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ARKANSAS PROFESSIONAL BAIL BONDSMAN LICENSING BOARD

Regular Meeting At Wyndham July 8th, 2022

Roll call was taken. The following members were present Clark, Muldoon, Edwards, Joyner, Molder, Craig and Wilburn were present.

Assistant Attorney General Joe West was present. Board Staff was present.

Minutes presented for previous meeting were approved. Clark made motion to approve previous minutes Joyner seconded. Motion passed.

Hearings

Arkansas Professional Bail Bonds Licensing Board vs Triple R Bail

Bonds, Inc. / Angela Gilbert

After hearing evidence and testimony from the investigator for the APBBLB, Triple R Bail Bonds, Inc and Ms. Gilbert.

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER

On July 8, 2022, the Arkansas Professional Bail Bond Licensing Board ("Board") held a hearing in the above-styled matter. Respondent Angela Gilbert ("Respondent") appeared in person and *pro se*. Respondent Triple R. Bail Bonds, Inc. ("Triple R") appeared through its representative, Jeremy Rowland, on ZOOM teleconference. Assistant Attorney General Samuel J. West appeared on behalf of the Board. From the testimony, exhibits, and other facts and matters presented before it, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. At all times pertinent hereto, Respondent held a professional bail bondsman license issued by the Board and was employed by Triple R. Subsequent to the filing of the complaint, Respondent's employment was terminated by Triple R. Respondent's license is still active, but she is not currently employed by a licensed bail bonding company.
 - 2. At all times pertinent hereto, Triple R held a professional bail bond company license issued by the Board.

- 3. On April 26, 2022, the Board received information from the Newport Police Department that Respondent had violated rules of the Jackson County Detention Center.
- 4. The Newport Police Department provided a recording of a jail call between Respondent and two inmates. During the conversation, Respondent agreed to pick up a check from inmate Buddy Bice. The conversation with the other inmate, Travis Brinsfield, became sexually explicit. Newport Police Department also stated that Respondent had contacted Brinsfield a total of one hundred twenty (120) times during his incarceration, all on free phone call services.
- 5. The Jackson County Detention Center has posted rules of conduct which include: "All telephone calls placed into the JDC will be of official business and professional content."
- On May 16, 2022, the Board filed this complaint and sent it to the Respondent and Triple
 R.
- On May 25, 2022, the Board received the responses from the Respondent and Triple R.
 Respondent admitted to engaging in sexually explicit phone calls with Brinsfield and accepting a check from Bice.
- 8. Further, Triple R stated that it had terminated Respondent's employment and condemned her actions.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 9. Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 17-19-106(b)(4), this Board has the authority and responsibility to administer the provisions of the Arkansas Professional Bail Bondsman Licensing Act relating to the licensing and regulation of professional bail bond companies and professional bail bondsman.
- 10. Pursuant to the provisions of Ark. Code Ann. §17-19-210(b)(1), the Board may take disciplinary action against a licensee who has violated any statute or rule of the Board.

- 11. Respondent's actions are not attributed to Triple R Bail Bonds, Inc., pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 17-19-210(c).
 - 12. Due to actions described in paragraphs 1-8, Respondent Gilbert is in violation of Board Rule Section 43 which reads:
 - A. A licensee shall comply with publicly posted rules of a jail.
 - B. As used in this section, "Rules" shall mean policies and procedures relating to the operation of a jail that are not in conflict with state or federal statutes and that have been approved by the chief law enforcement officer of the jail.

ORDER

Based on the substantial evidence in the record, the Arkansas Professional Bail Bond Licensing Board hereby orders:

- 12. The license of Respondent Gilbert is hereby revoked.
- 13. A copy of this Order of Revocation shall be placed in the Respondent's licensee file to serve as a flag should Respondent attempt to receive a license from the Board in the future.
- 14. No adverse findings or actions are to be entered against Triple R.
- 15. Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-212 and § 17-19-210(i), Respondent Gilbert may appeal the Board's decision by filing a petition for judicial review in the Circuit Court of Pulaski County within thirty (30) days of the date on the certificate of service attached to this Order.

A motion was made by Muldoon and seconded by Molder to revoke the license of Angela Gilbert and no finding against Triple R Bail Bonds, Inc. Role call vote was taken. Molder yes, Wilburn yes, Clark yes, Muldoon yes, Edwards yes, Joyner yes, and Craig yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Transfers/Suspensions/Reinstatements:

A report was provided for information purposes: There was two (2) transfer. There were two (2) agent suspensions or terminations. There were zero (0) reinstatement.

Appeal Update:

Assistant Attorney General provided an update on all cases under appeal. No updates/

NEW BUSINESS

Vouchers Paid & Financial Report:

The Chairman invited questions and/or discussion regarding the vouchers paid since last meeting. Joyner made a motion to approve expenses and Molder seconded. Motion passed.

Previous months Forfeitures - New: forty-eight (48) New Forfeitures

The Previous Months Forfeiture Report was presented.

The Chair invited comment or discussion. There being no further discussion, Joyner made a motion that all forfeitures not paid in a timely manner, that a 10-day letter be sent to the company Molder seconded. Motion passed.

License Approvals:

There were one (1) license issued since last meeting.

Previous months vouchers paid Joyner made a motion to accept previous months vouchers paid, Molder seconded. Motion carried

Board spoke about the director's salary and getting an increase to make it more inline with other state agency directors. Board agreed

Investigators Report: Investigator informed board of new and pending cases and training events.

Executive Director's Report / Review: Informed the board, Directors Report

July 8th, 2022

Ron is finishing closing books 1 for FY2022 due on July 18, 2022.

Veronica and I have been working on updating Certificate of Deposits and Letter of Credit files and are about finished.

APPLB will have to resubmit for replacement of investigator vehicle, due not being able to get approval through peer on time and vehicle's not being available.

Starting new FY2023.

Denise Oxley Counsel for the Arkansas Department of Labor and Licensing Retired last Friday. New counsel has been selected. Secretary Bassett spoke with all directors and informed us of two candidates for the counsel position and for our input on who he should hire.

We are attempting to secure the second-floor library conference room for the next board meeting. This will give us access to coming and going to bathroom and outside without having to be escorted. No hall passes.

Director is working on retreat for working on board rules.

Recovery Fund Balance (SBL0000)	\$1,775,962.00
Last fiscal year we deposited to (SBL0000) Recovery Fund	\$187.852.00
APBBLB paid out of recovery fund on John Chism BB forfeitures.	\$40.750.00
2023FY Operating Fund MBB0100 budget no change from last year.	\$370,837.00

APPLB staff is still gathering information for the auditors.

Election on Officers. Board voted Clark as continuing chairman, voted Ricky Joyner as vice chair, and John Muldoon as secretary/treasurer. Board voted in unanimous favor in role call vote.

Public Comments: Ronnie Minnick brought up having a working retreat to clean-up and possible adding rules to APPLB Rules.

Meeting was adjourned.

Molder made a motion to adjourn, and Clark seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted for approval:		
This 10th day of August 2022		
,	Curt Clark, Chairman	