# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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## STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE AUCTIONEER BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY : PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :

: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

UNITED STATES LIQUIDATORS, INC.

RESPONDENT

: LS0507191AUC

Division of Enforcement Case File #'s: 02 AUC 034; 03 AUC 001; 03 AUC 005; 03 AUC013

The parties to this action for the purposes of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

Attn: Moshen Hamidi United States Liquidators, Inc. 257 Sunset Park Drive Herndon, VA 20710

Auctioneer Board P.O. Box 8935 Madison, WI 53708 8935

Department of Regulation and Licensing Division of Enforcement P.O. Box 8935 Madison, WI 53708 8935

The parties in these matters agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final decision of the matter(s), subject to the approval of the Auctioneer Board (Board). The Board has reviewed the Stipulation agreement annexed to this Final Decision and Order, and considers it acceptable. Accordingly, the Board adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. Respondent United States Liquidators, Inc. ("USL") is registered as an Auction Company in the State of Wisconsin having license number #053-00271. This license was first granted on 08/22/02.
- 2. USL's most recent address on file with the Department of Regulation and Licensing ("Department") is: 257 Herndon, Virginia 20170.
- 3. Moshen Hamidi is the listed owner of USL. Mr. Hamidi is not licensed as an auctioneer in the State of Wisconsin. As a registered auction company in the State of Wisconsin, USL was and is at all times relevant to this action responsible for compliance under Wisconsin Statutes, chapter 480 and the Wisconsin Administrative Code for Auctioneers and Auction Companies, chapters 123 and 126.
- 4. On or about August 14, 2002, the Department received a complaint against USL alleging that USL was engaging in unl practice by holding an auction in Madison, Wisconsin on August 17, 2002 without a Wisconsin registered auction company lice. The complaint also alleged that the advertisement for the August 17, 2002 auction was in violation of the advertising rules under Chapter RL 123 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code. A copy of the advertisement is attached as **Exhibit 1** and is incorpora herein by reference.
- 5. An investigation conducted by the Department revealed that on August 17, 2002, USL was not registered as a Wisconsin auction company. The investigation also revealed that the advertisement for the August 17, 2002 auction was not in compliance with the rules under Chapter RL 123 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code. The advertisement failed to include the following information:

- (a) the name of the licensed Auctioneer who would be conducting the auction;
- (b) the statement "Registered Wisconsin Auctioneer"; and
- (c) the statement "Buyers Fee" or "Buyer's Surcharge" which indicates a condition of sale for the prospective buyer.
- 6. On or about August 14, 2002, Mr. Hamidi was immediately notified by the Department of the advertising and unlicensed violations. Mr. Hamidi stated that USL would comply with the rules and regulations that govern auctioneering in Wisconsin. On or about August 22, 2002, Department records indicated that USL was registered as an auction company.
- 7. During the course of pursuing disciplinary action against USL for the August 22, 2002 auction; three more complaints against USL were received by the Department. All three complaints were received between January 17, 2003 and June 6, 2003. All three complaints alleged that USL failed to comply with the advertising rules for auctioneers under Wisconsin Administrative Code. The complaints involved auctions that took place throughout Wisconsin on the following dates of: January 18, 2003, January 19, 2003, March 30, 2003, and May 31, 2003. Copies of the advertisements are attached as **Exhibits 2-5** and are incorporated herein by reference.
- 8. A further investigation conducted by the Department revealed that the advertisements for the above-mentioned auctions failed to include the following information:
  - (a) the statement "Registered Wisconsin Auctioneer"; and
  - (b) the statement "Buyers Fee" or "Buyer's Surcharge" which indicates a condition of sale for the prospective buyer.
- 9. At all of the above-noted auctions, USL employed Vernon W. Wheat (#052-2053) to conduct auctions on behalf of the company.
  - 10. In resolution of this matter, USL consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Auctioneer Board has jurisdiction to act in these matters pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 480.24.
- 2. The Auctioneer Board has authority to enter into this stipulated resolution of this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).
  - 3. Respondent United States Liquidators, Inc. has violated:
  - a. Wis. Stat. § 480.08 (1)(b) and Wisconsin Administrative Code, § RL 126.02 (2), by engaging in unlicensed practice when it conducted an auction within the State of Wisconsin without having first registered as an auction company; and
  - b. Wisconsin Administrative Code, § RL 123.03 (1)(2)(4), by failing to include the following information in one or more of their advertisements:

the name of the licensed Auctioneer who would be conducting the auction;

the statement "Registered Wisconsin Auctioneer"; and

the statement "Buyers Fee" or "Buyer's Surcharge" which indicates a condition of sale for the prospective buyer.

