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TERRY TROY

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IN THE

Appellant

CIRCUIT COURT

v.

\* FOR

ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY

BALTIMORE CITY

and

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INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND

Case No. 89184050/CL99747

Appellees

\*

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER

Hollander, J.

I. Introduction

Terry Troy ("Troy") has appealed from the decision of the Insurance Commissioner (the "Commissioner"), dated June 16, 1989. The Commissioner approved the proposed action of Allstate Insurance Company ("Allstate") not to renew Troy's automobile liability insurance policy, or in lieu of such nonrenewal, to exclude Troy's son, Richard Troy ("Richard"), from coverage under the policy. The Commissioner found that Allstate had applied its underwriting standards in a manner reasonably related to its economic and business purposes, and that the proposed action did not violate the pertinent provisions of the Insurance Code, Maryland Code, Art. 48A. 1

<sup>1.</sup> All references to the Maryland Code will be to Article 48A, unless otherwise noted.

### II. Factual Summary

On December 14, 1988, Allstate sent a "Notice of Nonrenewal" to Troy informing him that it did not intend to renew his automobile liability insurance policy. R.21-24. In lieu of nonrenewal, Allstate offered to continue the policy in force, provided that Troy's son, Richard, was excluded from coverage under the policy. R.21. Troy exercised his right to protest Allstate's proposed nonrenewal, and requested an administrative hearing before the Commissioner. R.22, 25.

At the hearing on May 18, 1989, Allstate's representative, Steven L. Kreseski, Esq. ("Kreseski"), recounted the reasons for Allstate's proposed action of nonrenewal. Kreseski explained that the insurer's decision was based on four incidents in 1988 involving Richard. R.10, 23. On August 9, 1988, a vehicle operated by Richard sideswiped another car, requiring Allstate to pay \$705.00. On March 31, 1988 and April 30, 1988, Richard was ticketed for speeding. On August 8, 1988, Richard received a ticket for failing to stop at a stop sign or to yield at a yield sign. R.10, 23, 35. All three traffic tickets resulted in convictions. R.10, 35.

<sup>2.</sup> The letter "R" stands for reference to the Record which has been numbered in this case.

<sup>3.</sup> The policy in question actually covered a total of six drivers and six vehicles. Richard Troy was one of the drivers under the policy, and the only one that Allstate sought to exclude from coverage. See R.27.

Kreseski testified that Allstate's underwriting guidelines, set out in the nonrenewal notice, precluded continued insurance coverage for any operator who has received, within a three year period, two or more traffic convictions, or who has a frequency of combined losses and traffic convictions of two or more per operator. R.10-12, 23. This approved underwriting guideline is on file with the Commissioner. R.10,11.

Kreseski also explained the process by which Allstate established its underwriting policy. According to Kreseski, the average Allstate driver insured by Allstate is involved in an at-fault accident only once every 15 to 17 years. R.12, 23. However, according to the field's leading independent research study, conducted by the State of California (the "Study"), where a driver's past record contains traffic conditions or accidents, "there is an increased likelihood that a driver will involved in an accident in the future with a greater frequency compared to a driver that has a clean record." From this data, Allstate calculated that a driver with as many traffic convictions as Richard had over a three year period would be 3.61 times more likely to have an accident in any given future year than a driver who had no traffic violations. R.13-14. Thus, a driver with Richard's record would, on average, be involved in an accident approximately every four years, instead of only once in 15 to 17 years. R.14.

Although Allstate can charge for certain at-fault accidents, the insurer has chosen not to have the ability to surcharge in Maryland for traffic convictions. And R.12. Consequently, the significantly higher expected accident frequency for a driver such as Richard would have an adverse effect upon the company's ability to profit, according to Kreseski. It would require the insurer to incur substantially higher costs, without the ability to surcharge those drivers who are responsible for them. R.14.

Allstate also offered the Affidavit of Matthew Stegle ("Stegle"), the Territorial Underwriting Manager for Allstate assigned to the Maryland region. R.15, 36-43. Stegle's Affidavit discusses the Study, and the validity of the data and conclusions drawn from it.<sup>5</sup>

Kreseski stated that under its underwriting guideline, Allstate can surcharge for certain at-fault accidents and could surcharge for Richard's August 9, 1988 at-fault accident. Kreseski indicated that he believed a surcharge may have been applied to the instant policy. Kreseski explained that "[a] surcharge is a means by which the company can take in additional premium dollars in this particular year compensate it adequately for anticipated greater frequency of accidents and possible pay-out in the future, not necessarily the next year, but in the future." R.12.

<sup>5.</sup> According to Stegle, the validity of the California Study results can be tested by determining their correlation coefficient, which is a statistic indicating how strongly two variables are related. R.42. A correlation coefficient of 1,000 indicates a perfect relationship between variables. R.43. The correlation coefficient associated with the relationship between prior conviction history and subsequent accident frequency is .994, indicating highly significant results, according to Stegle's Affidavit. R.42-43.

According to Stegle, Allstate draws statistical data from the Study with regard to accident frequencies for drivers with prior accidents and/or convictions within a three year period. Allstate uses the most recent updated statistics utilized by the Study. R.37. Stegle compared the Study's results with the results of Allstate's in-house analysis of the frequency of accident involvement by the average Allstate insured, and explained the resulting statistical analysis derived by the insurer. R.36-38. Allstate calculated the average claim payout and administrative costs associated with an at-fault accident sustained by one of its Maryland insureds and, based on this calculation, coupled with the expected accident frequency, the insurer's current rating established. R.38-39. also, R.12, (testimony of See Kreseski). Stegle emphasizes that:

Allstate's premium and surcharge rating plan does not adequately compensate the Company for the increased loss potential projected by the California Study (December, 1987) for drivers with two or more non-surchargeable occurrences. The additional loss potential projected for this insured is not adequately covered by Allstate's present premium and surcharge rate filing.

<sup>6.</sup> According to the Affidavit, the Study is based on accident involvement without regard to fault. It notes that Allstate, in contrast, relies only on at-fault accidents in determining to nonrenew or cancel a policy of automobile "[T]herefore liability insurance. the statistical from the California Study selected would be the conservative estimate of future accident involvement for that driver." Affidavit at 2. R.37.

R.39 (emphasis in original). Consequently, Stegle concluded that if Allstate were required to continue to insure the entire Troy family, it would suffer a resulting loss which would have a "direct and substantial adverse effect upon Allstate's business and economic purpose which is to provide low cost automobile insurance to as many drivers as possible, while making a reasonable profit." R.39.

Kreseski emphasized that Allstate's proposed nonrenewal decision in this case was purely a function of the application of Allstate's underwriting standards as determined by the legitimate and supported underlying statistical analysis. The decision, he indicated, was in accord with the insurer's uniform policy. Kreseski explained:

Allstate seeks to exclude Richard from [the] policy, since everyone else conforms with the underwriting guidelines and has fewer traffic convictions or at-fault accidents than would necessarily cause them to be excluded. But, if any other driver eventually exceeded the underwriting guidelines and the company found out about it, the company would seek to exclude them and in the event [the] policyholders did not agree to go along with the exclusion, then the entire policy would be cancelled which is what's occurring here.

R.15.

Only Mrs. Troy appeared at the Hearing. No evidence was offered by the Appellants, and the insurer's evidence was never disputed or contradicted at the Hearing.

Based upon the testimony and exhibits, the Hearing Examiner found that Allstate's application of its underwriting standards to Troy's policy was based on valid statistical

R.1-2. Furthermore, the Hearing Examiner found that data. Allstate's application of its underwriting standards in this case was reasonably related to its economic and business that continued coverage for Richard purpose, and underwriting quideline would adversely Allstate's Allstate's losses and expenses. R.2. As a result, the Hearing Examiner concluded that Allstate was not in violation of any of the pertinent sections of the Insurance Code, and authorized Allstate to effect its proposed action on or after July 6, Troy noted a timely appeal and obtained a stay of R.2. the Commissioner's Order.

### III. Scope of Review

Section 40(5) of the Insurance Code governs the standards of judicial review of decisions of the Commissioner. It provides:

The court may affirm the decision of the Commissioner or remand the case for further proceedings; or it may reverse or modify the decision if the substantial rights of the petitioners may have been prejudiced because the administrative findings, inferences, conclusions or decisions are:

- (i) In violation of constitutional provisions; or
- (ii) In excess of the statutory authority or jurisdiction of the Commissioner; or
  - (iii) Made upon unlawful procedure; or
  - (iv) Affected by other error of law; or
- (v) Unsupported by competent, material, and substantial evidence in view of the entire record as submitted; or
- (vi) Against the weight of competent, material and substantial evidence in view of the entire record, as submitted by the Commissioner and including de novo evidence taken in open court; or
- (vii) Unsupported by the entire record, as submitted by the Commissioner and including de novo evidence taken in open court; or
  - (viii) Arbitrary or capricious.

Miller v. Ins. Comm'r, 70 Md. App. 355, 365 (1987); Ins. Comm'r
v. Allstate Ins. Co., 268 Md. 428, 442-43 (1973).

Section 40(5), and the case law interpreting it, make clear that "the basic standard for reviewing an administrative finding by the Insurance Commissioner is whether the finding is supported by "substantial evidence." <u>Lumbermen's Mut. Casualty v. Ins. Comm'r.</u>, 302 Md. 248, 266 (1985). The test is not how this court would resolve a factual dispute, or questions of credibility. On review, this court is only to determine whether "a reasoning mind reasonably could have reached the factual conclusion the agency reached." <u>Id</u>. (citations omitted).

In applying the substantial evidence test, the appellate courts have emphasized that this court should not substitute its judgment for the expertise of those persons who constitute the administrative agency from which the appeal is taken. See Miller, supra, 70 Md. App. at 366. Furthermore, the decisions of administrative agencies must be viewed in the light most favorable to the agency, since such decisions are prima facie correct. Id.; Nationwide Mut. Ins. Co. v. Ins. Comm'r, 67 Md. App. 727, 737 (1986). See generally, Bulluck v. Pelham Wood Apts., 283 Md. 505, 513 (1978).

The insurer had the burden of persuasion to satisfy the Commissioner that the cancellation or nonrenewal of the policy was justified, Sec. 234A(a). But, on appeal, the burden shifts

to the Petitioner to show that the administrative proceedings prejudiced any of his substantial rights. See Miller, supra, 70 Md. App. at 365; Gov't Employees Ins. v. Ins. Comm'r, 273 Md. 467 (1975); Nuger v. Ins. Comm'r, 238 Md. 55, 61 (1965).

### IV. Discussion

The Commissioner's decision approving Allstate's proposed action is supported by substantial evidence and is correct as a matter of law.

Section 234A of the Insurance Code sets forth the substantive underwriting requirements and limitations for including automobile insurance risks, insurance risks. Lumbermen's, supra, 302 Md. at 253. Originally enacted to proscribe discriminatory underwriting, it has been expanded to provide that no insurer may cancel or refuse to underwrite or renew an insurance risk except by the application of standards which are reasonably related to the insurer's economic and business purposes. Id. at 253-255; Miller, supra, 70 Md. App. at 366-67.<sup>7</sup>

In <u>Lumbermen's</u>, Judge Eldridge discussed the expansion of Sec. 234A by Chapter 752 of the laws of 1974. Like the instant case, <u>Lumbermen's</u> dealt with the attempted cancellation of automobile liability insurance of drivers with more than one accident or traffic violation within a three year period. The

<sup>7.</sup> See Section 234A (a)-(d).

Court affirmed the decision of the Commissioner that the insurers failed to prove that surcharges under their approved rating plans would not compensate them for their insured risk. The Court further found that the real complaint of the insurers was over the adequacy of the approved rating plans, and held that such a controversy is not encompassed by Sec. 234A. <u>Id</u>. at 267-69.

The Court in <u>Lumbermen's</u> gave notice that it would require a close examination of the specific factual basis provided by the insurer to justify its underwriting decisions. The Court emphasized the importance of the preamble to the revision of Sec. 234A, which states that insurers' underwriting decisions must

be made solely on the basis of a reasonable application to relevant facts of underwriting principles, standards and rules that can be demonstrated objectively to measure the probability of a direct and substantial adverse effect upon losses or expenses of the insurer in light of the approved rating plan or plans of the insurer then in effect....

