## THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

In re: Aliera Healthcare, Inc. (dba The Aliera Companies, Inc.) & Trinity Healthshare, Inc.

Docket No.: INS 19-027-EP INS 20-014-EP INS 20-015-EP

## ORDER CONSOLIDATING HEARINGS AND SCHEDULING PREHEARING CONFERENCE

On October 30, 2019, the New Hampshire Insurance Department "(NHID") issued a Cease and Desist Order to Aliera Healthcare, Inc. ("Aliera") and Trinity Healthshare, Inc. ("Trinity"). On December 2, 2019, NHID received applications for a hearing pursuant to RSA 400-A:17, III from Aliera and Trinity. On December 2, 2019, a Notice of Hearing, docket number INS 19-027-EP, was issued granting a hearing.

On March 10, 2020, NHID issued an Order to Show Cause and Notice of Hearing, docket number INS 20-015-EP, as to Trinity, alleging in substantial part that Trinity is operating as an unlicensed insurance company as it cannot meet the requirements of a health care sharing ministry and misrepresents itself to consumers as a valid health care sharing ministry.

On March 10, 2020, NHID issued an Order to Show Cause and Notice of Hearing, docket number INS 20-014-EP, as to Aliera, alleging in substantial part that Aliera, through its business partnership with Trinity, is improperly marketing, soliciting, and administering Trinity products and is misleading consumers about the nature of Trinity's products.

NHID filed a motion on March 10, 2020, seeking to consolidated the proceedings for docket numbers INS 19-027-EP, INS 20-014-EP and INS 20-015-EP in accordance with administrative rule Ins 204.23 stating the proceedings involve substantially similar and substantially related issues. Neither Trinity nor Aliera filed an objection to NHID's motion to consolidate the matters. Therefore, it is ordered that the proceedings for docket numbers INS 19-027-EP, INS 20-014-EP and INS 20-015-EP are consolidated.

On March 25, 2020, additional counsel for Trinity filed a limited appearance and a motion requesting the hearing dates scheduled for May 4 and May 11 be continued, requesting a

status conference, and requesting that all current prehearing deadlines be extended in light of the current public health crisis.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Hearing Officer finds that there is good cause to hold a prehearing conference by telephone. *See* Ins 204.01(b). Therefore, the parties shall appear telephonically for a prehearing conference on **April 8, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.** by calling (888) 520-8955 and entering guest code 9568266#.

The prehearing conference will be conducted in accordance with Ins 204.13 and RSA 541-A:31, V (c). As such, the parties are to be prepared to discuss the following:

- (1) Opportunities and procedures for settlement;
- (2) Opportunities and procedures for simplification of the issues;
- (3) Possible amendments to the pleadings;
- (4) Possible admissions of fact and of documents to avoid unnecessary proof;
- (5) Possible limitations on the number of witnesses;
- (6) Possible changes to the standard procedures, which would otherwise govern the proceedings;
- (7) The distribution of written testimony, if any, and exhibits to the parties;
- (8) Possible consolidation of the examination of witnesses by the parties;
- (9) Deadlines for prehearing submissions; and
- (10) Any other matters, which might contribute to the prompt and orderly conduct of the proceeding.

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Any parties wishing to file a response to Trinity's Motion to Continue Hearing shall file a response no later than April 6, 2020. A ruling on Trinity's requests to continue the currently scheduled hearing and extend prehearing deadlines will be made at the prehearing conference on April 8, 2020.

SO ORDERED.

Date: March 26, 2020 Michelle Heaton, Hearing Officer