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BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE - BPC

DIVISION 8. SPECIAL BUSINESS REGULATIONS [18400 - 22949.92.2] (Division 8 added by Stats. 1941, Ch. 44.) CHAPTER 3. Home Furnishings [19000 - 19221] (Heading of Chapter 3 amended by Stats. 1972, Ch. 749.)

ARTICLE 9.5. Disciplinary Proceedings Against Nonresidents [19215 - 19215.8] (Article 9.5 added by Stats. 1955, Ch. 1045.)

19215. As used in this article, unless otherwise indicated, "director" means the Director of the Office of Administrative Hearings. (Amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 1161.)

19215.1. The acceptance by a nonresident licensee of any of the rights and privileges conferred upon him or her by this chapter, as evidenced by his or her engaging within this state, either personally or through an agent or employee, in a business subject to license under this chapter, is equivalent to the appointment by the licensee of the director as his or her true and lawful attorney upon whom may be served all lawful process in any disciplinary proceeding conducted against him or her under this chapter.

(Amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 405, Sec. 54. Effective January 1, 2003.)

19215.2. The acceptance of such rights and privileges as so evidenced shall signify the agreement of the licensee that any such process which is served against him or her in the manner provided in this article shall be of the same legal force and validity as if served upon him or her personally in this state.

(Amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 405, Sec. 55. Effective January 1, 2003.)

19215.3. Service shall be made by leaving a copy of the accusation, together with a notice of defense and statement to respondent as described in Section 11505 of the Government Code, with a fee of two dollars (\$2) for each licensee to be served, in the hands of the director or in his or her office in Sacramento. This service shall be sufficient service on the licensee subject to compliance with Section 19215.4 of this code.

(Amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 405, Sec. 56. Effective January 1, 2003.)

19215.4. A notice of such service and a copy of the accusation, together with the notice of defense and statement to respondent, shall forthwith be sent by registered mail by the director to the licensee at his or her last known address as furnished by the bureau. Personal service of this notice, copy of the accusation, notice of defense, and statement to respondent upon the licensee wherever found outside this state shall be the equivalent of this mailing.

(Amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 405, Sec. 57. Effective January 1, 2003.)

19215.5. Proof of compliance with Section 19215.4 shall be made in the event of service by mail by affidavit of the director or his or her authorized employee showing this service by mailing, together with the return receipt of the United States post office bearing the signature of the licensee or his or her agent. The affidavit and receipt shall be appended to the original accusation on file with the bureau. In the event of personal service outside this state, compliance may be proved by the return of any duly constituted public officer qualified to serve process in civil actions in the state or jurisdiction where the licensee is found, showing such service to have been made. This return shall be appended to the original accusation on file with the bureau.

(Amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 405, Sec. 58. Effective January 1, 2003.)

19215.6. The bureau, or if the proceeding has been assigned to a hearing officer of the Office of Administrative Hearings, the hearing officer, may order postponements or continuances and grant extensions of time that may be necessary to afford the licensee reasonable opportunity to defend the proceeding. In no event shall the licensee have less than 30 days after the date of mailing or delivery to him or her of the copy of the accusation in which to file a notice of defense, nor shall the notice of hearing provided for in Section 11509 of the Government Code or the notice and copy of affidavit referred to in Section 11514 of the Government Code be

mailed or delivered less than 20 days prior to the date of hearing, and the time for making a request to cross-examine under Section 11514 of the Government Code shall be not less than 15 days.

(Amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 405, Sec. 59. Effective January 1, 2003.)

<u>19215.7.</u> The director shall keep a record of all process served upon him or her pursuant to this article that shall show the day and hour of service.

(Amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 405, Sec. 60. Effective January 1, 2003.)

19215.8. As used in this article "nonresident" means a person who is not a resident of this State at the time he or she engages in business in the State as described in Section 19215.1.

(Amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 405, Sec. 61. Effective January 1, 2003.)