Id. at 254, 267 (emphasis supplied by the Court of Appeals).

The Court fund the factual bases necessary to justify the underwriting decisions proposed by the insurers to be sorely lacking in the cases before it in <u>Lumbermen's</u>. The Court stated that there was no evidence introduced concerning the amount of premium revenue which would likely be produced from the companies' Maryland insureds in the rating classifications

having surcharges for two or more violations or accidents over a three year period. <u>Id</u>. at 266. Moreover, no evidence was offered concerning additional compensation the companies would receive from the surcharges, except for the "bald conclusory statement" by the underwriters that it would be insufficient. <u>Id</u>. The Court also pointed out that there was no evidence introduced regarding the loss experience of the two companies with insureds having more than one traffic violation or accident over a three year period. <u>Id</u>. Finally, the Court complained, none of the studies or reports referred to by the insurers at various points were introduced into evidence. Id.

In <u>Crumlish v. Ins. Comm'r.</u>, 70 Md. App. 182 (1987), the Court of Special Appeals, relying on <u>Lumbermen's</u>, also emphasized that conclusory statements bearing on the relationship of an insurer's underwriting standard to its "economic and business purposes" are not enough to comply with the statute. Instead, the Court opined:

Facts must be produced which answer at least the following questions:

- 1. What is the statistical basis for the supposition that a person who has two or more chargeable losses within a 24 month period is more likely to have a chargeable accident within the next 12 months than a person who has had no accidents, one chargeable accident, or two or more nonchargeable accidents?
- 2. How valid is any such statistical evidence?
- 3. If there is statistical validity to the supposition, what direct and substantial adverse effect would it have upon [the insurer's] losses and expenses in light of its current approved rating plan?

70 Md. App. at 190.

the decision Appellant initially challenges of the Commissioner on the general basis, essentially, that the Commissioner's finding's were not supported by substantial This general contention must fail, however, in light of the scope of review outlined, supra. The instant case presents a factual basis to support Allstate's underwriting quideline that is quite distinguishable from those present in Lumbermen's and Crumlish. Rather than presenting mere "bald conclusory statements," Allstate here has presented demonstrably objective statistical evidence, addressing each of the questions which the Court of Special Appeals indicated in Additionally, the Crumlish must be considered. evidence produced by Allstate included the actual data from the studies and reports underlying its underwriting analysis.

First, Allstate produced before the Commissioner facts showing the statistical basis, developed from analyses of both the Study and its own studies, supporting the supposition that a person with chargeable occurrences is more likely to have a greater frequency of accidents than drivers who have no such Next, the insurer introduced evidence showing the validity of its statistical evidence. Finally, Allstate produced evidence of the direct and substantial adverse effect which would result, based on its current approved rating plan. Since Allstate has provision no in its quideline surcharging for the added potential exposure, the impact of requiring Allstate to continue such a risk was demonstrated in an objective fashion.

From all of the evidence presented, it is this court's view that a reasoning mind could have reasonably found that Allstate successfully carried its burden of proving that Richard posed an increased risk and that its rating plan does not provide for the imposition of an adequate rate to compensate for the increased risk. See R.2. Compare Lumberman's Mut. Casualty v. Ins. Comm'r, supra, 302 Md. at 266.

The other objections raised by Troy to the Commissioner's decision below are insufficient to meet the burden of showing that the administrative proceedings prejudiced any of his substantial rights. One line of these objections goes to the validity of the underlying statistics and resulting conclusions drawn by Allstate from the Study and its own analysis of its insured drivers in Maryland. As to these arguments, this court may not substitute its judgment for the expertise of the Commissioner. The underlying statistical data and concomitant analysis were set out for the Commissioner's review, and this court is of the view that the Commissioner gave sufficient consideration to the evidence and its validity. See R.1-2.

This court also rejects Troy's assertion that the "Order on Hearing" issued by the Commissioner does not comport with the requirements of Sec. 39. It provides, in pertinent part, that "[t]he Order shall contain a concise statement of the facts as found by the Commissioner and of his conclusions

therefrom, and the matters required by Section 29." Section 29 requires that an Order of the Commissioner state its effective date and concisely state its intent or purpose, the grounds on which it is based and the provision of Art. 48A pursuant to which action is taken.

The Order of Hearing in the instant case meets these requirements. The Hearing Examiner made factual findings as to Allstate's underwriting standards as follows: (1) Richard's driving record exceeds these standards; (2) Allstate's statistical data was valid and supported its assertions concerning an increase in expected accident frequency for Richard; (3) Allstate's rating plan does not provide for the imposition of an adequate rate for the additional exposure presented by Richard; (4) continued insurance coverage for Richard would adversely affect Allstate's losses and expenses. This Order clearly satisfies the requirements of Sec. 39.

Another series of objections presented by Troy questions the uniformity with which Allstate applies its underwriting standards, suggesting that the insurer may be applying its standards in an arbitrary and capricious way. However, at the hearing Kreseski testified that Allstate's decision in this case was purely a function of its uniform policies as determined by its underwriting guideline. In fact, Kreseski specifically emphasized that the proposed action would have been the same for any driver with a driving record such as

that of Richard. Troy produced no evidence to the contrary.

Although Troy suggests that Allstate is somehow basing its coverage decisions merely on future promises it may or may not fulfill, he has not offered any evidence that Allstate actually deviated from its professed uniform underwriting guideline. Troy also suggests that Allstate's nonrenewal or exclusion decision may have been the result, at least in part, of racial discrimination, notwithstanding the provision in Allstate's nonrenewal notice that its action would be the same for any of its policyholders with the same driving record. R.24. This allegation, however, is not supported by any evidence.

Troy also argues that Allstate's proposed action, and the Commissioner's decision to approve it, are flawed because the underlying data and analysis fail to take into account the particular individual situation of Richard in determining his under policy. Thus, according position the insufficient weight was given to the fact that Richard was involved in "only" one accident that resulted in a claim of "only" \$705; that he received "only" two points against his driving record for motor vehicle violations in the applicable three year period; that he has "a radically changed driving pattern" since he is now enrolled in college and away from and that he has "learned from his experiences" and "matured as a young man." These arguments do not prevail in

this situation, because the statutory scheme does not require an insurer to take them into account. On the contrary, an insurer is required to look to demonstrably objective data, and an underwriting system based solely on subjective judgments concerning the individual lifestyles and personal characteristics of each insured would seem infinitely more susceptible to challenge as arbitrary and capricious. There is no question that, in determining whether to nonrenew the Troy insurance policy, Allstate could consider traffic violations and accidents involving Richard which occurred within three years of the policy renewal date. See Sec. 234A(d)(1).

Finally, Troy suggests that the Commissioner has in some way abdicated his responsibility by allowing Allstate to apply the criteria on which it has chosen to rely in its underwriting quideline. The action taken in this case is clearly a function of Allstate's determination not to provide automobile liability insurance for drivers predicted by the company to cause higher levels of liability exposure. In Lumbermen's, supra, the Court specifically referred to such a determination as one available to an insurer. Ιf an insurer decides it does not wish to insure the risk of a driver with more than one traffic violation or accident in a three year period, the Court explained, it could in fact seek to modify its rating plan by deleting this classification of risks. See Lumbermen's, supra, 302 Md. at 369. In the instant case, Allstate has clearly chosen a method approved by the Court of Appeals. Its approved rating plan does not include coverage for the risks presented

by a driver such as Richard. R. 12. The insurer thus may refuse to renew Troy's policy or, alternatively, to exclude Richard as a result. See Sec. 240C-1(a)(1) (requiring the insurer to make exclusion offer in lieu of nonrenewal). Troy therefore cannot now complain that this action is unfair or discriminatory, or that it constitutes illegal "complusion/blackmail/duress" as applied to his policy.

The Hearing Examiner properly applied the relevant statutory provisions to the facts, which are supported by substantial evidence. Accordingly, Allstate's proposed action was lawfully approved.

Based on the foregoing, it is, this 2 day of May, 1990, by the Circuit Court for Baltimore City,

ORDERED that the decision of the Commissioner be, and the same hereby is, AFFIRMED.

Costs to be paid by Appellant.

Ellen L. Hollander, Judge

cc: Mr. Terry Troy
7819 Ivymount Terrace
Potomac, Maryland 20854

Steven L. Kreseski, Esquire Law Offices of Joseph A. Schwartz, III Washington Place 10 West Madison Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Meg L. Rosthal, Esquire Assistant Attorney General 501 St. Paul Place Baltimore, Maryland 21202

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CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY

TERRY TROY

Appellant

IN THE

v.

CIRCUIT COURT

STATE OF MARYLAND

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and

FOR BALTIMORE CITY

ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE

CASE NO. 89184050/CL99747

Appellees

# MEMORANDUM OF THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

John A. Donaho, Insurance Commissioner of the State of Maryland, by his attorneys, J. Joseph Curran, Jr., Attorney General of Maryland and Meg L. Rosthal, Assistant Attorney General, submits this Memorandum of Law pursuant to Maryland Rule Bl2.

### STATEMENT OF THE CASE AND OF THE FACTS

By notice dated December 14, 1988, Allstate Insurance Company (Allstate) informed Terry Troy that, effective February 7, 1989, his automobile insurance policy would not be renewed. (R. 21-24). In lieu of nonrenewal, Allstate offered to continue the policy in force, provided Richard Christian Troy was excluded from coverage under the policy. The reasons for nonrenewal were stated in the notice as follows:

The Allstate Insurance Company has as its economic and business purposes the following: (1) the continued solvency of the corporation, (2) the making of a reasonable profit to provide continued service to policyholders and for corporate growth and expansion, and (3) the maintenance of the

lowest possible rate structure for its policyholders.

To achieve this, we maintain a program in which we seek to insure the average or better than average risk. The average Maryland driver that we have insured during the past three years has been involved in an at-fault accident at the rate of one in every fifteen (15) to seventeen (17) years of driving. This rate of accident involvement has remained fairly constant over the past several years.

Prior to renewal, the company reviews the records of policyholders with losses during the past three years. There are a number of situations that will occur which when analyzed by an Allstate Underwriter, may result in a decision not to continue a risk. Such a decision is made when the Underwriter is convinced that the risk of future loss exceeds the exposure anticipated and that the economic and business interests of Allstate would no longer served by the continuation of such risk. Some of the more typical examples of such situations follow: . . . (4) a frequency of convictions for motor vehicle violations (Allstate's non-continuation standard is at least two convictions by any one operator) . . . (6) a frequency of combined losses and convictions which is defined as at least two per operator . . . .

A review of your policy records shows the following: Richard has 8-9-88 sideswiped claimant - \$705.00 paid; 3-31-88; speed; 8-8-88 failure to stop at stop/yield at yield sign.

Independent research studies have shown that persons with accident and or motor vehicle violation involvement are more likely to have future accidents than persons without this involvement. One such study shows the chance of an accident rises almost correspondingly with the number of convictions the driver has in a three (3) year period. The average conviction record compared with "0" convictions in a three (3) year period

based on this study would indicate a 1.95<sup>1</sup> greater chance of accident. Allstate does not have a rating plan to accomodate the potential for future accident involvement indicated by this violation record.

The same study shows that the chance of an accident rises almost correspondingly with the number of accidents the driver has in a three-year period. The above record compared with "0" accident involvement would indicate a 3.61 times greater chance of accidents.

We do surcharge for certain at-fault accidents, however, the projected increased exposure indicated by the above driving record is beyond the scope of that anticipated by our classification and rating structure.

Our action to terminate coverage is in compliance with our stated economic and business purposes and supported by the fact that such action would be the same for any of our policyholders with the same circumstances or similar driving record.

(R. 21-24).

Appellant protested Allstate's proposed nonrenewal action and a hearing was held before Hearing Examiner William E. Holliway on May 18, 1989. (R. 1-2). Allstate was represented at the hearing by Steven L. Kreseski, Esquire and Terry Troy was represented by Joyce Troy, his wife.

