1	State of New Hampshire Banking Department
2	In re the Matter of:) Case No.: 08-359
3) State of New Hampshire Banking)
4) Department,)
5) Petitioner,) Consent Order
6) and)
7) The Palmer Firm, P.C., and Robert)
8) Palmer, Esq.,)
9) Respondents)
10) <u>CONSENT</u> ORDER
11	The State of New Hampshire Banking Department (the "Department") finds and
12	Orders as follows:
13	Respondents
14	1. The Palmer Firm, P.C. ("Firm") is a professional corporation duly
15	incorporated in the State of Texas on August 29, 2007, with its
16	principal office location in Dallas, Texas.
17	2. Robert Palmer, Esq. ("Palmer") is the Senior Partner at The Palmer
18	Firm, P.C. and an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of
19	Texas since January 25, 1985.
20	3. Firm and Palmer are hereby collectively known as "Respondents."
21	4. Respondents did not previously have a New Hampshire Debt Adjuster
22	license. This consent order covers Respondents' unlicensed debt
23	adjuster activity.
24	5. Respondents were not a licensed New Hampshire Debt Adjuster when
25	conducting the activities that are the subject of this Consent Order,

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

however Respondents were attorneys.

Jurisdiction

- 6. The Department is authorized to regulate debt adjusters pursuant to RSA Chapter 399-D. RSA 399-D:1 and RSA 399-D:3.
- 7. The Commissioner has jurisdiction to issue orders to show cause and to cease and desist from violations under RSA Chapter 399-D and to revoke, deny, or suspend a license of a licensee and/or assess penalties pursuant to RSA Chapter 399-D. RSA 399-D:13 and RSA 399-D:23.

Facts

- 8. Since 2007, Respondents have engaged in the activities made the subject of this complaint.
- 9. Since 2007, Respondents represented 159 New Hampshire consumers.

10. On June 21, 2011, the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas approved a Class Action Settlement Agreement that included all current and former clients of the Respondents except those who had opted out of the agreement. There were no New Hampshire consumers that opted out of the agreement.

11. The Respondents have agreed to continue to allow Ms. Elizabeth Olcott, Esq., a New Hampshire licensed attorney, to continue handling all of the remaining and active New Hampshire clients. Respondents will continue to comply with the terms of the judgment rendered in 11-CV-00486, styled "Wall v. The Palmer Firm, P.C., et. al." in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, judgment dated June 21, 2011.

1	12. During the request for information, Respondents cooperated and
2	provided the department with the information requested by the
3	Department.
4	Violation(s) of Law and Penalties
5	13. Respondents are "Persons" as defined by RSA 399-D:2,VII.
6	14. Respondents may be assessed an administrative fine not to exceed
7	\$2,500.00 for each violation of RSA Chapter 399-D. RSA 399-D:24,IV
8	and V.
9	Respondents' Consent
10	15. Respondents do not deny the facts, statements, or violations contained
11	herein and Respondents hereby agree to the entry of this Consent
12	Order.
13	16. Respondents have voluntarily entered into this Consent Order without
14	reliance upon any discussions between the Department and Respondents,
15	without promise of a benefit of any kind (other than concessions
16	contained in this Consent Order), and without threats, force,
17	intimidation, or coercion of any kind. Respondents further acknowledge
18	their understanding of the nature of the allegations set forth in this
19	action, including the potential penalties provided by law.
20	17. Respondents hereby acknowledge, understand, and agree that there is
21	the right to notice, hearing, and/or a civil action and hereby waive
22	said rights.
23	Order

18. Whereas pursuant to RSA 399-D:24,IV finding this Consent Order necessary, appropriate and in the public interest and consistent with

24

25

the intent and purposes of New Hampshire banking laws, the Department Orders as follows:

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

- a. Respondents the Department \$2,500.00 shall pay to in administrative penalties, payable contemporaneously with Respondents' signing of this Consent Order. The check shall be a bank check or guaranteed funds and made payable to "State of New Hampshire"; and
 - b. Respondents are jointly and severally liable for the administrative penalty.
- 19. Respondents agree to not advertise for, solicit or contract with New Hampshire consumers for debt adjustment services without obtaining a valid New Hampshire Debt Adjuster license from the Department.
- 20. Ms. Elizabeth Olcott, Esq., a New Hampshire licensed attorney, will continue to handle all of the remaining and active New Hampshire clients. Respondents shall provide proof to the Department that the active New Hampshire files are in the custody of Attorney Olcott.
- 21. This Consent Order may be revoked and the Department may pursue any and all remedies available under law, if any, if the Department later finds that Respondents knowingly or willfully withheld information used and relied upon in this Consent Order.
- 22. This Consent Order is binding on all heirs, assigns, and/or successors in interest.
- 23. This Consent Order shall become effective upon the date the Commissioner signs this Consent Order, providing the Department has confirmed receipt of the payment referenced in Paragraph 18a. herein.

1	24. Once this Consent Order is effective, the Department agrees not to
2	seek further reimbursement, refunds, penalties, fines, costs, or fees
3	regarding the facts, allegations, or findings of violations contained
4	herein.
5	WHEREFORE, based on the foregoing, we have set our hands to this Consent
6	Order, upon its execution by Ronald A. Wilbur, Bank Commissioner.
7	
8	Recommended this <u>27th</u> day of <u>January</u> , 2012 by
9	/s/
10	Maryam Torben Desfosses, Hearings Examiner, Banking Department
11	
12	Executed this <u>31st</u> day of <u>January</u> , 2012 by
13	/s/
14	Robert Palmer, Esq., on his own behalf and as Senior Partner of and on
15	behalf of The Palmer Firm, P.C.
16	
17	Executed this <u>1st</u> day of <u>February</u> , 2012 by
18	/s/
19	Elizabeth Olcott, Esq.
20	
21	SO ORDERED.
22	
23	/s/ Dated: 02/01/2012
24	Ronald A. Wilbur Bank Commissioner
25	
	Consent Order - 5