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INSURANCE CODE - INS

DIVISION 5. INSURANCE ADJUSTERS [14000 - 16032] (Division 5 added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 1190, Sec. 11.) CHAPTER 1. Insurance Adjuster Act [14000 - 14099] (Chapter 1 added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 1190, Sec. 11.)

ARTICLE 5. Disciplinary Proceedings [14060 - 14065] (Article 5 added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 1190, Sec. 11.)

14060. Except as otherwise required to comply with the provisions of Article 6 (commencing with Section 14070), the proceedings under this article shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code and the commissioner shall have all the powers granted therein.

(Added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 1190, Sec. 11. Operative July 1, 1981, by Sec. 13 of Ch. 1190.)

14061. The commissioner may suspend or revoke a license issued under this chapter or may issue a restricted license in accordance with Section 14026.5 if he or she determines that the licensee, or his or her manager, if an individual, or if the licensee is a person other than an individual, that any of its officers, directors, partners, or its manager, has:

- (a) Made any false statement or given any false information in connection with an application for a license or a renewal or reinstatement of a license.
- (b) Violated any provisions of this chapter.
- (c) Violated any rule of the commissioner adopted pursuant to the authority contained in this chapter.
- (d) Been convicted of any crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions and duties of the holder of the registration or license in question.
- (e) Impersonated, or permitted or aided and abetted an employee to impersonate a law enforcement officer or employee of the United States of America, or of any state or political subdivision thereof.
- (f) Committed or permitted any employee to commit any act, while the license was expired which would be cause for the suspension or revocation of a license, or grounds for the denial of an application for a license.
- (g) Willfully failed or refused to render to a client services or a report as agreed between the parties and for which compensation has been paid or tendered in accordance with the agreement of the parties.
- (h) Committed assault, battery, or kidnapping, or used force or violence on any person, without proper justification.
- (i) Knowingly violated, or advised, encouraged, or assisted the violation of any court order or injunction in the course of business as a licensee.
- (j) Acted as a runner or capper for any attorney.
- (k) Committed any act which is a ground for denial of an application for license under this chapter.
- (I) Purchased, possessed, or transported any tear gas weapon except as authorized by law. A violation of this subdivision may be punished by the suspension of a license for a period to be determined by the commissioner.

(Amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 707, Sec. 5. Effective January 1, 1997. Operative July 1, 1997, by Sec. 8 of Ch. 707.)

14061.5. The commissioner may, without hearing, suspend or revoke a license issued under this chapter, or may issue a restricted license, if he or she determines that the licensee has committed any act or crime constituting grounds for denial of license under Section 14028.5.

(Added by Stats. 2005, Ch. 448, Sec. 9. Effective January 1, 2006.)

14062. The record of conviction, or a certified copy thereof, shall be conclusive evidence of the conviction, as that term is used in this article or in Section 14028 or 14028.5.

A plea or verdict of guilty or a plea of nolo contendere is deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this article or of Section 14028 or 14028.5. The commissioner may order the license suspended or revoked, or may decline to issue a license, when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal or when an order granting probation is made suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code allowing that person to withdraw their plea of guilty and to enter a plea of not guilty, or setting aside the verdict of guilty, or dismissing the accusation, information, or indictment.

(Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 627, Sec. 23. (AB 1511) Effective January 1, 2022.)

- 14063. The commissioner may suspend or revoke a license issued under this chapter or may issue a restricted license in accordance with Section 14026.5 if the commissioner determines that the licensee, or his or her manager, if an individual, or if the licensee is a person other than an individual, that any of its officers, directors, partners, or its manager, has:
- (a) Used any letterhead, advertisement, or other printed matter, or in any matter whatever represented that he or she is an instrumentality of the federal government, a state or any political subdivision thereof.
- (b) Used a name different from that under which he or she is currently licensed in any advertisement, solicitation, or contract for business.

(Amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 707, Sec. 6. Effective January 1, 1997. Operative July 1, 1997, by Sec. 8 of Ch. 707.)

14064. The commissioner may suspend or revoke a license issued under this chapter or may issue a restricted license in accordance with Section 14026.5 if the commissioner determines that the licensee, or his or her manager, if an individual, or if the licensee is a person other than an individual, that any of its officers, directors, partners, or its manager, has committed any act in the course of the licensee's business constituting dishonesty or fraud.

"Dishonesty or fraud" as used in this section includes, in addition to other acts not specifically enumerated herein, all of the following:

- (a) Knowingly making a false statement relating to evidence or information obtained in the course of employment, or knowingly publishing a slander or a libel in the course of business.
- (b) Using illegal means in the collection or attempted collection of a debt or obligation.
- (c) Manufacture of evidence.
- (d) Acceptance of employment adverse to a client or former client relating to a matter with respect to which the licensee has obtained confidential information by reason of or in the course of his or her employment by such client or former client.
- (e) Impersonating, or permitting or aiding and abetting an employee to impersonate a law enforcement officer or employee of the United States of America, or of any state or political subdivision thereof.

(Amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 707, Sec. 7. Effective January 1, 1997. Operative July 1, 1997, by Sec. 8 of Ch. 707.)

- <u>14064.5.</u> (a) The commissioner may, at any time, deny, suspend, or revoke a nonlicensed adjuster's registration under Section 14022.5, or impose a restricted registration, in the same manner and on the same grounds as the commissioner may for a license as set forth in Sections 14026.5 to 14028.5, inclusive.
- (b) The commissioner may deny, suspend, revoke, or restrict an adjusting firm's license if a nonlicensed adjuster registered by the firm pursuant to Section 14022.5 commits an act that would give rise to suspension, revocation, or restriction of the firm's license under Section 14038, 14039, or 14061 to 14064, inclusive.

(Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 502, Sec. 9. (SB 240) Effective October 3, 2019.)

14065. The commissioner, in lieu of suspending or revoking a license issued under this chapter for violations of Sections 14061, 14063, 14064, and 14064.5, may impose a civil penalty not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) upon a licensee, if the commissioner determines that a penalty better serves the purposes of this chapter.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 502, Sec. 10. (SB 240) Effective October 3, 2019.)