Kreseski recounted the reasons for Allstate's proposed

An exhibit submitted at the hearing by Allstate indicates that the accident frequency figures contained in the notice have been transposed. (See R. 41). The figures in the notice pertain to predicted accident frequency based on a driving record of one conviction and three accidents within 2 years, rather than Richard Troy's record of one accident and three convictions within two years. However, Richard Troy's driving record, which is the basis for Allstate's proposed nonrenewal of the Troy policy, is accurately stated in the notice and Allstate's exhibit identifies the expected accident frequency associated with that record.

nonrenewal of the Troy policy, which are that, on August 9, 1988, Richard Troy sideswiped another vehicle requiring Allstate to pay \$705.00 to that claimant, on March 31, 1988 and April 30, 1988, Richard Troy was ticketed for speeding and on August 8, 1988 he was ticketed for failing to stop at a stop sign or to yield at a yield sign. (R. 10, 35). All three traffic tickets resulted in convictions. (R. 35). Kreseski explained that Allstate has an underwriting guideline which precludes continued insurance coverage for any driver who has had two or more occurrences within a three-year period. (R. 10, 11-12). Kreseski explained that Allstate will not continue insurance coverage for any operator who has had at least two convictions in a three-year period or a frequency of combined losses and convictions which is defined as at least two per operator. (R. 11-12). Allstate does not have the ability to surcharge in Maryland for traffic convictions, although it can surcharge for certain at-fault accidents, Kreseski testified. (R. 12).

Allstate seeks to insure preferred drivers in Maryland and calculates that the average Maryland Allstate insured is involved in an at-fault accident only once every 15 to 17 years. (R. 12). Based on this expected accident frequency, coupled with the average amount Allstate spent to process and pay a claim in 1988 (1,511.04), Allstate can determine how much money it needs to reserve in order to pay future claims. (R. 12-13). A driver who has incurred traffic convictions or accidents can be expected to have more accidents in the future than a driver who has been

violation or accident free, Kreseski testified. (R. 13). In support of this contention, Kreseski cited the California Study, a research study conducted by the California Department of Motor Vehicles, which concludes that, with three convictions in two years Richard Troy is 3.61 times more likely to have an at-fault accident in the third year than a driver who has had no convictions in two years. (R. 13-14, 41). This expected accident frequency far exceeds that of the average Allstate insured and will have a direct adverse effect upon the company's ability for profit, Kreseski testified. (R. 14).

Due to Richard Troy's driving record, Allstate seeks to exclude him from coverage under the family automobile policy or, if the exclusion offer is rejected, to cancel the entire policy. (R. 15). However, Allstate would offer coverage to Richard Troy through Allstate Indemnity Insurance, a subsidiary which caters to the less than preferred market. (R. 15, 24).

In further support of its underwriting standards, Kreseski offered into evidence the affidavit of Matthew Stegle, Territorial Underwriting Manager for Allstate Insurance Co. assigned to the Maryland region. (R. 15, 36-43). The affidavit discusses Allstate's use of the California Study results<sup>2</sup> concerning accident frequencies for drivers with prior accidents and convictions and compares these frequencies to the results of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Stegle's affidavit states that Allstate's underwriting department relies upon the statistics contained in the most recent California study update, which was conducted in 1987, contrary to Appellant's assertions that the figures are 25 years old.

Allstate's in-house studies which determined the frequency of accident involvement by the average Allstate insured. (R. 36-38). Stegle's affidavit explains that Allstate has calculated the average claim payout and administrative costs associated with an at-fault accident sustained by one of its Maryland insureds and, based on this calculation, coupled with the expected accident frequency, has derived its current rating plan. (R. 38-39). Stegle's affidavit further states that "Allstates premium and surcharge rating plan does not adequately compensate the company for the increased loss potential projected by the California study (December, 1987) for drivers with two or The additional loss surchargeable occurrences. projected for this insured is not adequately covered Allstate's present premium and surcharge rate filing." (R. 39, emphasis original). Accordingly, Stegle concluded that Allstate were required to continue to insure this risk it would suffer a loss which would have a direct and sub-stantial adverse effect upon Allstate's business and economic purpose. (R. 39).

The validity of the California study results can be tested by determining their correlation coefficient, a statistic which indicates how strongly two variables are related. (R. 42). A correlation coefficient of 1.000 indicates a perfect relationship between variables. (R. 43). The correlation coefficient associated with the relationship between prior conviction history and subsequent accident frequency is .994, indicating highly significant results. (R. 42-43).

On June 16, 1989 Hearing Examiner Holliway issued an Order on Hearing in which he found that Allstate utilizes an underwriting standard which provides that it will not continue to insure any driver who has a frequency of combined losses and convictions defined as at least two per operator within the past three years, that Richard Troy has had one loss and three convictions within a 4-1/2 month period, which record exceeds Allstate's underwriting standard, that the driving record of Richard Troy presents additional exposure to Allstate which is not contemplated by its rating plan, that the statistical evidence produced by Allstate is valid and demonstrates that there is a strong relationship between past accidents violations and the probability for future accident involvement, that Allstate's rating plan does not provide for the imposition of an adequate rate for Richard Troy and, therefore, that the application of Allstate's underwriting standards is reasonably related to its economic and business purposes. (R. Accordingly, Allstate was authorized to effect its proposed nonrenewal of the Troy insurance policy on or after July 6, Troy noted a timely appeal of this Order to the Circuit Court for Baltimore City and obtained stav Commissioner's Order.

### QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- 1. Was Allstate's recitation of its underwriting standard at the hearing a statement of the standard in effect at the time Allstate attempted to nonrenew the Troy Policy?
- 2. Did Allstate lawfully consider Richard Troy's driving record for the three years

preceding the date of its proposed nonrenewal of the Troy policy?

- 3. Did the Insurance Commissioner correctly determine that the evidence presented by Allstate was sufficient to satisfy the burden imposed upon the insurer by Article 48A, \$234A?
- 4. Does the Insurance Commissioner's Order comport with the requirements set forth in §39?
- 5. Is Allstate's exclusion of driver offer tantamount to illegal "compulsion/blackmail/duress," as Appellant alleges?

### ARGUMENT

I.

### STANDARD OF REVIEW

The standard of review applied by a reviewing court to quasi-judicial decisions of the Insurance Commissioner is set forth in §40(5), which states:

The court may affirm the decision of the Commissioner or remand the case for further proceedings; or it may reverse or modify the decision if the substantial rights of the petitioners may have been prejudiced because the administrative findings, inferences, conclusions, or decisions are:

- (i) In violation of constitutional provisions; or
- (ii) In excess of the statutory authority or jurisdiction of the Commissioner; or
- (iii) Made upon unlawful procedure; or
  - (iv) Affected by other error of law; or
    - (v) Unsupported by competent, material and substantial evidence in view of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> All statutory reference shall be to Article 48A, the Insurance Code.

the entire record as submitted; or

- (vi) Against the weight of competent, material and substantial evidence in view of the entire record, as submitted by the Commissioner and including de novo evidence taken in open court; or
- (vii) Unsupported by the entire record, as submitted by the Commissioner and including de novo evidence taken in open court; or
- (viii) Arbitrary or capricious.

It is well settled that it is within the power of the Commissioner to make all factual conclusions necessary to the determination of whether Allstate violated §234A in attempting to terminate Appellant's automobile insurance policy. Department of Natural Resources v. Linchester, 274 Md. 211 (1974); Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company v. Insurance Commissioner, 67 Md. App. 727 (1986).

A reviewing court may not set aside an agency decision merely because it might weigh the evidence differently. Secretary v. Crowder, 43 Md. App. 276, 281-82 (1979). It may only determine whether a reasoning mind reasonably could have reached the same conclusions and inferences that the Commissioner reached. Lumbermen's Mutual Casualty Company v. Insurance

Commissioner, 302 Md. 248, 266 (1985); Bulluck v. Pelham Woods

Apts., 283 Md. 505 (1977); Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company v.

Insurance Commissioner, 67 Md. App. 727 (1987). The reviewing court must also review the

agency's decisions in the light most favorable to the agency, since the decisions of adminis-

trative agencies are prima facie correct . . . 'and carry with them the presumption of validity'. [citations omitted].

Bulluck, 283 Md. at 513. Furthermore,

not only is it the province of the agency to resolve conflicting evidence, but where inconsistent inferences from the same evidence may be drawn, it is for the agency to draw the inferences.

## Bulluck, id.

The Court of Appeals has also stated that, where the decision of the administrative agency is one of law rather than fact, the reviewing court must determine only whether the decision is "in accordance with law." <u>Baltimore Building & Construction Trade Councils, AFL-CIO v. J. Gordon Barnes</u>, 290 Md. 9, 14-15 (1981).

It is clear when applying this exacting standard of review that the Insurance Commissioner, in resolving the "inconsistent inferences from the same evidence", and finding the facts in the case before him, acted consistently with the law, and that a reasoning mind reasonably could have reached the same conclusions the agency reached. Accordingly, the Insurance Commissioner's decision should be upheld.

II.

Allstate's Recitation of its Underwriting Standard at the Hearing Was a Statement of the Standard in Effect at the Time Allstate Attempted to Nonrenew the Troy Policy.

Appellant contends, on page two of his Memorandum, that Allstate's statement of its underwriting standard is a "future

promise," or a statement of a standard that "was not true at time of hearing." Apparently, Appellant construes the phrase "Allstate WILL not continue to insure any driver . . . " (emphasis original) as a statement of Allstate's plans for the future rather than of its existing underwriting standards.

The Commissioner is at a loss as to precisely where in the record these exact words appear and points out that Allstate's representative, Steven L. Kreseski, stated that "Allstate's non-continuation standard is at least two convictions by any one operator. And number six, a frequency of combined losses and convictions which is defined as at least two per operator." (R. 11-12, emphasis added). Clearly these are statements of Allstate's current underwriting standards, as are identical statements contained in Allstate's notice to Appellant. (R. 23).

Even if the precise phraseology cited in Appellant's Memorandum does appear in the record ("Allstate will not continue to insure . . ."), Appellant misconstrues this statement as one of future intent rather than current practice. There is nothing in the record to support Appellant's allegations that the underwriting standard utilized in this case was not in use at the time Allstate proposed to nonrenew the Troy policy and is not now in use.

Moreover, insurers are free to change their underwriting standards from time to time without giving prior notice to their insureds and need not file their underwriting standards with the Commissioner.

Underwriting is a company's decision whether to issue or to continue a policy, and that decision is within the province of the insurer. See Insurance Commissioner v. Allstate Ins., 268 Md. 428, 440 (1983); Edelstein v. Nationwide Mut. Ins., 253 Md. 455, 461 (1969). Regulatory control of underwriting extends only to determining whether the decision is "arbitrary, capricious, or unfairly discriminatory," or, to the contrary, based on "standards which are reasonably related to the insurer's economic and business purposes." §234A(a). There is no requirement in the Insurance Code that insurers give insured previous notice of how their underwriting department operates; truly, insureds drive at their peril if they do not drive well. It is only after the underwriting decision has been made that an insurer is obliged to apprise an insured of the basis of its underwriting decisions, which is accomplished through the §240AA (b) notice of cancellation or nonrenewal. At that point, insureds have the right to protest the reasonableness of an insurer's decision. §240AA(d).

While rates must be filed with and approved by the Commissioner pursuant to §242(d), there is no comparable provision in the Insurance Code for underwriting standards. It is reasonable to conclude that, by enacting a rating requirement, but not an underwriting one, and further by establishing a procedure whereby underwriting decisions are subject to review, that the Legislature meant what it did not say: that underwriting is essentially the insurer's business and there need not be prior

disclosure of underwriting guidelines to the insured. When the Legislature intends to require insurers to include specific provisions in insurance policies, the Legislature has made this perfectly clear in specific language mandating those provisions, for example, the numerous health insurance mandated benefit statutes in Maryland, as well as other sections designating particular provisions that must be included in an insurance See\_e.g., §§388-389 (life insurance), §\$402-409 policy. (annuities), §§539-541 (motor vehicle liability insurance). as has been stated frequently, courts are not to insert words into a statute to make it express an intention not evident in its original form, Board of Education of Garrett County v. Lends, 295 55 (1982), then they should certainly not insert entire legislative mandates.

