

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND MUTUAL RELEASE

1. **PARTIES:** The parties to this Settlement Agreement ("Agreement") are Plaintiff FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION as Receiver for Downey Savings & Loan Association, F.A. ("FDIC-R"), and Defendant, third party lender, PAUL CURIEL a/k/a PABLO CURIEL, an individual ("CURIEL"). The FDIC-R and CURIEL are sometimes herein collectively referred to as the "Parties."

2. **RECITALS:** This Agreement is made with reference to the following facts:

2.1 Certain claims arose between the Parties concerning seven (7) residential loans (jointly, the "Loans") that were made by Downey Savings & Loan Association ("Downey") in 2005 and 2006 to borrowers

(b)(4),(b)
(6)

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(b)(4),(b)
(6)

(jointly, the "Borrowers").

2.2 The Loans were secured by trust deeds on real properties then owned by each borrower. ABSOLUTE INVESTMENT GROUP, INC. dba PALACIO MORTGAGE or TARA HOME FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC. were the mortgage brokers that submitted the Loan applications to Downey.

2.3 The FDIC-R claims that concurrent with each of the Loans CURIEL secretly agreed to provide additional secured financing to each of the Borrowers. These secured loans, or the Borrowers' intentions to obtain the additional loans, were not disclosed to Downey. Had the loans from CURIEL been disclosed, then none of the Borrowers would have qualified for the Loans with Downey.

2.4 The Loans were approved and funded by Downey and subsequently defaulted. Following trustee foreclosure sales, each of the properties securing the Loans reverted to Downey, resulting in an alleged loss to the thrift of over \$1,463,000.

2.5 In November 2008, the FDIC-R was appointed the Receiver over all of Downey's assets and liabilities. Among the assets the FDIC-R is charged with trying to recover upon is the loss relating to the Loans ("Claims").

2.6 The Claims subsequently became the subject of a civil Complaint ("Complaint") entitled *FDIC-R v. ABSOLUTE INVESTMENT GROUP, INC., a California corporation dba PALACIO MORTGAGE, et al.*, Case No. CV10-4927 JFW (RCx) ("Action") filed by the FDIC-R in the United States District Court for the Central District of California, Western Division. CURIEL was served with the Summons and Complaint and filed an Answer in response thereto. CURIEL is now appearing in the Action *in pro se*.

2.7 By this Agreement the Parties hereto intend to settle and dispose of, fully and completely, any and all claims, demands, causes of action, obligations, damages, and liabilities that arise out of or relate to the Complaint and all of the Claims alleged therein by the FDIC-R against CURIEL.

2.8 The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation in its separate corporate capacity as the insurer of deposits and bank regulator, and all other federal agencies of the United States of America, are not parties to this Agreement and are not bound in any manner to its terms and conditions. The FDIC-R enters into this Agreement solely in its limited capacity as the appointed Receiver of Downey Savings & Loan Association, F.A., and no other receivership now existing, previously existing or hereafter appointed.

3. **NO ADMISSION RE MERITS OF CLAIMS:** The Parties agree that nothing in this Agreement, and no performance under this Agreement, shall be construed as an admission by any Party of the validity or invalidity of the Claims alleged in the Action; and, the Parties agree that this Agreement is entered into solely for the purpose of convenience and to compromise the disputed Claims the FDIC-R has alleged in the Action.

4. **SETTLEMENT TERMS:** The Parties agree to the following settlement terms:

4.1 Within thirty (30) days of the full execution of this Agreement by the Parties, CURIEL shall pay the FDIC-R the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand No/100 Dollars (\$25,000.00). Said payment shall be by cashier's check, payable upon first presentation.

4.2 After the payment is made and the funds have cleared, the FDIC-R shall

cause the Complaint to be dismissed with prejudice against CURIEL.

5. **MUTUAL RELEASES AND WAIVER OF CIVIL CODE § 1542:**

5.1 In consideration of the Settlement terms as set forth in Paragraph 4 above, and all other promises, covenants and consideration provided for herein, the Parties agree that, except as to such rights or claims as may be created by this Agreement, they hereby covenant not to sue each other ever again on the Claims and the Parties acknowledge full and complete satisfaction of, and hereby release, remise, and forever discharge each other, including their respective insurers, officers, directors, affiliated companies, agents, servants, representatives, spouse, heirs, successors or predecessors in interest, assignees, attorneys, employees and contractors from any and all the Claims, demands, counts, obligations, agreements, damages, liabilities, losses, costs and expenses of any kind, in law or in equity, whether known or unknown, that either Party now holds, or has ever held against the other, or may hold in the future, that arise out of or are in any way connected with, the Claims alleged in the Action.

