

**BEFORE THE MISSISSIPPI INSURANCE DEPARTMENT  
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

**IN RE: MELISSA D. RAWSON**

**FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

**THIS MATTER** came on for hearing before the Commissioner of Insurance of the State of Mississippi (hereinafter "Commissioner"), by and through his specially designated appointee (hereinafter "Hearing Officer"), in the Office of the Commissioner, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Woolfolk State Office Building, 501 North West Street, Jackson, MS 39205, on Wednesday, October 15, 2014, at 9:30 a.m., pursuant to a Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges brought against **MELISSA D. RAWSON** ("Respondent") on September 2, 2014. After service and notice, Respondent appeared and gave testimony at the hearing. The Commissioner, based on the evidence presented at the hearing, makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

After considering all of the evidence and testimony presented, the Commissioner makes the following findings of fact:

1. On September 27, 2014, Respondent signed for and received the Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges via Certified Mail, item number 7199 9991 7031 3204 3302.
2. On October 15, 2014, the Hearing was held. Respondent appeared and gave testimony.
3. Respondent submitted an application for Bail Soliciting / Bail Enforcement Agent on or around May 30, 2014.
4. On June 6, 2013, Respondent pled guilty to the charge of Possession of 0.7 grams of Methamphetamine in the Circuit Court of Lauderdale County, Mississippi. The Judge withheld

acceptance of the plea and sentencing conditioned upon Respondent's completion of terms stated in an Order placing her in a Drug Court Program.

5. Respondent has not completed the terms of the court ordered Drug Court program, and the felony criminal charges against her have not been disposed of and are still pending.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

In light of the aforementioned findings of fact, the Commissioner finds that the Respondent has failed to show proof good moral character, as required by Miss. Code Ann. §83-39-9 (Rev. 2013), and that her application for licensure should be denied.

The Respondent is commended for her ongoing efforts to improve her character, and reform her drug abuse problem; however, she should not be issued a license until she has completed the Drug Court program and achieved a final dismissal of the pending felony criminal charges, which she pled guilty to. See Dale, May 20, 2005, A.G.Op. 05-0213.

### ORDER

**IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED** that Respondent's license application to act as a Bail Soliciting/ Bail Enforcement Agent is hereby **DENIED**.

Should the Respondent wish to appeal the Order of the Commissioner, she may follow the procedure set forth in Miss. Code Ann. §83-39-19.

SUBMITTED BY:



Mark Lampton, Hearing Officer

SO ORDERED, this the 28<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2014.



MIKE CHANEY  
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

Prepared by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. White', written over a horizontal line.

Brandon White  
Staff Attorney