### TII.

Allstate Lawfully Considered Richard Troy's Driving Record for the Three Years Preceding the Date of its Proposed Nonrenewal of the Troy Policy

Appellant takes exception to Allstate's consideration of that part of Richard Troy's driving record which is adverse to him, without giving favorable weight to the fact that Richard subsequently drove for one full year without having an accident and is currently not driving at all.<sup>4</sup>

There is no question that, in determining whether to nonrenew the Troy insurance policy, Allstate could consider

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> If indeed Richard is away at school and not driving at this time, it would seem to impose no hardship on Appellant to simply accept the exclusion of driver offer.

traffic violations and accidents involving Richard Troy which occurred within three years of the policy renewal date. See \$234A(d)(l). These violations and accidents are significant for their predictive value with regard to future accident frequency. It is immaterial that an accident may have entailed only minor damage. What is important in this case is that Richard Troy had three moving violations and one at-fault accident in the span of only 4-1/2 months and, therefore, can be expected to have a much higher accident frequency in the future than a driver who has had fewer, or no, violations or accidents. Allstate acted lawfully when it attempted to nonrenew the Troy policy effective February 7, 1989, based on Richard Troy's driving record for the previous three years.

IV.

The Insurance Commissioner Correctly Determined That The Evidence Presented by Allstate Was Sufficient To Satisfy the Burden Imposed Upon the Insurer by §234A.

Appellant contends that the California study data is not valid, that it is 25 years old and that Allstate has not demonstrated that it would lose money if it were required to insure drivers with records like Richard Troy's. He also insinuates that Allstate's action is based, at least in part, on the color of his son's skin. Before exploring these specific objections, a review of §234A's requirements, as construed by Maryland's appellate courts, should be helpful.

Section 234(a) provides in pertinent part:

No insurer . . . shall cancel or refuse to underwrite or renew a particular insurance risk

for any reason based in whole or in part upon race, color, creed, sex, or blindness of any applicant or policyholder or for any arbitrary, capricious or unfairly discriminatory reason. No insurer . . . may cancel or refuse to underwrite or renew a particular insurance risk . . . except by the application of standards which are reasonably related to the insurer's economic and business purposes. At any hearing to determine whether there has been a violation of this section, the burden of persuasion shall be upon the insurer to demonstrate that the cancellation, or refusal to underwrite or renew is justified under the standards so demonstrated.

In <u>Geico v. Insurance Commissioner</u>, 273 Md. 467 (1957), the Court explained what an insurer must show in support of a decision to cancel or not to renew an automobile policy:

[T]he insurer must establish that its assigned reason is an actual one, that is, genuine; and that the facts on which it is based are true. In addition, of course, the insurer must comply with the remaining procedural requirements in \$240AA and the substantive standards, including the prohibition of historic prejudices, in \$\$234A and 240F. Only then will the insurer have met the burden of proving its proposed action to be justified under \$240AA(f).

Essentially, 234A of the Insurance Code requires two findings:

- That the standards used to cancel or nonrenew are 'reasonably related to the insurer's economic and business purposes'; and
- That under those standards the cancellation is justified -- essentially, that the insured falls within the underwriting proscription.

As stated in <u>Geico v. Insurance Commissioner</u>, 273 Md. at 483-84:

Nothing in §240AA permits the Commissioner to substitute his underwriting judgment for that of the insurer. Similarly, it is not for the Courts to decide whether a driver is a good or

poor risk; nor may the courts formulate criteria for the Commissioner to follow in considering whether the action proposed by an insurer is justified.

Most recently, in <u>Crumlish v. Insurance Commissioner</u>, 70 Md. App. 182 (1987), the Court of Special Appeals set forth, in dicta, the quantum of proof an insurer must adduce in order to satisfy the requirements of §234A. The Court stated that:

Facts must be produced which answer at least the following questions:

- 1. What is the statistical basis for the supposition that a person who [violates the applicable underwriting standard] is more likely to have a chargeable accident within the next 12 months than a person who [does not violate the standard]?
- 2. How valid is any such statistical evidence?
- 3. If there is statistical validity to the supposition, what direct and substantial adverse effect would it have upon [the insurer's] losses and expense in light of its current approved rating plan?

70 Md. App. at 190.

Appellant takes numerous stabs at the California study data and its use by Allstate. He contends that the data is 25 years old, when the affidavit of Matthew Stegle belies assertion. Stegle's affidavit reveals that the study originally conducted in 1964, but that is has been updated on several occasions and that Allstate relies on the most recent data, which was compiled in 1987. (R. 36-37).

Appellant also contends that the data are not valid and that Allstate would not lose money if it were required to continue to insure Richard Troy.

The testimony and evidence presented demonstrate that, with three traffic convictions in two years, Richard Troy is 3.54 times more likely to have an accident in the third year than a driver who has been conviction free and that with 1 accident in two years he is 1.74 times more likely to have an accident in the third year than a driver who has been accident free. (R. 41). The average Allstate insured has only one at-fault accident every 16.2 years and Allstate's rates are based upon this expected accident frequency, coupled with the average claim and administrative cost per accident. (R 38). Richard Troy's expected accident frequency is nearly four times greater than that of the average Allstate insured. (R. 43). Allstate has no surcharge plan for convictions and can surcharge for only one accident and, therefore, it cannot procure an adequate rate for the increased loss potential presented by a driver with a record such as Richard Troy's. (R. 39-43). It follows that Allstate would suffer a direct and substantial adverse effect upon its losses and expenses if it were required to continue to insure Richard Troy.

Allstate demonstrated the validity of the California study results through the use of a correlation coefficient. As previously stated, the correlation coefficient associated with the relationship between prior convictions and subsequent accident frequency is .994, indicating highly statistically significant results. (R. 42).

Appellant also insinuates that Allstate's actions are, at least in part, racially motivated. Appellant provides no support for this bald allegation and has submitted no evidence which would indicate that his son was treated differently than any other Allstate insured with the same driving record. Allstate's notice to the Troys states that its "action would be the same for any of [its] policyholders with the same circumstances or driving record" (R. 24) and Appellant has offered no evidence to refute this statement.

v.

The Insurance Commissioner's Order Comports With the Requirements Set Forth in §39.

On page five of his Memorandum, Appellant makes the assertion that the Order on Hearing does not comport with §39.

Section 39 provides in pertinent part:

The Order shall contain a concise statement of the facts as found by the Commissioner and of his conclusions therefrom, and the matters required by §29.

Section 29 requires that an Order of the Commissioner state its effective date and concisely state its intent or purpose, the grounds on which it is based and the provision of Article 48A pursuant to which action is taken.<sup>5</sup>

The Order on Hearing in the instant case meets these requirements. Hearing Examiner Holliway made findings relative

The Insurance Commissioner is specifically exempted from those provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act applicable to contested cases and, therefore, his Orders need not comply with the more stringent requirements of that statute. State Government Article, §10-202(a)(3)(iv).

to Allstate's underwriting standards, found that Richard Troy's record exceeds these standards, found that statistical data presented by Allstate is valid and supports the company's assertions concerning an increase in expected accident frequency for Richard Troy, determined that Allstate's rating plan does not provide for the imposition of an adequate rate for the additional exposure presented by Richard Troy and concluded that continued insurance coverage for him would adversely affect Allstate's losses and expenses. This Order clearly satisfies the mandate of §39, which requires only a concise statement of the facts as found by the Commissioner and his conclusions therefrom.

VI.

Allstate's Exclusion of Driver Offer is Not Tantamount to Illegal "Compulsion/Blackmail/Duress" as Appellant Alleges.

Appellant contends, on the seventh page of his Memorandum, that Allstate's offer to exclude Richard Troy from coverage under the policy, in lieu of cancelling the policy as a whole, amounts to illegal "compulsion/blackmail/duress." It is difficult to fathom how an insurer can be guilty of an illegal action when it has merely complied with the dictates of the Insurance Code.

Section 240C-1(a)(1) provides in pertinent part:

In any case where an insurer is authorized under this article to cancel or nonrenew . . . an automobile liability insurance policy under which more than one person is insured because of the claim experience or driving record of 1 or more but less than all of the persons insured under the policy, the insurer shall in lieu of cancellation [or] nonrenewal offer to continue or renew the insurance, but to exclude all coverage when a motor vehicle is operated by the specifically named excluded person or

persons whose claim experience or driving record would have justified the cancellation or nonrenewal.

(emphasis added).

Allstate's exclusion offer merely follows the dictates of \$240C-1 and, therefore, does not constitute illegal compulsion, blackmail, or duress.

## CONCLUSION

For all of these reasons, the Insurance Commissioner respectfully requests this Court to affirm his June 16, 1989 Order on Hearing.

J. JOSEPH CURRAN, JR. Attorney General of Maryland

MEG L. ROSTHAL

Assistant Attorney General

501 St. Paul Place

Baltimore, Maryland 21202

(301) 333-6284

Attorneys for Appellee

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 14th day of November, 1989, a copy of the foregoing Memorandum of the Insurance Commissioner was mailed, postage prepaid, to Terry Troy, 7819 Ivymount Terrace, Potomac, MD 20854 and Steven L. Kreseski, Law Offices of Joseph A. Schwartz, III, P.A., Washington Place, 10 W. Madison St., Baltimore Maryland 21201.

MEG/L./ROSTHAL

TERRY TROY

Appellant

IN THE

OCT 20 1996

v.

FOR

CIRCUIT COURT FOR

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF

BALTIMORE CITY .

THE STATE OF MARYLAND, ET AL

BALTIMORE CITY

CIRCUIT COURT

Appellee

CASE NO: 89184050/ CL99747

#### MOTION TO DISMISS APPEAL

Appellee, Allstate Insurance Company, by and through its undersigned attorneys, hereby concurs with the facts, reasons and statements of points and authorities made by J. Joseph Curran, Jr., Attorney General of the State of Maryland, and Meg L. Rosthal, Assistant Attorney General, his attorneys in his Motion to Dismiss the appeal of Terry Troy for failure to file the required Memorandum in a timely manner.

WHEREFORE, Appellee, Allstate Insurance Company, respectfully requests this Court to dismiss this appeal with prejudice.

Respectfully submitted,

oseph A. Schwartz, III

Steven L. Kréseski

Joseph A. Schwartz, III, P.A.

10 West Madison Street

Baltimore, MD 21201

(301) 244-7000

Attorneys for Allstate Ins. Co.

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 19th day of October,

1989, copies of the foregoing Motion to Dismiss and Proposed

Order were mailed, postage prepaid, to Meg Rosthal, Assistant

Attorney General, 501 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, Maryland, 21202;

and to Terry Troy, 7819 Ivymount Terrace, Potomac, Maryland

(20854).

Attorney for Allstate Ins. Co.

\* IN THE

Appellant \* CIRCUIT COURT

v. \* FOR

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF \* BALTIMORE CITY
THE STATE OF MARYLAND, ET AL \*

Appellee \* CASE NO: 89184050/
CL99747

ORDER

IT IS, this 6th day of Seember, 1989,

HEREBY ORDERED:

That this appeal is hereby dismissed with prejudice for Appellant's failure to file the Memorandum required by Rule B12. that Defendants' Motion to Dismuss appeal be, and each is hereby denied.

JUDGE

## FILED

OCT 19 1989

## CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY

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10/16/89
11
10/16/89

Terry Troy 7819 Ivymount Terrace Potomac, Maryland 20854

FOR BALTIMORE CITY

**APPELLANT** 

Case No. 89184050/CL99747

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

VS.

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND 501 St. Paul Place

\*

APPELLEE

Commissioner's decision,
Department of Licensing
and Regulation.
Upon the Complaint

Appeal of the Insurance

of Terry Troy

Case No. 1467-14/89

OPPOSITION TO MOTION TO DISMISS APPEAL

The Appellant, Terry Troy, prays that this court deny the motion of the Appellee to dismiss this appeal. The Appellant has filed the memorandum required by Maryland Rules of Procedure [B12], thus complying with the rule and satisfying the basis for Appellee's Motion, and opposes the motion to dismiss.