5.2 This Agreement shall be binding on the Parties and on their respective officers, directors, affiliated companies, agents, representatives, spouses, heirs, successors or predecessors in interest, assignees, attorneys, employees and contractors and shall inure to the benefit of the Parties, and each of them.

5.3 The Parties specifically intend that the release contained in this Agreement shall bar all released claims, including those which are currently unknown to them. The Parties understand and accept the risk that they may later discover a claim encompassed by the Release in this Agreement which they did not know or suspect to exist, or which they could not have known or suspect to exist. The Parties hereby specifically waive the protection of Civil Code section 1542 which reads as follows:

A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release, which if known by him or her must have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor.

The foregoing waiver is expressly limited to the claims held by the Plaintiff, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation as Receiver for Downey Savings and Loan Association, F.A., and no

other receivership, nor to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation in its separate corporate capacity, as more particularly set for in paragraph 2.8 above.

6. **ATTORNEYS' FEES:** In the event any action is brought to enforce or interpret this Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to an award of reasonable attorneys' fees in addition to any other relief to which the prevailing party may be entitled.

7. **REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES:** The Parties represent, warrant, and agree as follows:

7.1 The FDIC-R is the lawfully appointed Receiver for Downey and has succeeded to and now holds each of the Claims that are the subject of the Action and this Agreement.

7.2 The FDIC-R has the authority to enter into this compromise and settlement of the Claims as the Receiver of Downey.

7.3 Each of the Parties have received or had the opportunity to seek their own independent legal advice with respect to the advisability of executing this Agreement. The Parties acknowledge that they have executed this Agreement without fraud, duress, or undue influence. The Parties affirm that they have read this Agreement and understand the contents hereof.

7.4 No Party, nor any agent or attorney of any Party, has made any statement, representation, or promise to any other Party regarding any facts which the Party has then relied upon in entering into this Agreement, and the Parties here each affirm that they have not relied upon any statement, representation or promise by any other Party, or of any agent or attorney for another Party, in executing this Agreement, or in making the settlement provided for herein, except as is expressly represented or promised in this Agreement.

7.5 None of the Parties have heretofore assigned, transferred, or granted, or purported to assign, transfer, or grant, any of the Claims that are alleged in the Action.

7.6 Each Party agrees to execute any additional documents as reasonably convenient, necessary or desirable to carry out the provisions of this Agreement.

8. **MISCELLANEOUS:**

8.1 This Agreement shall be deemed to have been executed and delivered

within the State of California, and the rights and obligations of the Parties hereto shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, and governed by, the laws of the State of California.

8.2 This Agreement constitutes a single, integrated written contract expressing the entire agreement of the Parties. This Agreement may only be modified in a writing signed by all the Parties. This Agreement shall be interpreted in accordance with the plain meaning of its terms and not strictly for or against any of the Parties to this Agreement.

8.3 The provisions of this Agreement are contractual and not mere recitals. The Agreement shall be considered severable, such that if any provision or part of the Agreement is ever held invalid under any law or ruling, that provision or part of the Agreement shall remain in force and effect to the extent allowed by law, and all other provisions or parts shall remain in full force and effect.

8.4 This Agreement may be executed in counterparts and shall be effective on the last date on which it is executed by any one of the Parties (the "effective date"). Any signature obtained by facsimile or e-mail shall be as valid as an original signature. An authenticated copy of this Agreement can be used for any purpose for which the original may be used.

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DATED: 5-30-12

[Redacted Signature]

PAUL CURIEL a/k/a PABLO CURIEL,
An individual, in Pro Se

DATED: 13 May 2012

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE
CORPORATION, as Receiver for Downey Savings
& Loan Assoc., F.A.

By: [Redacted Signature]

(b)(6)

Name: Maryann M. Bullen
Title: Senior Attorney

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
HERSHORIN & HENRY LLP

(b)(6)

By: [Redacted Signature]

JEAN C. WILCOX
Attorneys for Plaintiff,
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
as Receiver for Downey Savings & Loan Association, F.A.