STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

In Re: Gregory Abreu Docket No.: Ins. No. 24-007-EP

MOTION TO ALLOW REMOTE WITNESS

NOW COMES the New Hampshire Insurance Department ("NHID") by and through its counsel, and hereby requests that the Hearing Officer allow Mr. Steven Hittner to appear at the hearing remotely, and in support thereof, states as follows:

- 1. This matter is currently scheduled for a hearing on March 5, 2024.
- 2. Mr. Hittner is in the Regulatory Compliance Department of Americo Financial Life and Annuity Ins. Co. He is based in the Kansas City, Missouri area.
- 3. Mr. Hittner is expected to testify as to his investigation into the alleged misconduct of the Respondent, including the Uniform Suspected Insurance Fraud Reporting Form he completed and transmitted to the NHID, the application materials he reviewed as part of this investigation, and the NH consumers he spoke with.
- 4. Attendance at the hearing in person is difficult for Mr. Hittner due to the distance required to travel to NH for testimony that will likely take less than one half hour.
- 5. INS 206.01 allows a witness to appear remotely as long as there is good cause to allow it, and the witness's appearance remotely would not violate any law or rule or constitutional protections, and would promote the fair, accurate, and efficient resolution of the issues pending before the Department.
- 6. There is good cause pursuant to INS 206.01 (c)(1) to allow Mr. Hittner to appear remotely at this hearing, as attendance in person at the hearing for limited testimony he will provide would require him to travel over a thousand miles.
- 7. Allowing Mr. Hittner to appear remotely would still permit him to provide the testimony needed to consider the issues pending before the Department to enable a fair and accurate resolution of the issues, including any additional questioning by the Hearing Officer or cross-examination by the Respondent, and thereby does not violate any law, rule, or constitutional protection.
- 8. Due to the Respondent's complete lack of any communication with the Department since the inception of this matter, undersigned counsel has not sought the assent of Respondent for this motion.

WHEREFORE, the NHID respectfully requests that the Hearing Officer:

- A. Allow Mr. Hittner to appear at the hearing remotely through telephone or videoconference; and
- B. For other relief as is just and proper.

NEW HAMSPHIRE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

By its counsel,

Jule

Joshua S. Hilliard, Esq. Compliance and Enforcement Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing Motion was sent to <u>abreugreg3@gmail.com</u> and <u>sgianitsis@mooreagencies.com</u>, the e-mail addresses the Respondent maintains on file with the Department.

Date: 2/27/24

Jule

Joshua S. Hilliard, Esq. Compliance & Enforcement Counsel

Date: 2/27/24