In <u>People's counsel v. Public Service Commission</u>, 52 Md. App. 715 [1982] The court stated:

Appellant should have been more diligent in apprising himself of the Rules of Procedure; but the imposition of the ultimate sanction of dismissal appears too harsh...we do not believe that it is a mandatory sanction required to be applied indiscriminately in all cases.

With justifiable embarrassment, I did not file within the 30 days as I erroneously misinterpreted the rule and I am acting per se, without counsel. As soon as I was made aware that this was desired by Appellee, I set to the task and have complied with the requirement. I do not believe the Commission has been prejudiced by this lapse, and dismissal of the appeal would be an unnecessarily harsh sanction, especially for one acting on his own without benefit of legal counsel. There is no evidence that either the court or the Commission has been seriously inconvenienced, much less prejudiced, by the lateness in filing the memorandum.

In Gaetano v. Calvert County, 310 Md. 121, 527 A.2nd 46 [1987],
The court stated:

Certainly there was no justification for an eleven month delay in [that] case...although the rule is mandatory, dismissal is not required as a sanction for failure to comply...[w]hen a rule...mandates...conduct,... the court may compel compliance with the rule...

I now understand that the rule is mandatory and have complied

with it with all deliberate speed. Actually, the issues and arguments were stated and enumerated in detail in the petition by Appellant. The Court Appeals has stated that an appeal may be allowed to proceed on the ground that there has been substantial, literal, compliance...where there are irregularities. The petition set forth a concise statement of each issue raised on appeal and the argument on each issue. the memoranda now on file, I have included citations of authority [well known to the Insurance Commissioner and Allstate] references to pages of the transcripts. Ţ anticipating that the Commission or Allstate will find any new or complex legal rules that require research. The issues and arguments in the petition can be viewed as an attempt to comply with Rule B12.

I object very strongly at the Commission's statement that the circumstances involve a blatant disregard of the procedural rules. It was a misunderstanding on my part that was cleared up as soon as I was aware of the mandatory nature of the procedure. The Appellant has made every attempt to comply with all rules and will continue to do so. There is no evidence that either the  $\mathcal{C}$  court or the Commission has been seriously inconvenienced, much less prejudiced, by the lateness in filing the memorandum.

I also believe that the court should decline to dismiss the appeal because that would allow Allstate to unfairly non-renew my policy. I DO NOT WANT MY FOLICY NON-RENEWED! I HAVE A CLEAN RECORD WITH NO OCCURRENCES OF ANY KIND -- NO ACCIDENTS, NO CITATIONS, NO CONVICTIONS! The issue should be the right of Allstate to exclude my son, who was involved in a very minor accident.

which occand within & few mines a second I would like to note that I now have new evidence that the cause beginning my son's accident was probably, I believe, the direct uresult of Allstate's failure to properly inspect the vehicle after a very serious previous accident to that vehicle. failed to make a routine inspection that would have disclosed a serious defect to the automobile that affected handling, and put my family in jeopardy of life and limb. Allstate has now implored me to give them time to correct their mistake and is now attempting to rectify their error. Additionally, a review of my account over the last few years showed that Allstate charged me double for my daughter [Lesley Camille Troy]. Allstate is now pleading to rectify this error. What will happen if Allstate is allowed to dump my family now? I will probably get no protection from the Insurance Commissioner and Allstate will get away clean.

The above new evidence, I hope, will also be considered as circumstances in the late filing of the memoranda and in determining that dismissal is not an appropriate sanction. The Appellant is seeking, as a worst case scenario, that the case be remanded with instructions that Allstate may exclude the son. But this must not eliminate the right of the ter Appellant to V retain his policy. Should our son be found during the appeal to

be justifiably excludable, I will exclude him from my policy.

Appellant, pro se, not versed in MD procedures or in insurance law, could not have severely prejudiced Appellee's esteemed Attorneys or their ability to prepare an adequate defense to this action. However, I would have no objection, and the Appellees would be without opposition to delays they may request. The Commission's own inaction in not advising one known to be acting as his own attorney [not an obligation but as an officer of the court seeking speedy justice] could have helped the Appellant to determine the meaning of the rule.

also like to add that the June 16 Order on Hearing received on June 19, 1989 failed to allow the Appellant any options whatsoever, this in contradiction of and in conflict with testimony presented at Hearing of May 18, 1989, wherein it was agreed by both of the Parties and the Hearing Examiner that the Appellant would have 20 days in which to exclude the son Richard appeal the Order. Nevertheless, Mrs Troy requested exclusionary forms on several occasions from Allstate, including agents, but the forms were never sent, illegally preventing the Appellant from exercising the exclusion option as Mrs Troy preferred to do. [The Appellant, Mr Troy, however preferred to appeal because the statistical inferences were outrageous.] The exclusionary option forms were never received. The licensee was permitted to effect its proposed action on Their June 21, 1989, letter [received, after 6th of July. memory serves, on June 26, 1989] purporting to terminate Appellant insurance, did not include exclusionary forms as Appellants quite reasonably assumed would be the case, however, the letter we recleved included two rebate checks.- ho/Perhaps indicating that Allstate acted with arrogance in violation of Commissioner's authority. Appellees looked at only one item: cancel Terry Troy's policy. I believe that Allstate's attempted non-renewal of Appellant's policy is without statutory authority, arbitrary and capricious.

I HEREBY CERTIFY on this 16th day of October, 1989, a copy of the foregoing Opposition to Appellee's Motion to Dismiss has been mailed to the Insurance Commissioner of Maryland and to the attorney for Allstate.

Terry Troy, Appellant

(301) 975 - 4039 (WA)

299- 33*96* 

Terry Troy 7819 Ivymount Terrace Potomac, Maryland 20854

**APPELLANT** 

VS.

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND 501 St. Paul Place

APPELLEE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

FOR BALTIMORE CITY

CARCUIT COURT

CASE No. 89184050/CL99747 Commissioner's decision. Department of Licensing and Regulation. Upon the Complaint of Terry Troy

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In People's counsel v. Public Service Commission, 52 Md. App. 715 [1982]The court stated:

Appellant should have been more diligent in apprising himself of the Rules of Procedure; but the imposition of the ultimate sanction of dismissal appears too harsh...we do not believe that it is a mandatory sanction required to be applied indiscriminately in all cases.

With justifiable embarrassment, I did not file within the 30 days as I erroneously misinterpreted the rule and I am acting pro se, without counsel. As soon as I was made aware that this was desired by Appellee, I set to the task and have complied with the requirement. I do not believe the Commission has been prejudiced by this lapse, and dismissal of the appeal would be an unnecessarily harsh sanction, especially for one acting on his own without benefit of legal counsel. There is no evidence that Court or the Commission has been seriously inconvenienced, much less prejudiced, by the lateness in filing the memorandum.

Gaetano v. Calvert County, 310 Md. 121, 527 A.2nd 46 [1987], The court stated:

Certainly there was no justification for an eleven month delay in [that] case....although the rule is mandatory, is not required as a sanction for failure to comply...[w]hen a rule...mandates...conduct,... the court may compel compliance with the rule....

I now understand that the rule is mandatory and have complied

with it with all deliberate speed. Actually, the issues and arguments were stated and enumerated in detail in the petition by Appellant. The Court in Feoples Counsel stated that an appeal may be allowed to proceed on the ground that there has been substantial, if not literal, compliance...where there are minor irregularities. The petition set forth a concise statement of each issue raised on appeal and the argument on each issue. the memoranda now on file, I have included citations of legal authority [well known to the Insurance Commissioner and Allstate] and references to pages of the transcripts. Ι anticipating that the Commission or Allstate will find any new or complex legal rules that require research. The issues and arguments in the petition can be viewed as an attempt to comply with Rule B12.

I object very strongly to the Commission's statement that the circumstances involve a blatant disregard of the procedural rules. It was a misunderstanding on my part that was cleared up as soon as I was aware of the mandatory nature of the procedure. The Appellant has made every attempt to comply with all rules and will continue to do so. There is no evidence that either the Court or the Commission has been seriously inconvenienced, much less prejudiced, by the lateness in filing the memorandum.

I also believe that the Court should decline to dismiss the appeal because that would allow Allstate to unfairly non-renew my policy. I DO NOT WANT MY POLICY NON-RENEWED! I HAVE A CLEAN RECORD WITH NO OCCURRENCES OF ANY KIND - NO ACCIDENTS, NO CITATIONS, NO CONVICTIONS! The issue should be the right of Allstate to exclude my son, who was involved in a very minor accident.

I would like to note that I now have new evidence that the cause of my son's accident was probably, I believe, the direct result of Allstate's failure to properly inspect the vehicle after a very serious previous accident to that vehicle. Allstate failed to make a routine inspection that would have disclosed a serious defect to the automobile that affected handling, and put my family in jeopardy of life and limb. Allstate has now implored me to give them time to correct their mistake and is now attempting to rectify their error. Additionally, a review of my account over the last few years showed that Allstate charged me double for my daughter [Lesley Camille Troy]. Allstate is now pleading to rectify this error. What will happen if Allstate is allowed to dump my family now? I will probably get no protection from the Insurance Commissioner and Allstate will get away clean.

The above new evidence, I hope, will also be considered as circumstances in the late filing of the memoranda and in determining that dismissal is not an appropriate sanction. The Appellant is seeking, as a worst case scenario, that the case be remanded with instructions that Allstate may exclude the son. But this must not eliminate the right of the to Appellant to retain his policy. Should our son be found during the appeal to

be justifiably excludable. I will exclude him from my policy.

Appellant, pro se, not versed in MD procedures or in insurance law, could not have severely prejudiced Appellee's esteemed Attorneys or their ability to prepare an adequate defense to this action. However, I would have no objection, and the Appellees would be without opposition to delays they may request. The Commission's own inaction in not advising one known to be acting as his own attorney [not an obligation but as an officer of the court seeking speedy justice] could have helped the Appellant to determine the meaning of the rule.

I would also like to add that the June 16 Order on Hearing received on June 19, 1989 failed to allow the Appellant any options whatsoever, this in contradiction of and in conflict with testimony presented at Hearing of May 18, 1989, wherein it agreed by both of the Parties and the Hearing Examiner that the Appellant would have 20 days in which to exclude the son Richard appeal the Order. Nevertheless, Mrs Troy exclusionary forms on several occasions from Allstate, including several agents, but the forms were never sent, illegally preventing the Appellant from exercising the exclusion option as Mrs Troy preferred to do. [The Appellant, Mr Troy, however preferred to appeal because the statistical inferences were outrageous.] The exclusionary option forms were never received. The licensee was permitted to effect its proposed action on or after 6th of July. Their June 21, 1989, letter [received, if memory serves, on June 26, 1989] purporting to terminate Appellant insurance, did not include exclusionary forms Appellants quite reasonably assumed would be the case, however, the letter we received included two rebate checks -- perhaps indicating that Allstate acted with arrogance in violation of Commissioner's authority. Appellees looked at only one item: cancel Terry Troy's policy. I believe that Allstate's attempted non-renewal of Appellant's policy is without statutory authority, arbitrary and capricious.

I HEREBY CERTIFY on this 16th day of October, 1989, a copy of the foregoing Opposition to Appellee's Motion to Dismiss has been mailed to the Insurance Commissioner of Maryland and to the attorney for Allstate.

Terry Troy, Appellant

Terry Troy
7819 Ivymount Terrace FILED\* Potomac, Maryland 20854 OCT 16 1989\*

**APPELLANT** 

CIRCUIT COURT FÖR BALTIMORE CITY.

