jointly, negotiated and/or offered and/or facilitated the offering of consumer loans to Oregon residents.

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13.	The loans negotiated and/or offered and/or facilitated by Respondents are payday
loans as de	efined in ORS 725.600(3).

- 14. Respondents violated ORS 725.045(1) by conducting a business in which they made consumer finance loans as defined by ORS 725.010(2) to Oregon residents without first obtaining a license under ORS chapter 725.
- 15. Respondents violated ORS 725.622(1)(a) by making or renewing consumer loans at an interest rate exceeding 36 percent. Each loan made or renewed with an interest rate over 36 percent is a separate violation of ORS 725.622(1)(a).
- 16. Respondents violated ORS 725.622(1)(d) by making or renewing consumer loans for terms of less than 31 days. Each loan made or renewed for a term of less than 31 days is a separate violation of ORS 725.622(1)(d).
- 17. Respondents violated ORS 726.626(1) by withdrawing funds electronically from consumers' bank accounts, or otherwise collecting the principal of, interest on, or fees or charges for loans subject to ORS 725.600 to 725.630 without having a current and valid license to make loans in Oregon.

III.

## **ORDERS**

NOW, THEREFORE, THE DIRECTOR ISSUES THE FOLLOWING ORDERS:

## Cease and Desist Order

18. Pursuant to the authority of ORS 725.400, the Director hereby ORDERS Respondents Credit Payment Services, Inc. and Credit Protection Depot, Inc. to CEASE AND DESIST from violating any provision of the Oregon Consumer Finance Act, ORS chapter 725, OAR 441-730-0000 through 441-730-0320, or any rule, order, or policy issued by the Director under ORS chapter 725.

## Order Assessing Civil Penalty

19. Pursuant to the authority of ORS 725.910, the Director may assess a CIVIL Page 4 of 6 – FINAL ORDER ENTERED BY DEFAULT/Credit Payment Services, Inc. (I-11-0001)

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PENALTY in an amount determined by the Director of not more than \$2,500 per violation	
against any person who violates any provision of the Oregon Consumer Finance Act, ORS	
chapter 725.	
20. Pursuant to ORS 725.910, the Director hereby ORDERS Respondents Credit	

- Payment Services, Inc. and Credit Protection Depot, Inc., jointly and severally, to pay a CIVIL PENALTY in the amount of \$77,500 (seventy-seven thousand five hundred dollars) as follows:
- A. A CIVIL PENALTY of \$2,500 (two thousand five-hundred dollars) for violation of ORS 725.045(1) by conducting a business in which Respondents made consumer finance loans as defined by ORS 725.010(2) to Oregon residents without first obtaining a license under ORS chapter 725;
- B. A CIVIL PENALTY of \$25,000 (twenty-five thousand dollars) for 28 violations of ORS 726.622(1)(a) for making or renewing consumer loans at an interest rate exceeding 36 percent; and
- C. A CIVIL PENALTY of \$25,000 (twenty-five thousand dollars) for 28 violations of ORS 725.622(1)(d) for making or renewing consumer loans for terms of less than 31 days.
- D. A CIVIL PENALTY of \$25,000 (twenty-five thousand dollars) for at least 28 violations of ORS 725.626(1) for withdrawing funds electronically from the six Oregon residents' bank accounts at a time when the Respondents did not have a current and valid license from the Director to make loans in Oregon.
  - 21. The entry of this Order in no way limits further remedies which may be available to