ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

In the Matter of the Unlicensed Activity of:

CALIFORNIA RECOVERY SYSTEMS, INC. AND ERIC MEDRANO, OWNER/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

5777 Madison Avenue, Suite 960 Sacramento, California 95841

Respondents.

No. 08F-BD053-SBD

ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST; NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING; CONSENT TO ENTRY OF ORDER

The Superintendent of Arizona Department of Financial Institutions (the "Superintendent"), makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and enters the following Order pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S.") § 6-137.

Pursuant to Titles 6 and 41 of the Arizona Revised Statutes and Title 20, Chapter 4 of the Arizona Administrative Code ("A.A.C."), Respondents are hereby notified that they are entitled to a hearing to contest the allegations set forth in this Order. The Request for Hearing shall be filed with the Arizona Department of Financial Institutions (the "Department") pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-137(D) within **thirty (30) days** of service of this Order and shall identify with specificity the action or order for which review is sought in accord with A.R.S. § 41-1092.03(B).

Pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 41-1092.01(D) and 41-1092.03(B), any person may appear on his or her own behalf or by counsel. If Respondents are represented by counsel, the information required by A.R.S. § 41-1092.03(B) shall be included in the Request for Hearing. Upon the filing of a Request for Hearing, the Department shall issue a Notice of Hearing scheduling the matter for hearing in accordance with A.R.S. § 41-1092.05. Persons with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations such as interpreters, alternative formats, or assistance with physical accessibility. Requests for special accommodations must be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodations. If accommodations are required, call the Office of Administrative Hearings at (602) 542-9826.

Respondents have the right to request an Informal Settlement Conference, pursuant to A.R.S.

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§ 41-1092.06 by filing a written request no later than twenty (20) days before the scheduled hearing. The conference will be held within fifteen (15) days after receipt of your request. If an Informal Settlement Conference is requested, a person with the authority to act on behalf of the Department will be present (the "Department Representative"). Please note that in requesting an Informal Settlement Conference, Respondents waive any right to object to the participation of the Department Representative in the final administrative decision of this matter, if it is not settled. In addition, any written or oral statement made by Respondents at such informal settlement conference, including written documentation created or expressed solely for purposes of settlement negotiations, are inadmissible in any subsequent administrative hearing. (See A.R.S. § 41-1092.06 for rules regarding informal settlement conferences.) Conversely, any written or oral statement made by Respondents outside an Informal Settlement Conference is not barred from being admitted by the Department in any subsequent hearing.

If Respondents do not request a hearing, this Order shall become final. If Respondents request a hearing, the purpose of the hearing shall be to determine if grounds exist for: (1) the issuance of an order pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-137 directing Respondents to cease and desist from the violative conduct and to take the appropriate affirmative actions, within a reasonable period of time prescribed by the Superintendent, to correct the conditions resulting from the unlawful acts, practices, and transactions; (2) the imposition of a civil monetary penalty pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-132; and (3) an order or any other remedy necessary or proper for the enforcement of statutes and rules regulating collection agents pursuant to A.R. S. §§ 6-123 and 6-131.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Respondent California Recovery Systems, Inc. ("CRSI") is a California corporation 1. that is not and was not at any time material herein authorized to transact business in Arizona as a collection agency within the meaning of A.R.S. §§ 32-1001 et seq. The nature of Respondent's business is that of soliciting claims for collection and collection of claims owed, due or asserted to be owed or due within the meaning of A.R.S. § 32-1001(A)(2)(a).

- 2. Respondent Eric Medrano ("Mr. Medrano") is the Owner/Chief Executive Officer of CRSI. Mr. Medrano is not and was not at any time material herein authorized to transact business in Arizona as a collection agency within the meaning of A.R.S. §§ 32-1001et seq.
- 3. Neither CRSI nor Mr. Medrano are exempt from licensure as a collection agency within the meaning of A.R.S. § 32-1004(A).
- 4. On August 13, 2007, the Department received a complaint filed by Laurie Fernandez ("Ms. Fernandez"), an Arizona resident. Ms. Fernandez provided a copy of a collection letter dated August 10, 2007 sent to her by CRSI. According to CRSI's collection letter, the client to whom the debt is owed is Platinum Capital Re: CashCall.
- 5. On August 14, 2007, the Department sent a letter to CDSI stating that the Department had reason to believe that CRSI was operating in Arizona without the benefit of a collection agency license, and gave CRSI an opportunity to respond by September 4, 2007.
- 6. On September 7, 2007, Ray Zak ("Mr. Zak"), CRSI's Executive Vice President, replied to the Department, stating, "CRSI submitted an Application for Authority to transact business in Arizona last year, and then filed for a collection agency license. Attached, please find copies of our application submission that was submitted last year to the department for our collection agency license. During this time, I had an assistant Rebekkah preparing the license process. I do not know the outcome." The Collection Agency Application that was enclosed with Mr. Zak's response was incomplete. To date, the Department's records do not reflect that CRSI has submitted an application for a collection agency license.
 - These Findings of Facts shall also serve as Conclusions of Law.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Pursuant to Title 6 and Title 32, Chapter 9, of the Arizona Revised Statutes, the Superintendent is charged with the duty to regulate all persons engaged in the collection agency business and with the enforcement of statutes, rules and regulations relating to collection agencies.
 - 2. CRSI's and Mr. Medrano's conduct as alleged above constitutes the conduct of a

