VIRGINIA:

loc:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ROANOKE

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)
) CIVIL ACTION NO. CL15-458
))
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)
)

ORDER APPROVING AND ADOPTING ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

Upon review of the Complaint and the Assurance of Voluntary Compliance (the "Assurance") entered into between Plaintiff Commonwealth of Virginia, *ex rel*. Mark R. Herring, Attorney General and Defendant MD Financial, LLC d/b/a Wire Into Cash, and with the consent of the parties, it is hereby ADJUDGED, ORDERED, and DECREED that:

M. M. D'Amovoso 2. The Clerk of this Court shall mail a certified copy of this Order to Mark S. Scan Kubiak, Assistant Attorney General, Consumer Protection Section, 900 East Main Street, 513-15 Richmond, Virginia 23219, and to Michael D'Ambrose, President, MD Financial, LLC d/b/a Wire Into Cash, 1931 W. Wolfram St., Chicago, Illinois 60657.

USA

Enter: 5/11/15

Judge, Circuit Court for the County of Roanoke

WE ASK FOR THIS:

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, EX REL. MARK R. HERRING, ATTORNEY GENERAL

Bv:

Mark S. Kubiak (VSB No. 73119) Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General 900 East Main Street Richmond, Virginia 23219

Phone: (804) 786-7364 Fax: (804) 786-0122

Counsel for Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel. Mark R. Herring, Attorney General

MD FINANCIAL, LLC d/b/a WIRE INTO CASH

By: [Waived - Rule 1:13]

Counsel for MD Financial, LLC d/b/a Wire Into Cash

A COPY TESTE: STEVEN A. MCGRAW, CLERK
CIRCUIT COURT, ROMNOKE COUNTY, VA.

PY DEPUTY CLERK

VIRGINIA:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ROANOKE

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,)
EX REL. MARK R. HERRING,)
ATTORNEY GENERAL,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
v.) CIVIL ACTION NO
)
MD FINANCIAL, LLC)
d/b/a Wire Into Cash,)
a Delaware limited liability company,)
)
Defendant.)
)

ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

I. PARTIES

- 1.0 This Assurance of Voluntary Compliance ("Assurance") is entered into by the Commonwealth of Virginia, by, through and at the relation of its Attorney General, Mark R. Herring (the "Attorney General" or the "Commonwealth"), and MD Financial, LLC d/b/a Wire Into Cash ("Wire Into Cash" or the "Defendant").
- 1.1 Wire Into Cash is a Delaware limited liability company headquartered in Wood Dale, Illinois. Wire Into Cash operated as a lender, making payday loans to consumers across the United States, including Virginia, via the Internet.
- 1.2 Wire Into Cash does not contest that it has advertised to and served Virginia consumers.

 Wire Into Cash consents to and waives all objections to this Court's jurisdiction for all matters relating to this Assurance's entry, execution, monitoring and enforcement. Wire Into Cash

further waives all objections it may have to venue in this Court for all matters relating to this Assurance's entry, execution, monitoring and enforcement.

II. COMMONWEALTH'S POSITION

- 2.0 The statements contained in this Section II represent the position of the Attorney General.
- 2.1 The Commonwealth alleges that Wire Into Cash was at all relevant times mentioned herein, a "supplier" of "goods" or "services," and engaged in "consumer transactions," as those terms are defined in § 59.1-198 of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act ("VCPA"), Virginia Code §§ 59.1-196 through 59.1-207, by advertising, offering and providing payday loans to individual consumers residing in Virginia.
- During the period from at least March 8, 2011 to the present (the "Relevant Period"), Wire Into Cash offered to make, and made, payday loans to Virginia consumers via the Internet. During the Relevant Period, Wire Into Cash did not possess a valid payday loan license from the Virginia State Corporation Commission ("SCC"). By making payday loans to Virginians via the Internet without a license, the Commonwealth alleges that Wire Into Cash violated Virginia Code §§ 6.2-1801 and 59.1-200(A)(36).
- 2.3 Defendant has informed the Commonwealth, and the Commonwealth understands, that Wire Into Cash made a total of four loans to Virginia borrowers, all of which were made during the period from June 2013 to August 2013.

III. <u>DEFENDANT'S POSITION</u>

- 3.0 The statements contained in this Section III represent the position of Wire Into Cash.
- 3.1 Wire Into Cash does not contest the allegations contained in Sections 2.1 through 2.3 of this Assurance of Voluntary Compliance.
- 3.2 Wire Into Cash denies that it has engaged in any acts and practices that violate any

Virginia law, including, but not limited to, the payday loan statutes and the VCPA.

