## STIPULATIONS AND ORDER

The Stipulations and Order between Coester Appraisal Management Group and the Louisiana Real Estate Appraisers Board have been executed pursuant to Section 955 (D) of the Louisiana Administrative Procedures Act and Section 30901 of the Rules and Regulations of the Board to informally dispose of violations alleged as a result of an investigation conducted in Case Number 2013-2070, as specified in the written complaint.

## **STIPULATIONS**

The Louisiana Real Estate Appraisers Board and Coester Appraisal Management Group stipulate:

- 1. That written notice of these proceedings was mailed to Coester Appraisal Management Group on November 24, 2014, with an additional notice of April 30, 2015.
- 2. That the notice included a copy of the written complaint in Case Number 2013-2070 and advised that the hearing was scheduled for June 4, 2015.
- 3. That the informal proceedings were initiated pursuant to Coester Appraisal Management Group agreeing in writing to conclude action in Case Number 2013-2070 informally.
- 4. That Coester Appraisal Management Group voluntarily participated in these proceedings for the purpose of resolving the dispute concerning Case Number 2013-2070.
- 5. That the proceedings were conducted on May 28, 2015 by telephone with the below listed persons participating:

Arlene C. Edwards, Hearing Officer

Robert L. Rieger, Jr., Adams and Reese LLP Counsel for Coester Appraisal Management Group

- 6. That Coester Appraisal Management Group was licensed as an Appraisal Management Company (AMC#0153) for the period November 1, 2011 through 2015, and is currently in good standing.
- 7. That pursuant to LSA-R.S. 37:3415.15 and Section 31101.A, an Appraisal Management Company shall compensate appraisers at a rate that is customary and reasonable for the appraisals being performed in the market area of the property being appraised, consistent with the presumptions of compliance under federal law. Section 31101.A also sets forth that if electing to compensate fee appraisers on any basis other than an established fee schedule, the licensee shall, at a minimum, review factors listed in Section 31101.B 1-6 on each assignment made, and make appropriate adjustments to recent rates paid in the relevant geographic

market necessary to ensure that the amount of compensation is reasonable. Further, licensees, shall maintain written documentation that describes or substantiates all methods, factors, variations, and differences to determine the customary and reasonable fee for appraisal services conducted in the geographic market of the appraisal assignment. The rule sets forth the minimum elements that must be included. Coester Management Group alleges that it complied with the federal law, and as such, it was in compliance with Louisiana law. The Board alleges that Coester Appraisal Management Group did not use established fees set by an objective third party or to use the factors set forth in Section 31101, in violation of LSA-R.S.37:3415.19. (1) and (2), LSA-R.S.37: 3415.15 and Section 31101 of the Rules and Regulations of the Louisiana Real Estate Appraisers Board.

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## **ORDER**

In conjunction with the foregoing Stipulations, Coester Appraisal Management Group agrees not to contest Case Number 2013-2070, and agrees to pay administrative costs of the informal proceeding in the amount of \$5,000.00 and further, the Board will accept Coester Appraisal Management Group's proposal to follow the current Louisiana fee schedule for a period of twelve (12) months beginning 30 days after the effective date of this Order. Coester Appraisal Management Group also agrees to submit a quarterly report to the Board, for a period of twelve (12) months, beginning 60 days after the end of the quarter beginning July 1, 2015, which lists all appraisal orders in Louisiana, the fee paid and the date payment was made to the appraiser. Such reports will be kept confidential by the Board.

## CERTIFICATE

Coester Appraisal Management Group does hereby consent to executing this document in lieu of a formal adjudicatory proceeding in Case Number 2013-2070. Coester Appraisal Management Group understands that this Order is subject to approval by the Louisiana Real Estate Appraisers Board at a regular meeting and that, if approved, will be effective and executory on the date approved by the Board. If this Order is not approved by the Board, Case Number 2013-2070 will be scheduled for a public adjudicatory hearing.

Coester Appraisal Management Group freely and voluntarily waives any right pursuant to LSA-R.S. 49:959 regarding reopening, rehearing or reconsideration by the Board of the informal proceeding conducted in Case Number 2013-2070, and the right to a judicial review of these informal proceedings pursuant to LSA-R-S. 49:964.

Robert L. Rieger, Jr.

Adams and Reese LLP

Counsel for Coester Appraisal Management Group

Arlene C. Edwards, Hearing Officer Louisiana Real Estate Appraisers Board

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May 28, 2015

Date