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND 501 St. Paul Place

APPELLEE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

FOR BALTIMORE CITY

Case No. 89184050/CL99747

Appeal of the Insurance Commissioner's decision. Department of Licensing and Regulation. Upon the Complaint of Terry Troy

Case No. 1467-14/89

#### MEMORANDUM

Pursuant to Sections 25, 234A and 240AA of Article 48A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1986) a hearing was conducted on May 1989 wherein the above captioned Appellee supported the Allstate Insurance Company's proposed non-renewal of Appellant's auto insurance or [at Appellant's option] transference of young male race-classification-one driver in his fourth year of driving with one minor accident of \$705 and two points on his driving record to their high risk indemnity insurance subsidiary Allstate would raise the son's rates from \$1000 to \$3300 per The Appellee and Allstate proposed, should Appellant refuse the transference, a second option: to exclude the son from the family insurance policy. The Appellant did not accept either option; consequently, the Appellee ORDERED that Allstate be permitted to effect its proposed action. Allstate notified the Appellant of non-renewal but a Stay was obtained on the Appellee's Order. On July 14, 1989, a petition was filed with the Circuit Court for Baltimore City.

Appellant believes that substantial rights have been violated; the administrative findings of fact and conclusions of law are: unsupported by competent, material and substantial evidence, unsupported in view of the entire record submitted, affected by errors of law, and for other reasons. Appellant asked the Circuit Court to reverse the decision of the Insurance Commissioner in CASE NO: 1467-4/89, dated 16th day of June, 1989, that allowed the Allstate Insurance Company to non-renew the family's insurance policy, and/or exclude the son Richard C. Troy, and/or increase his rate by \$2300 per year; and to remand the case with instructions to the Appellee to deny non-renewal, deny any exclusion options, and deny any rate increases to the Allstate Insurance Company of or within the Appellant's policy.

The issues and arguments were set forth in detail in the petition by appellant, pro se [acting without Md legal counsel], nevertheless, Appellee move for dismissal. The Appellant hopes that this Court may allow this appeal to proceed on the ground

that there has been substantial, if not literal, compliance in the petition. The Appellant does not believe there are any difficult questions of law of sufficient importance beyond those that are anticipated by the petition. However, the Appellant, pro se, sets forth below [in expectation of his 'day in court'l a statement of all issues, arguments and conclusions, citations and references available:

## STATEMENT OF ISSUES

These issues are derived from the petition and follow sequentially the paragraphs of the two page Order on Hearing dated June 16, 1989. Citations and references from the transcripts have been added.

- 1. Made findings of fact that are future promises: Allstate WILL not continue to insure any driver who has a frequency of combined ✓ losses and convictions defined as at least two per operator within the past three years. Apparently Allstate's claim was not true at time of hearing, and Allstate could change its mind. [The particular requirement must be established for all policy holders or it can be applied, with connivance by Insurance Commissioner, in an arbitrary and capricious way.] These standards that WILL do something in future were apparently not verified by any evidence; no proof of what they do now, nor was Appellant able to call Allstate's agents to see what they are really telling prospects, i.e., that they will be excluded if they have two occurrences. Automobile insurer seeking to cancel policy must determine objective probability of direct and substantial adverse effect upon losses or expenses of the insurer in light of the rating plan...then in effect.... Code 1957, Art. 48A, Sec. 234 A(a). A reasoning mind reasonably could not have reached the factual conclusion the agency reached [not judicial fact-finding or substitution of judgment] Supervisor of Assmts. v. Ely, 272 Md. 77, 321 A.2nd 166 [1974]
- See pg 1 Order; One accident with payout of \$705...was held for the complainant. [Allstate is apparently the only company that seeks exclusion with one accident [two occurrences as underwriting standards] although they claim they will exclude if they find out]. Commissioner's judgment on the facts is separate, hearing is for Allstate to apply a surcharge, a merit rating; Court should not substitute its judgement for that of the agency which was for appellant on the facts.
- 2. Found on only that PART of the son's driving record most favorable to Allstate. The Appellee ignored most important facts: only one accident of \$705 and two points in over three years of driving. Appellee apparently did not give any weight to the son's subsequent year of driving without any accident or occurrence, or that the son has a radically changed driving pattern [away at school eight months of year and does not drive to work during summer, exclusion offer is tantamount to a rate increase to \$3,300 per year [\$1000/month and he rides the metro

to work]. This hasty conclusion, that the son exceeds standards that Allstate will have, may indicate an intent to show bias in favor of Allstate.

See pg 11 143; Allstate's rate filing [did not consider minor accident and only two points].

148-150; noncontinuation standard is at least two convictions by any one operator is unrealistic and enforceable only by arbitrary and capricious application of the standard and the connivance of the Insurance Commissioner

Found that the son presents additional exposure contemplated by Allstate's rating plan. But Appellee failed take into account Allstate's own computer generated statements. on file with the Insurance Commission, showing the amount increase Allstate would need, [an additional \$70 per \$140 per yearl, to cover their contemplated additional exposure The Appellee also failed to take into because of the accident. account the extreme low cost of the actual accident. existing premiums more than cover the possibility of a similar earnings from the son's share of accident, the actual future damages if any may be minor and within premiums, and that the policy's deductibility.

Facts must be produced which answer at least the following questions:

- 1. What is the statistical basis for the supposition that a person who has one chargeable loss within a three year period is more likely to have a chargeable accident within the next 12 months than a person who has had no accidents.
- 2. How valid is any such statistical evidence?
- 3. If there is statistical validity to the supposition, what direct and substantial adverse effect would it have upon Allstate's losses and expenses in light of its current rating plan?

The fundamental right of the Appellant and the Circuit Court to be apprised of the facts relied on by the commission has been abridged.

4. Allowed the introduction of 25 year old out-of-State out-ofdate statistical data, with outrageous concomitant assumptions. and accepted that that data had sufficiently demonstrated that the son belongs to group with 1.74 times greater chance of future accident than a O-accident driver. But what does it mean that possibly may have 1.74 times as many accidents as the O-accident California driver had 25 years ago, over an unknown period of time. It proves nothing about what the son's driving record may be in the future. Actually this is a factor of secondary predictability, and if one uses it in conjunction Allstate's own data it would suggest the possibility that the son would have one or less accidents in the next four years, a total of two or less in eight years, well below the Allstate standards for exclusion. The record before us is sorely deficient in providing facts upon which conclusions based for the purpose of applying the standard set out above. See pg 8 61-70; [disallowing Allstate's protest because they did

not meet the requirements of a Maryland court of Special Appeals case known as <u>Crumlish v. Insurance Commissioner</u>, 70 Md. Appeals 182 [1987]. There is also the case of <u>Medical Mutual Liability Insurance Society of MD, et. al. v. O. Magan.</u> 529 Atlantic 2nd. 841 [1987]

See pg 15 257-258; "take a few minutes to go through that" average claims pay-out, statistical abstract of the CA study, [can't compare to state where the density of automobiles is so great, it has required special emissions equipment many years before MDJ goes to the validity of the study, the equations used, correlation coefficient [what is one?], application of the frequency factors.

253; strong correlation between the statistics and predicting the <u>FACTS</u> they predict? Is Allstate trying to convince the Insurance Commissioner that the statistics are valid because the statistics are predicting the facts they predict? What does this mean?

260; with regard to the exclusion of Richard.

271; Allstate has not only been arbitrary; they have been less than totally honest and somewhat obfuscatory.

- 5. Also found that the data demonstrated that the son belongs to group with 3.54 times greater chance of future accident than a 0convictions driver. Does it mean he will have 3.54 times as many accidents as the mythical O-occurrence California driver had 25 years ago, over an unknown period of time. This is a factor tertiary predictability and is highly speculative, but the would still be within the standard if one uses Allstate's This is merely blind acceptance of Allstate's industry `data. this point in the Order On Hearing, there is no indication that the Appellee or Allstate has calculated the chance of a one-accident Maryland driver or a .three-conviction Maryland driver having an accident during Allstate's next billing period when presumably they will be at risk. Hence, the jump to any conclusions, and does not have a Appellee cannot valid basis for interpolating and using Allstate's statistical inferences. A reviewing court may... examine any inference, drawn by an agency, of the existence of a fact not shown by direct proof, to see if that inference follows from other facts are shown by direct proof. There is not sufficient evidence to support the commission's findings and conclusions.
- Found that the statistical data is valid. This should be reversed as not supported by any evidence. Appellee did not factor-in length-of-time in using zero accidents/convictions as a determinant; frequency data without a time axis is categorically INVALID. Appellee's conclusions are also INVALID because his intended comparisons cannot be made "numbers" with no using "numbers" have magnitude [the zero accidents/convictions predictability], zero times any number is always zero. factor of Additionally, Appellee failed to apply weights to secondary and tertiary factors. Occurrences are not accidents and are not claims pay-out money. Appellee has failed to give proper weights to primary factors [large number] that have probable

predictability such as actual dollar claims against Allstate. secondary factors [small number] that have only possible predictability such as number of accidents. and speculative tertiary factors [very small number] such as convictions. Court of Special Appeals for Maryland [in Crumlish case GEICO paid out \$1,461.54, plus \$658.00, plus \$403.47 for Mr. Crumlish who had two accidents in two years] stated that 39 of the Insurance Code directs the Commissioner, after the hearing, to issue an order...contain[ing] a concise statement of facts as found by the Commissioner, and of his conclusions therefrom.... This portion of the order falls far short of the requirements of the statute that it contain a "concise statement of the facts as found by the Commissioner and his conclusions therefrom."

- 7. Recognized "other statistical data" not part of the signed affidavit nor notarized. This inadmissible [Appellant's view] data is useless to show any cause and effect at critical stages of the reasoning that should have been but was not set forth, but it was apparently used as a basis that mystically led to conclusions of a "strong relationship" without supporting, or Appellee showing, any intermediate steps. This must be reversed as not supported by an assignment of reasons for the result reached. Appellant believes that the Appellee should have examined the actual primary facts not just secondary or tertiary hypothetical speculations.
- See pg 13 193-194; expected to have one accident in 15 years and charge him five times as much, my son is well below his expected rate for what you charge. My son pays five times as much, you can't say he's expected to have one accident in 15 years and charge him five times as much—he is in the discriminated against class where he pays for the 'privilege' of the expectation of having five times as much payout.
- 8. Failed to take into account the relevant elements of the son's actual driving record, admitted into evidence, and showing that he had only two points for minor violations. [Allstate and the Commission may have recognized that the son was in racial category one.] The law must always be vigilant when racial classification data is admitted into the administrative record.
- 9. Concluded that Allstate's rating plan does not provide for an adequate rate. What is an adequate rate if \$300 dollars profit in the year of the accident and \$1000 profit for each year that there is no accident is not adequate? Appellee also failed to take into account Allstate's own statements that their rating plan and rates are adequate for up to two accidents. Appellee apparently ignored the amount of profit gained by Allstate which is part of an industry with premiums running four times the inflation rate, and failed to take into account possible greed of, and conspiracy within, the insurance industry. applied by automobile insurer in determining which risks to accept and a general description of market it attempted to insure does not bear on relationship of standard to the insurer's

"economic and business purpose as required by statute dealing with cancellation of policies. Automobile insurer seeking to cancel policy must determine objective probability of direct and substantial adverse effect upon losses or expenses. Code 1957, Art. 48A, Sec. 234 A(a).

See pg 11 149; noncontinuation standard for two convictions by any one operator is this exclusion? Yes, does not deal with cancellation.

See pg 14 206; more likely Allstate will pay out a lot more in terms of premium and in terms of the claims dollars than it will take in from premium. [WRONG because intake is five times and risk is only 3.5 times]

209-216; Entire sentence on which case turns is ridiculous, premise is incorrect, criteria for analysis is wrong [tertiary factor of predictability], logic is nonsense and conclusion is [in my humble opinion] less than honest! See pg 14 "It just increases, You just continue to go up." Example: actual dollar value of stock, number of shares sold, correlation with sunspots. [no! you look at the record, the management, products, markets, etc as hearing examiner should

look at pay-out, premium, points, etc., go back to the facts]

10. Delegated its authority [particularly as to switching from exclusion issue to non-renewal issuel to decide this case to Allstate, and their rating plan, out-of-state out-of-date statistical data, and to highly speculative tertiary factors of predictability. [Has Appellee forgotten why the people need an insurance commissioner? Hearing Examiners must carry out their responsibility to the public without fear, e.g., that the insurance industry might cost them their jobs. 1 No insurer, agent, or broker may cancel or refuse to underwrite or renew a particular insurance risk or class of risk except by the application of standards which are reasonably related to the insurer's economic and business purposes. Crumlish v. Insurance Commissioner, 70 Md. Appeals 182 [1987].