IV. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- This Assurance does not constitute an admission by Wire Into Cash for any purpose of any fact or of a violation of any state or federal law, rule or regulation. Wire Into Cash enters into this Assurance without admitting any wrongdoing and for settlement purposes only. This Assurance is made without trial or adjudication of any issue of fact or law. This Assurance does not constitute evidence or admission of any issues of fact or law. Wire Into Cash enters into this Assurance for the purpose of arriving at a complete, full settlement of any disagreement as to the matters addressed in this Assurance and preceding its execution, which may exist between Wire Into Cash and the Attorney General, thereby avoiding unnecessary delay and expense.
- 4.1 This Assurance shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- 4.2 This Assurance does not constitute an approval by the Attorney General of any of Wire Into Cash's services or practices and Wire Into Cash shall not make any representation to the contrary.
- 4.3 Nothing in this Assurance shall be construed as a waiver of whatever, if any, private rights of action any affected person may have relating to the conduct at issue.
- 4.4 Nothing in this Assurance shall permit any person or entity not a signatory hereto to enforce any provision of this Assurance.
- 4.5 Nothing in this Assurance shall be construed to authorize or require any action by Wire Into Cash in violation of applicable federal, state or other laws.
- 4.6 Wire Into Cash agrees that this Assurance constitutes a legally enforceable obligation of Wire Into Cash in accordance with its terms.
- 4.7 The Commonwealth shall not institute any civil proceeding or take any civil action against Wire Into Cash, its members, managers, employees or agents under payday loan statutes

or the VCPA for any conduct that occurred prior to the date this Assurance is signed by all parties and approved and adopted as an Order of the Court (the "Effective Date" of this Assurance) that is based on any service or practice addressed in this Assurance. The Parties agree that if Wire Into Cash, or its agents, members or managers, provided any materially false information to the Commonwealth during any settlement negotiations between the Parties, this release shall be null and void.

- 4.8 This Assurance applies to Wire Into Cash, together with its members, managers, employees, assigns and agents who are engaged in any aspect of the Defendant's lending activities.
- 4.9 This Assurance constitutes the entire agreement of the parties hereto and supersedes all prior agreements or understandings, whether written or oral, between the parties and/or their respective counsel with respect to the subject matter hereof. Any amendment or modification to this Assurance must be in writing and signed by a duly authorized representative of all the parties hereto.

V. ASSURANCES

- 5.0 Wire Into Cash voluntarily agrees to this Assurance of Voluntary Compliance without trial or adjudication of any issue of fact or law.
- Wire Into Cash agrees to refrain from and to be permanently enjoined from engaging in those acts and practices alleged to be violations of the payday loan statutes or the VCPA in Section II of this Assurance, and Wire Into Cash agrees that engaging in such acts or similar acts after the Effective Date of this Assurance may constitute, dependent upon the facts and circumstances to be later determined, a violation of the Order by which this Assurance is approved and adopted by this Court.

- 5.2 Wire Into Cash agrees to refrain from and to be permanently enjoined from engaging in any and all practices in violation of the payday loan statutes or the VCPA, as they now exist, or as amended in the future.
- 5.3 Wire Into Cash agrees to make available and to disclose the provisions of this Assurance to its employees, agents and representatives within five (5) days of the last execution date of this Assurance, or the date this Assurance is filed with the Court, whichever is later.
- 5.4 Wire Into Cash shall institute supervisory compliance procedures that are reasonably designed to ensure compliance with this Assurance, including, without limitation, a) the training of relevant employees and b) revisions to and/or development of appropriate training materials and internal procedures.
- 5.5 Wire Into Cash agrees to be permanently enjoined from entering into, forming, organizing or reorganizing into any partnership, corporation, limited liability company, sole proprietorship or any other legal structures, for the purpose of avoiding compliance with the terms of this Assurance, but is permitted to do any of the aforementioned for tax or legitimate corporate reasons.
- 5.6 Wire Into Cash agrees that it shall not represent that the Attorney General approves of or endorses Defendant's past or future business practices, or that the execution of this Assurance constitutes such approval or endorsement.