4. The license of USL is subject to discipline per Wis. Stat. § 480.24.

#### **ORDER**

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that the attached Stipulation is hereby accepted.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Respondent United Stated Liquidators, Inc. (#053-00271) are hereby **REPRIMANDED** for the conduct set out above.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that Respondent United States Liquidators shall pay costs in this matter in the amount on the Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$1,800.00) within thirty (30) days from the date of this order. Pay shall be made by certified check or money order, payable to the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing and sen

Department Monitor
Division of Enforcement
Department of Regulation and Licensing
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935
Telephone (608) 267-3817
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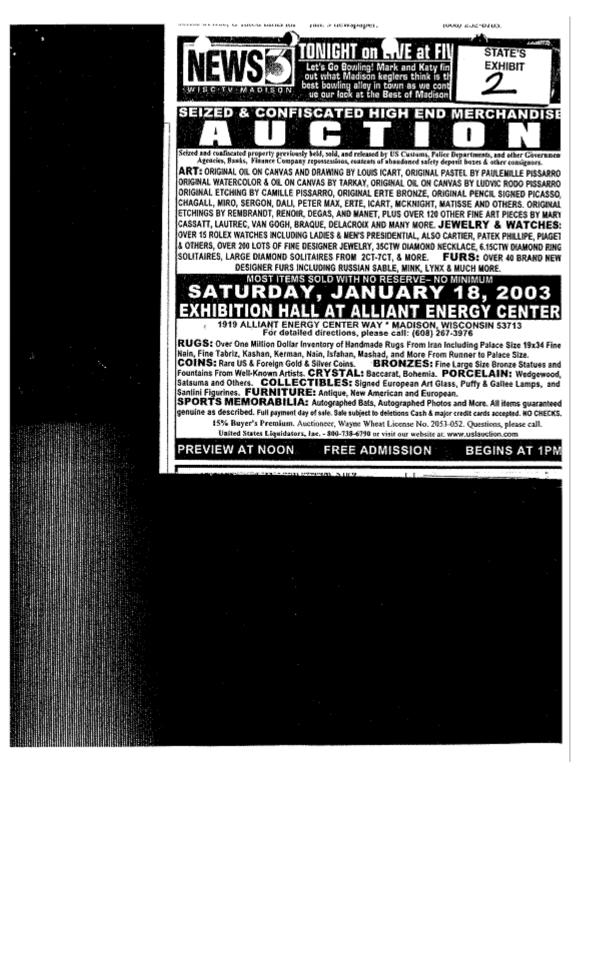
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that in the event that United States Liquidators, Inc., fails to timely submit payment of the costs as set forth above, United States Liquidators, Inc., auction company license # 053-00271 **SHALL BE SUSPENDED,** without further hearing and without further Order of the Board, and said suspension shall continue until the full amount of said costs has been paid to the Department of Regulation and Licensing and their failure to pay the costs shall be considered a violation of this Order by the Board.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that files. 02 AUC 034, 03 AUC 001, 03 AUC 005, and 03 AUC 013 be, and hereby is, closed as to United States Liquidators.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin this 19th day of July, 2005.

### **AUCTIONEER BOARD**

Mark Shain Member of the Auctioneer Board Extend and confluctated properly products held, sidd, and released by Garverseau Agentics. Pales Dispare Bedde, Pleased Confluence properly products held, sidd, and released by Garverseau Agentics. Pales Dispare Bedde, Pleased Confluence properly repetitions, centered of electrodect salety depoid bound a detect conspire. ARE Confluent Westercholory by Tarkey, Original Pecal Singled Procurse, Original Processor Should Dod, Pale Mass, Medicalys, Original Enderings by Pleastrandt, Renot, Geograf, Pleastran Passad Dod, Pale Mass, Medicalys, Original Enderings by Pleastrandt, Renot, Geograf, Pleastran Passad Dod, Pale Mass, Medicalys, Original Processor Should Dod, Pale Mass, Medicalys, Original Processor Should Carlier Lev. Over 2001 Latts of First Designer Journal State Carlier Lev. Over 2001 Latts of First Designer Journal Processor Should Carlier Lev. Over 2001 Latts of First Designer Journal Processor Should Carlier Lev. Over 2001 Latts of First Designer American Should Carlier Lev. Over 2001 Designer Should Should Latts of Pleastrand Should Should Carlier Lev. Carlier Carlier Lev. Over 40 Danch New York Processor Should Should Carlier Lev. Designer Carlier Designer Should Rev. Designer STATE'S EXHIBIT



STATE'S **EXHIBIT** 

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