See pg 9 89; exclusion offer as to your son

See pg 10 103; switch from exclusion to non-renewal.

See pg 10 111-113; any driver who has two or more occurrences within a three year period shall be non-renewed [I do not have two occurrences and therefore cannot be non-renewed!] [If the court holds against me, after I have had my day in court, I will exclude my son who has had only one occurrence an at-fault accident.]

See pg 12 156; [this is a surcharge on top of a surcharge and is an example of insurance industry greed and insurance connivance]

158-160; additional premium dollars to compensate it adequately for anticipated greater frequency of accident and possible <u>pay-out</u> in the future. [Surcharge was applied and paid for, then on 12/14/88 a non-renewal notice was sent.]

167; one accident in 15 yrs and pay-out of \$1511. [Is this believable for 1989?] Money is better predictor that accidents and much better than convictions. Note that my son is less than half the average.

See pg 14 205-236; protest exclusion = cancellation

See pg 15 234-235; did not agree to go along with the exclusion, then the entire policy would be cancelled [I believe that compulsion/blackmail/duress is illegal in MD.

See pg 16 269-271; "fairly applied" right to protest subsequent cancellation is "fair"?

See pg 17 285; until you get that order...nothing is changed See pg 17 295-307; protest=cancel other arrangements/ restraint/collusion/rate fixing

295; You use those 20 days to contact your agent -- Mrs Troy contacted agent's office to request exclusionary forms which were never received -- and inform them you've decided to accept the exclusion offer which removes Richard C. Troy off Allstate refused to send policy.... exclusionary forms. therefore, Appellant had no recourse but to appeal the June Order on Hearing. Additionally, Appellant received a letter on non-renewal and rebate checks from Allstate exactly one week later than the Commissioner's Order on Hearing which was received on June 19, 1989. [The agents were called four times for the This seems to indicate that the agents were told to not send them. ]

299; If you do not exercise that option within 20 days, then Allstate is free to go ahead and cancel the entire policy 306; you are all in effect without insurance

See pg 19 329-340; if the insurance company hears nothing they can cancel

Failed to show that Allstate or the Insurance Commissioner 11. does NOT allow young male drivers of race-classification-two with more than zero accident, more that \$705 in claims, and more than two points to continue on family policies. Allstate must prove that they have excluded ALL male drivers under age 29 classified by the State of Maryland as racial category two who have three or more violations; or perhaps they should be investigated for possible charges of racial discrimination. **EThe** particular requirement must be established for all policy holders or it can be applied, with connivance by Insurance Commissioner, in an arbitrary and capricious way. At a minimum the case should be remanded with instructions that Allstate may exclude the son but this must not eliminate the right of the appellant to retain At any hearing to determine there has been violation...the burden of persuasion shall be upon the insurer to demonstrate that the...refusal to...renew is justified under the standards so demonstrated. Ch. 752 of the Acts of 1974 [to amend Sec. 234A].

I would like to note that I now have new evidence that the cause of my son's accident, which occurred within a few minutes after picking up the car from the repair shop, was probably, I believe, the direct result of Allstate's failure to properly inspect the vehicle after a very serious previous accident to that vehicle. Allstate failed to make a routine inspection that would have disclosed a serious defect to the automobile that affected handling, and put my family in jeopardy of life and limb. Allstate has now implored me to give them time to correct their

mistake and is now attempting to rectify their error. Additionally, a review of my account over the last few years showed that Allstate charged me double for my daughter [Lesley Camille Troy]. Allstate is now pleading to rectify this error. What will happen if Allstate is allowed to dump my family now? I will probably get no protection from the Insurance Commissioner and Allstate will get away clean.

I HEREBY CERTIFY on this 16th day of October 1989, pursuant to Maryland Rule B12, that I have mailed a copy of this Memoranda to the Insurance Commissioner of Maryland and to the attorney for Allstate.

Terry Troy, Appel Vant

CIRCUIT COURT

FILED

TERRY TROY

v.

Appellant

FOR

OCT 16 1989

CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF

THE STATE OF MARYLAND, et al.

BALTIMORE CITY

IN THE

CASE NO. 89184050/CL99747

**Appellees** 

MOTION TO DISMISS APPEAL

Appellee, John A. Donaho, Insurance Commissioner of the State of Maryland, by J. Joseph Curran, Jr., Attorney General of Maryland, and Meg L. Rosthal, Assistant Attorney General, his attorneys, moves this Court to dismiss the above action, and for reasons states:

- On July 3, 1989, Appellant, Terry Troy, filed an appeal from a June 16, 1989, Order of the Insurance Commissioner. permitted Allstate Insurance Company Order to nonrenew Appellant's automobile liability insurance policy.
- 2. Notice of the appeal was given by the Insurance Division on July 6, 1989, and the record of the administrative proceedings was filed with the Court on August 8, 1989.
- Despite the requirement of Maryland Rules of Procedure, Rule Bl2, Appellant has failed to file the required memorandum. Rule Bl2 states:

Within thirty days after being notified by the clerk of the filing of the record, the appellant shall file a memorandum setting a concise statement of all issues raised on appeal and argument on each issue, including citations of legal authorities and references to pages of the transcript and

exhibits relied on. Within thirty days thereafter any other party desiring to be heard, including the appropriate agency . . , shall file an answering memorandum in the same form. The Appellant may file a reply memorandum within fifteen days after the filing of any answering memorandum.

- 4. Appellant's memorandum was due to be filed no later than September 7, 1989. Appellant has provided no reason or good cause for his failure to comply with the procedural rules.
- 5. Appellee will be severely prejudiced in his ability to prepare an adequate defense to this action. The trial in this matter is currently scheduled to take place on December 7, 1989, and Appellee has been given no opportunity to review the legal basis for Appellant's contentions that his denial of hearing was in error, and to prepare a defense to these allegations.
- 6. In circumstances such as these, involving a blatant disregard of the procedural rules, dismissal, although not mandatory, is certainly warranted. As stated in <a href="People's Counselve.">People's Counselve.</a> Public Service Commission, 52 Md. App. 715, 719-20 (1982):

It has often been said that the Rules of Procedure adopted by the Court of Appeals 'are not guides to the practice of law but precise rubrics established to promote the orderly and efficient administration of justice and (that they) are to be read and followed.' Countess v. State, 286 Md. 444, 463 (1979), . . . It has also been made clear that when such a rule says that something 'shall' be done, the Court jolly-well means for it to be done . . . Maryland Rule Bl2 is such a Rule. It is a 'precise rubric' adopted by the Court 'to promote the orderly and efficient administration of justice', and it is meant to be obeyed.

7. There is no good reason, either in law or policy, to

prevent this Court from dismissing an administrative appeal where the Appellant has made no attempt whatsoever to comply with the clearly stated rules of procedure, and has severely prejudiced the rights of the Appellee.

WHEREFORE, Appellee, the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Maryland respectfully requests this Court to dismiss the above appeal, with prejudice.

Respectfully submitted,

J. JOSEPH CURRAN, JR. Attorney General of Maryland

Meg L. Rosthal

Assistant Attorney General 501 St. Paul Place, 14th Floor Baltimore, Maryland 21202 (301) 333-6284

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE,

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this day of , 1989, a copy of the foregoing Motion to Dismiss Appeal was mailed, postage prepaid to Terry Troy, 7819 Ivymont Terrace, Potomac, MD 20854, and Steven L. Kreseski, Esquire, Law Offices of Joseph A. Schwartz, III, Washington Plce, 10 W. Madison Street, Baltimore, MD 21202.

Meg L/ Rosthal

Assistant Attorney General

TERRY TROY

Appellant

v.

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, et al.

Appellee

\* IN THE

\* CIRCUIT COURT

\* FOR

\* BALTIMORE CITY

\* CASE NO. 89184050/CL99747

. . .

## ORDER

Upon consideration of the Motion to Dismiss Appeal filed by the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Maryland, and as it appears that the Appellant has failed to file a memorandum as required by Maryland Rules of Procedure, Rule B12, and as it appears that such failure to file a memorandum has caused prejudice to the rights of the Appellee, it is this day of

, 1989 by the Circuit Court for Baltimore City hereby ORDERED, that the above appeal be and hereby is DISMISSED.

DATE

JUDGE

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Terry Troy 7819 Ivymount Terrace Potomac, Maryland 20854

Steven L. Kreseski Joseph A. Schwartz, III, P.A. 10 West Madison Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201 TRANSCRIPT TO RECORD

FILED

AUG 8 1989

BEFORE THE INSURANCE DIVISION

CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATION

(CASE NO. 1467-4/89)

TERRY TROY

**APPELLANT** 

VS.

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND

**APPELLEE** 

TO THE

CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY

CASE NO. 89184050/CL99747

	TROY	*	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
	Ivymount Terrace nac, Maryland 21854	*	FOR BALTIMORE CITY
OF TH 501 S	VS.  ANCE COMMISSIONER  E STATE OF MARYLAND  St. Paul Place  more, Maryland 21202	* * * * * *	CASE NO. 89184050/CL99747  APPEAL OF THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER'S DECISION, DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATION - UPON THE COMPLAINT OF: Terry Troy  Case No. 1467-4/89  * * * * * * * * * * *
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1.9

## STATE OF MARYLAND

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER

Governor

WILLIAM A. FOGLE, JR.

Secretary

JOHN A. DONAHO Insurance Commissioner



## Department of Licensing and Regulation INSURANCE DIVISION

501 ST. PAUL PLACE BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202-2272

DIRECT DIAL 301/333-

EX REL:

Terry Troy 7819 Ivymount Terrace Potomac, MD 20854

Complainant

LICENSEE:

Allstate Insurance Company

1850 Centennial Park Drive, Suite 400

Reston, VA 22091

CASE NO: 1467-4/89

## ORDER ON HEARING

This Hearing was conducted on May 18, 1989, pursuant to Sections 55, 234A and 240AA of Article 48A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1986 Replacement Volume) upon the request of the Licensee on the proposed action of Licensee in nonrenewing Complainant's insurance coverages.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

Licensee proposed to nonrenew Policy Nos. 918 264 792 and 052 463 940 for the reasons set forth in its notice dated December 14, 1988; or in lieu of said nonrenewal, Licensee proposed to exclude RICHARD C. TROY from coverage under said policies for the reasons set forth in its notice.

Complainant protested Licensee's proposed action and upon due consideration of the testimony and exhibits, I find, as a fact, that the Licensee utilizes underwriting standards which provide that it will not continue to insure any driver who has a frequency of combined losses and convictions defined as at least two (2) per operator, within the past three (3) years.

The Hearing Examiner finds that RICHARD C. TROY has the following driving record:

08/09/88	Sideswiped Claimant	
03/31/88	Speed	11
04/30/88	Speed	U
08/08/88	Failure to stop/yield at yield sign	

ORIGINAL

The Hearing Examiner finds that the driving record of RICHARD C. TROY exceeds the Licensee's underwriting standards; and that the driving record of RICHARD C. TROY presents additional exposure to the Licensee which is not contemplated by its rating plan.

The Licensee produced statistical data from an independent research study which demonstrated that RICHARD C. TROY belongs to a group or class of drivers who by virtue of 1 accident has a 1.74 times greater chance of future accident involvement as compared to a driver with zero accidents.

Page 2 Case No. 1467-4/89

The Licensee produced statistical data from an independent research study which demonstrated that RICHARD C. TROY belongs to a group or class of drivers who by virtue of 3 convictions has a 3.54 times greater chance of future accident involvement as compared to a driver with zero convictions.

The Hearing Examiner finds that the statistical data presented is valid. The Licensee produced other statistical data which demonstrated there is a strong relationship between past accidents and violations and the probability for future accident involvement.