collection agency in the State of Arizona without having first applied for and obtained a collection agency license pursuant to Title 32, Chapter 9, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 32-1021(A) and 32-1055(A).

- 3. Neither CRSI nor Mr. Medrano meet any of the exemptions to the licensing requirements set forth in A.R.S. § 32-1004(A).
- 4. The violations set forth above constitute grounds for: (1) the issuance of an order pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-137 directing Respondents to cease and desist from the violative conduct and to take the appropriate affirmative actions, within a reasonable period of time prescribed by the Superintendent, to correct the conditions resulting from the unlawful acts, practices, and transactions; (2) the imposition of a civil monetary penalty pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-132; and (3) an order or any other remedy necessary or proper for the enforcement of statutes and rules regulating collection agencies pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 6-123 and 6-131.

ORDER

- 1. CRSI and Mr. Medrano shall immediately stop all collection agency activity in Arizona until such time as CRSI or Mr. Medrano have obtained a collection agency license from the Superintendent as prescribed by A.R.S. § 32-1021.
- 2. CRSI and Mr. Medrano shall immediately pay to the Department a civil money penalty in the amount of **ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00)**. CRSI and Mr. Medrano are jointly and severally liable for payment of the civil money penalty.
- 3. The provisions of this Order shall be binding upon CRSI and Mr. Medrano, their employees, agents and other persons participating in the conduct of the affairs of CRSI.
- 4. This Order shall become effective upon service, and shall remain effective and enforceable until such time as, and except to the extent that, it shall be stayed, modified, terminated or set aside.

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SO ORDERED this _	2day of _	January	, 2008.
		ecia A. Rotellini perintendent of Financia	al Institutions
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Robert D. Charlton
Assistant Superintendent

CONSENT TO ENTRY OF ORDER

- 1. Respondents acknowledge that they have been served with a copy of the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order in the above-referenced matter, have read the same, are aware of their right to an administrative hearing in this matter, and have waived the same.
- 2. Respondents admit the jurisdiction of the Superintendent and consent to the entry of the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.
- 3. Respondents state that no promise of any kind or nature has been made to induce them to consent to the entry of this Order, and that they have done so voluntarily.
- Respondents agree to cease from engaging in the violative conduct set forth above in the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.
- 5. Respondents acknowledge that the acceptance of this Agreement by the Superintendent is solely to settle this matter and does not preclude this Department, any other agency or officer of this state or subdivision thereof from instituting other proceedings as may be appropriate now or in the future.
- 6. Mr. Eric Medrano, Owner/CEO of California Recovery Systems, Inc., represents that he is the Owner and CEO and as such, has been authorized by California Recovery Systems, Inc. to consent to the entry of this Order on its behalf.

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1	7. Respondents waive all rights to seek judicial review or otherwise to challenge or
2	contest the validity of this Cease and Desist Order.
3	DATED this day of, 2008.
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5	By:
6	Eric Medrano, Owner/CEO California Recovery Systems, Inc.
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9	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this <u>day</u> day of <u>January</u> , 2008 in the office of:
10	Felecia A. Rotellini
11	Superintendent of Banks Arizona Department of Financial Institutions
12	ATTN: Susan Longo 2910 N. 44th Street, Suite 310
13	Phoenix, AZ 85018
14	COPY mailed same date to:
15	Erin O. Gallagher
16	Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General
17	1275 W. Washington Phoenix, AZ 85007
18	Robert D. Charlton, Assistant Superintendent
	Tammy J. Seto, Senior Examiner
19	Richard Fergus, Division Manager Arizona Department of Financial Institutions
20	2910 N. 44th Street, Suite 310 Phoenix, AZ 85018
21	AND COPY MAILED SAME DATE by
22	Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, to:
23	Eric Medrano, Owner/CEO California Recovery Systems, Inc.
24	5777 Madison Ave., Suite 960
25	Sacramento, CA 95841 Respondents
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Dan Stanberry, Statutory Agent for: California Recovery Systems, Inc. 2255 W. Sierra St. Phoenix, AZ 85029