VI. RESTITUTION/FORBEARANCES

- 6.0 "Unlicensed Period" means all times during which Wire Into Cash did not possess a valid payday loan license from the SCC.
- 6.1 "Payday Loan Consumers" means all consumers who were residents in Virginia at the time of entering into a payday loan agreement with Wire Into Cash, and who entered into a payday loan agreement with Wire Into Cash during the Unlicensed Period. For all consumers in

this category, Wire Into Cash is enjoined from making any further collections on the amounts loaned, including outstanding principal, interest and other fees associated with such payday loan agreements.

- 6.2 Simultaneously with the execution of this Assurance, Wire Into Cash agrees to provide the Attorney General's Office with a verified spreadsheet containing the first and last name, home address, and phone number for all Payday Loan Consumers. Such spreadsheet also shall include for each consumer the loan date, the initial principal amount loaned, the total amount paid on account of principal, interest, and fees, and the dollar amount of restitution owed (which amount shall equal the total amount paid on account of interest and fees). The verified spreadsheet shall be accompanied by an affidavit in the attached form.
- 6.3 The Commonwealth, as trustee for affected Payday Loan Consumers, shall recover from the Defendant, the sum of Four Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$420) as restitution for amounts paid by borrowers in excess of the principal amounts loaned in violation of the payday loan statutes and the VCPA.
- 6.4 Simultaneously with the execution of this Assurance, the Defendant agrees to make full payment of the amount set forth in Paragraph 6.3 above by delivery of a cashier's or certified check in the amount of Four Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$420) payable to "Treasurer of Virginia," and remitted to the Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Section, Attn: Mark S. Kubiak, 900 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219.
- 6.5 The Commonwealth shall take responsibility for distributing restitution provided in Paragraph 6.3 above to the affected Payday Loan Consumers. If the Office of the Attorney General is not successful in locating any such consumer, such amounts will be forwarded to the Unclaimed Property Division of the Department of the Treasury pursuant to, and for the

purposes set forth in, §§ 55-210.9 and 55-210.12 of the Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act, Virginia Code §§ 55-210.1 to 55-210.30.

- 6.6 With respect to all Payday Loan Consumers, if any debt owed has been turned over by the Defendant to a debt collector, the Defendant agrees to provide notice to the debt collector requiring the debt collector to cease all further collection efforts. The Defendant shall provide notice to debt collectors within fifteen (15) days of the Effective Date.
- 6.7 In the event a Payday Loan Consumer voluntarily submits a payment to the Defendant after the Effective Date, the Defendant agrees to return the payment to the consumer simultaneously with a letter explaining the relevant terms of the Assurance within five (5) days of receipt of the consumer's payment. The form and substance of any letter used under these circumstances shall be approved in advance by the Attorney General.
- 6.8 To the extent that the Defendant has provided any negative information, knowingly or unknowingly, directly or indirectly, to any credit reporting agency concerning any of the Payday Loan Consumers, the Defendant agrees to contact the credit reporting agency to request removal of the adverse information.
- 6.9 The Defendant agrees not to destroy any loan records, whether maintained in electronic or hard copy form, relating to any Payday Loan Consumer.

VII. <u>SIGNATURES</u>

7.0 Each undersigned individual represents that he or she is fully authorized by the Party he or she represents to enter into this Assurance and to legally bind such Party to the terms and conditions herein.

Signed this 25th day of March, 2015.

FOR THE PLAINTIFF:

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, EX REL. MARK R. HERRING, ATTORNEY GENERAL

By:

David B. Irvin (VSB No. 23927) Senior Assistant Attorney General Mark S. Kubiak (VSB No. 73119) Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General 900 East Main Street Richmond, Virginia 23219

Phone: (804) 786-7364

Fax: (804) 786-0122

Counsel for Commonwealth of Virginia, ex rel. Mark R. Herring, Attorney General

MD FINANCIAL, LLC

Michael D'Ambrose

Title

AFFIDAVIT VERIFYING SPREADSHEET

The undersigned has supervised a complete search and examination of all files and loan records of MD Financial, LLC d/b/a Wire Into Cash ("Wire Into Cash") for the period from March 8, 2011 through February 1, 2015, and, based on this search and examination, has prepared the attached spreadsheet to provide the loan information required by the Assurance of Voluntary Compliance. The attached spreadsheets are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

	MD Financial, LLC d/b/a Wire Into Cash
	By:
	Printed Name
	Title:
STATE/COMMONWEALTH OF	:
CITY/COUNTY OF	:
Sworn to and subscribed before me, a this day of, 2015.	notary public in and for the jurisdiction aforesaid,
	Notary Public
My commission expires: / /	