



**IN THE MATTER OF THE
LICENSING OF:**

GRANT KELLER

NPN: 19997450

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Insurance (“Department”) is an agency of the State of Illinois. The Department has the authority, through the Director of Insurance (“Director”), to enforce the provisions of the Illinois Insurance Code 215 ILCS 5/1 *et seq.*, including the authority to impose any penalty or remedy provided by the Illinois Insurance Code against any person who is under investigation for or charged with a violation of the Illinois Insurance Code or a violation of the Department’s rules under Title 50 of the Illinois Administrative Code;

WHEREAS, Grant Keller (“Licensee”), National Producer Number 19997450, is an insurance producer duly licensed pursuant to Article XXXI of the Illinois Insurance Code 215 ILCS 5/500-5 *et seq.*;

WHEREAS, the Licensee is aware of the actions, steps and remedies which the Director is authorized to take under Section 500-70 of the Illinois Insurance Code (215 ILCS 5/500-70);

WHEREAS, the Licensee is advised that the Department has caused an investigation (“Investigation”) to be commenced to determine whether or not such causes and conditions exist as would authorize the Director to take such actions and steps or pursue such remedies as are provided in Section 500-70 of the Illinois Insurance Code (215 ILCS 5/500-70);

WHEREAS, on April 29, 2026, the Director issued an Order of Revocation (“Order of Revocation”) seeking to revoke the Licensee’s Illinois Insurance Producer License;

WHEREAS, on May 21, 2026, the Licensee requested a hearing on the Order of Revocation;

WHEREAS, failure to criticize specific practices and/or procedures does not constitute approval thereof by the Illinois Department of Insurance;

WHEREAS, the Licensee is aware of and understands the nature of the Investigation, the allegations in the Order of Revocation, and his various rights in connection therewith, including the right to counsel, notice, hearing, and appeal under Section 500-70 of the Illinois Insurance Code (215 ILCS 5/500-70) and Part 2402 of Title 50 of the Illinois Administrative Code (50 Ill. Admin. Code 2402).

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED by and between the Licensee and the Director of Insurance as follows:

The Licensee waives his right to notice and a hearing under Section 500-70 of the Illinois Insurance Code (215 ILCS 5/500-70).

To stipulate that the Director alleges the following:

On November 26, 2025, the Department received notice from State Farm that the Licensee was terminated for cause and reported the termination to the State of Illinois pursuant to 215 ILCS 5/500-70(a)(8).

State Farm's investigation report indicated they received a complaint from Consumer #1 which stated they were not aware of a Life policy in force through Mike Fahnestock's agency ("Agency") and Consumer #1 did not sign the application. Consumer #1 confirmed he obtained an Auto policy through the Agency and worked with the Licensee. Consumer #1 stated the Licensee explained to him that their Auto rate would be reduced if he agreed to obtain a Life policy insuring Consumer #1's daughter. Consumer #1 stated he had never been to the Agency in person, nor did he sign the Life application submitted.

State Farm's investigation report indicated a sample of Life policies were reviewed, and additional concerns were discovered related to digital customer signatures obtained in-person. State Farm indicated they observed similarities between multiple customer signatures suggesting the signatures were completed by the same individual. A sample of customers were contacted by State Farm, and they all confirmed they had never been to Fahnestock's office and completed all transactions over the phone.

A broader review of the DocuSign Certificates of Completion identified a common email address associated with the Licensee's personal account, as well as his business email address, and personal cell phone number were added as contact information on numerous customer accounts. A review of these customer accounts

determined the Licensee's email address and/or phone number had been used to complete Life applications, Cash Surrender/Termination Request forms, and Payment Authorization forms on behalf of consumers.

By the above actions, the Licensee allegedly submitted life insurance applications to an insurer that did not contain the genuine signature of the proposed insured and were not authorized by the insured. Therefore, the Licensee intentionally misrepresented the terms of an actual insurance contract and application for insurance, forged a name to an application for insurance or to a document related to an insurance transaction, and used fraudulent, coercive, or dishonest practices, or demonstrated incompetence, untrustworthiness or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of business in this State which are grounds for revocation pursuant to Section 5/500-70(a)(5)(8) and (10) of the Illinois Insurance Code (215 ILCS 5/500-70(a)(5)(8) and (10)).

For the purpose of resolving all matters raised by the Investigation, in the Order of Revocation, and as identified in the above stipulations, without the necessity of an administrative hearing, and without any admission by the Licensee, the Licensee enters into this Stipulation and Consent Order.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED by and between the Licensee and the Director as follows:

- A. The Illinois Department of Insurance indicated various areas of business practices that were allegedly not in compliance with the policies of the Insurer;
- B. The Director withdraws the Order of Revocation issued April 29, 2026;
- C. The Licensee withdraws his Request for Hearing filed May 21, 2026 in Department of Insurance case number 26 HR 0541; and
- D. The Director and the Licensee consent to this Stipulation and Consent Order requiring the Licensee to assure future compliance with provisions of the Illinois Insurance Code and the guidelines and requirements of all Insurers.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the undersigned Director, pursuant to Section 500-70 of the Illinois Insurance Code (215 ILCS 5/500-70), that the Licensee:

- A. Understands that signing either electronically or physically, entering a signature confirmation code, affixing or in any way providing a signature for a customer, applicant or client is a violation of 215 ILCS 5/500-70(a)(8) and (10); and
- B. Shall not request from any customer, client, or applicant any confidential code or login information; and

- C. Shall not share any passwords, login information, or any other access to any carrier, insurer, or insurance provider portal with any other individual and shall keep all passwords and login information secure; and
- D. Shall review all policies guidelines and maintain knowledge of the policies and guidelines for all carries, insurers and/or insurance agencies which he has received an appointment from or access to place insurance policies of any type; and
- E. Shall ensure that all customers, clients, and applicants are able to review in written form either physically or electronically all applications and/or contracts for insurance policies prior to the customer, client, or applicant signing the application; and
- F. Shall obey all laws and regulations of the State of Illinois, the United States of America, and every state and foreign government having jurisdiction over the Applicant; and
- G. Shall report any felony conviction within 30 days after the entry date of the judgement pursuant to Section 500-95 of the Illinois Insurance Code (215 ILCS 5/500-95); and
- H. Shall provide proof that all sentencing terms were completed successfully in Case Number 22CM-CR01176-01, of the Circuit Court of Camden County, Missouri, within 30 days of successful completion; and
- I. Shall maintain and make available to the Director complete and accurate books, records, documents, transactional records, and communications with Consumers for a minimum period of seven (7) years following the date of final settlement or termination of the respective insurance transaction; and
- J. Shall report any administrative action taken by any other regulatory body within 30 days of the entry date; and
- K. Shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$4,500.00 within 30 days of execution of this Stipulation and Consent Order.

A material violation of the above Stipulation and Consent Order shall subject the Licensee to further administrative action pursuant to Sections 500-70 and 407.2 of the Illinois Insurance Code (215 ILCS 5/500-70 and 215 ILCS 5/407.2).

Nothing contained herein shall prohibit the Director from taking any and all appropriate regulatory actions as set forth in the Illinois Insurance Code and Title 50 of the Illinois Administrative Code concerning any violation of any provisions of this Stipulation and Consent

Order or any provisions of the Illinois Insurance Code or Department regulations.

Grant Keller

Grant Keller, Licensee

State of Illinois)

County of Madison) SS

Subscribed and sworn to

before me this 27 day of August, 2026

Josephine Ann Byrd

[Signature]
Notary Public



DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
State of Illinois

Date: September 9, 2026

Ann Gillespie
Ann Gillespie
Director