The Hearing Examiner finds that the Licensee's rating plan does not provide for the imposition of an adequate rate for RICHARD C. TROY.

The Hearing Examiner finds the Licensee's application of its underwriting standards to be reasonably related to its economic and business purpose. The Licensee's rating plan does not contemplate coverage for the additional exposure presented by the driving record of RICHARD C. TROY. Continuation of coverage for RICHARD C. TROY under circumstances where the Licensee will not receive an adequate rate for such additional exposure will adversely affect the Licensee's losses and expenses.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Upon the foregoing Findings of Fact, I conclude that the Licensee is not in violation of Sections 234A and 240AA of Article 48A in this case.

Licensee has met the burden of proof and production as set forth and required by Section 234A of Article 48A and Crumlish vs. Insurance Commissioner, et al., 70 Md. App. 182 (1987).

### **ORDER**

THEREFORE, it is this 16th Commissioner of Maryland, OR		<u>June</u>		, 1989, by the Insurance
That the Licensee be permitted	to effect	its proposed	action on or	after 6th of July
AS WITNESS MY HAND THIS _	16th	_day of	June	, 1989.
			JOHN A. INSURAN	DONAHO CE COMMISSIONER
MCII /alb		,	William E Hearing E	. Holliway

WEH/slb

cc: Steve Kreseski c/o Joseph A. Schwartz, III, P.A. Washington Place 10 West Madison Street Baltimore, MD 21201

## BEFORE THE INSURANCE DIVISION MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATION

EX REL:

\* LICENSEE:

TERRY TROY
7819 IVYMOUNT TERRACE
POTOMAC, MD 20854

ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY
1850 CENTENNIAL PARK DRIVE

\* SUITE 400

RESTON, VA 22091

\*

Complainant

CASE NO. 1467-4/89

### TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

# ORIGINAL

This transcript of proceedings was produced by agreement of parties by StenoTech, Inc., from official tape recordings provided by the Insurance Division of the Department of Licensing and Regulation of the State of Maryland and constitutes an accurate and complete verbatim representation of the tape recordings supplied. The hearing was conducted on May 18, 1989 before William E. Holliway, Hearing Examiner.

## \* \* \* APPEARANCES \* \* \*

## REPRESENTING THE COMPLAINANT:

Joyce Troy 7819 Ivymount Terrace Potomac, MD 20854

### REPRESENTING THE LICENSEE:

Steve Kreseski c/o Joseph A. Schwartz, III, P.A. Washington Place 10 West Madison Street Baltimore, MD 21201

#### \* \* \* CERTIFICATE \* \* \*

I, Michael E. Hyer, a court reporter and notary public in and for the County of Montgomery, State of Maryland, do hereby certify:

THAT, the foregoing transcript is a complete and accurate representation of the contents of the tape recordings supplied by the Insurance Division of the Department of Licensing and Regulation of the State of Maryland;

THAT, all known defects with said tape recordings have been described by means of transcriber's note within the transcription;

THAT, prior to giving testimony, all persons were sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth;

THAT, I have no interest in the outcome of this matter and am not related in any way to any of the parties or to any counsel or to any hearing examiner;

THAT, Stenotech, Inc., disclaims any responsibility for errors, omissions, or misrepresentation of comments of any speaker due to quality of the tape recordings provided by the State;

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 19th day of July, 1989.

STENOTECH, INC.

MICHAEL E. HYER
Court Reporter and Notary
Public in and for the
County of Montgomery
State of Maryland

My commission expires: July 1, 1990

ORIGINAL

StenoTech, Inc.

1	PROCEEDINGS
2	<del></del>
3	
4	HEARING EXAMINER HOLLIWAY: My name is William
5	Holliway and I am part of the Administrative Hearing
6	Division of the Department of Licensing and Regulations and
7	I've been appointed by the Insurance Commissioner to conduct
8	this morning's hearing which is the matter of the Allstate
9	Insurance Company, which I'll refer to hereafter as the
10	Licensee, and their attempt to non-renew the policy of Mr.
11	Terry Troy, spelled T-r-o-y, and in the alternative they
12	wish to exclude Richard Christian Troy.
13	Would both parties for the record identify
14	yourself with your name and address please. Ms. Troy, we'll
15	start with you.
16	MRS. TROY: Joyce Troy, 7819 Ivymount Terrace,
17	Potomac, Maryland 20854.
18	MR. KRESESKI: Steve Kreseski from the Law Offices
19	of Joseph A. Schwartz, III, P.A., located at 10 West
20	Madison Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 for the Licensee.
21	HEARING EXAMINER HOLLIWAY: Okay, would you both
22	please raise your right hand please?
23	
24	
25	

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26	(WHEREUPON,
27	
28	JOYCE TROY
29	STEVE KRESESKI
30	
31	were called as witnesses, and after being duly sworn to tell
32	the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth,
33	testified as follows:)
34	
35	HEARING EXAMINER HOLLIWAY: Thank you both. This
36	is an informal type hearing in which we do not follow the
37	strict rules of evidence or of civil pleading. The only
38	record that is being kept is a taped one. It is not
39	transcribed, unless it should be necessary for a future
40	appeal.
41	Before we begin, I have a number of Insurance
42	Division Exhibits which have been previously reviewed by the
43	parties. The first of these is the Licensee's Non-Renewal
44	Notice, dated December 14, 1988 and, as I said, it seeks to
45	non-renew Mr. Troy's insurance coverage or the alternative
46	to exclude his son, Richard Christian Troy. This is a four-
47	page document. The Right to Protest section was executed
48	and signed January 8, 1988. Do you recognize this as your
49	husband's signature?
50	MRS. TROY: Yes, it is.

51 HEARING EXAMINER HOLLIWAY: Division Exhibit 2 is 52 the notice of Protested Hearing Request. This was sent to 53 the Licensee and informs them that their Insured has filed a 54 Notice of Protest and therefore any action they were 55 contemplating would be stayed. Division Exhibit 3 has a date of February 7th and 56 it is the standard Insurance Division form that they send to 57 58 anyone who lodges a protest and it asks for the names and 59 ages of the drivers, description of the vehicles and so 60 forth. So that's Exhibit 3. 61 Exhibit 4 is a notice to the Licensee indicating 62 that they are disallowing -- when I say "they" I mean the 63 Insurance Division -- their protest and the reason they are 64 disallowing it is they maintain that the Insurance Division 65 did not meet the requirements of a Maryland Court of Special 66 Appeals case which is known as Crumlish v. Insurance 67 Commissioner, 70 Md. Appeals 182 (1987). There is also the 68 case of Medical Mutual Liability Insurance Society of 69 Maryland, et. al. v. Michael O. Magan, 529 Atlantic 2d. 841 70 (1987).Division Exhibit 5 is dated March 24, 1989. It is 71 72 from Matthew Stegle, the territorial underwriting manager 73 for the Licensee and he requests a hearing on the Insurance 74 Division's disallowance of the non-renewal.

Finally, is a Notice of Hearing dated April 23,

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76
      1989. It is Division Exhibit 6. It sets a date of hearing
 77
      for today, May 18, 1989.
 78
                         (Whereupon, the documents were marked for
 79
                         identification and received into evidence
 80
                           as Division Exhibits Nos. 1 through 6.)
 81
 82
                HEARING EXAMINER HOLLIWAY: The burden of proof,
 83
      as always, is upon the Licensee. So, Mr. Kreseski, do you
 84
      want to begin on behalf of the Licensee?
 85
                MR. KRESESKI: Mrs. Troy, Allstate's decision to
 86
      non-renew your family policy, as indicated in the Notice of
 87
     Non-Renewal which is has been marked Insurance Division
     Exhibit No.1. The date of the notice is 12/14/88.
 88
 89
      an exclusion offer as to your son, Richard Christian Troy,
 90
      and a premium amount in the event that he is excluded.
 91
                This decision was made in Reston, Virginia which
 92
      is the seat for the territorial underwriting manager's
 93
     headquarters for Allstate for the Maryland region. The
94
     underwriter had available, either he or she, information
95
     pertinent to determine the risk of the six automobiles that
96
     are insured and the number of people that are on the
97
     policies. I have an eight-page computer and a five-page
98
     computer printout. I'm not going to move to introduce either
99
     into the record. However, there is a substantial activity
100
     on the policy and this information is recorded under your
```

#### StenoTech, Inc.

- policy number in the computer and this is the hard copy of that computer printout.
- 103 The actual reasons for Allstate's decision to non-
- 104 renew the policy are outlined on page two of the Notice of
- 105 Non-Renewal. Paragraph three, "A review of your policy
- 106 records shows the following: Richard has 8-9-88 sideswiped
- 107 claimant \$705.00 paid; 3-31-88 speed; 4-30-8 speed; 8-8-
- 108 88 failure to stop at stop/yield at yield sign."
- 109 All three of these were convictions. Allstate has,
- 110 as its underwriting guideline on file with the Maryland
- 111 Insurance Commissioner, a statement that any driver who has
- 112 two or more occurrences within a three-year period shall be
- 113 non-renewed. A three-year period is established by the
- 114 legislature. Allstate cannot review a driver's record
- 115 beyond a three-year period previous to the anniversary date
- 116 which is the proposed effective termination date of February
- 117 7, 1989.
- Allstate solicited a copy of the driving record
- 119 from the Equifax Corporation. Equifax is a private for-
- 120 profit corporation that has a direct computer link-up with
- 121 the MVA. The information contained on the Equifax report is
- 122 in the same format as the information has been placed on the
- 123 MVA computer and I'd move to introduce this document into
- 124 the record as Exhibit No. 1.
- 125 HEARING EXAMINER HOLLIWAY: Mrs. Troy, usually my

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126
      questions at this time is to the affected driver, if they
127
      are here. Do you recognize this insofar as you know is a
128
      fair recital of the traffic record? Are you familiar with
129
      your son's traffic record, insofar as you know? Is this an
130
      accurate depiction?
131
                MRS. TROY: Yes.
132
                HEARING EXAMINER HOLLIWAY: In which case, this
133
      will be Licensee Exhibit No. 1.
134
                             (Whereupon, a document was marked for
135
                         identification and received into evidence
136
                                       as Licensee Exhibit No. 1.)
137
138
                MR. KRESESKI: Mrs. Troy, in paragraph two of the
139
      Notice of Non-Renewal, and you might want to look at Mr.
140
     Holliway's-- do you have a copy of the Notice of Non-
141
     Renewal, the initial letter? That's it there. The second
142
     page of that, in the second paragraph of the Notice there
143
     are particular examples of Allstate's rate filing which I've
144
      already indicated is on file with the Insurance
145
     Commissioner.
146
                The particular examples that would apply to your
147
     son's record would be number four, a frequency of
148
     convictions for motor vehicle violations. Allstate's non-
149
     continuation standard is at least two convictions by any one
150
     operator. And number six, a frequency of combined losses
```

151 and convictions which is defined as at least two per 152 operator. Let me point out that Allstate does not have the 153 ability to surcharge in Maryland for traffic convictions. 154 Allstate can surcharge for certain at-fault accidents and 155 could surcharge for the August 9, 1988 at-fault accident and 156 I believe a surcharge may have been applied to the policy. A 157 surcharge is a means by which the company can take in 158 additional premium dollars in this particular year to 159 compensate it adequately for anticipated greater frequency 160 of accident and possible pay-out in the future, not 161 necessarily the next year, but in the future. There will be 162 a certain percentage of drivers that will have the increased 163 frequency.

164 Allstate seeks to insure preferred drivers in 165 Maryland as determined through its own statistics that the 166 average Maryland Allstate insured is involved in at-fault 167 accident only once every 15 to 17 years. Approximately six 168 percent of Allstate's 350,000 drivers in Maryland are 169 involved in an at-fault accident in any given year. Based 170 on that rate of frequency and a determination of what the 171 average claims pay-out is, and I think through the end of 172 calendar year 1988 it was \$1511.04 and that includes the 173 administrative cost of processing a claim, the company can 174 determine how much money needs to be taken out to process 175 claims in the future. There is a certain allocation from

176 the policy premium dollars for reserve. That's not to say 177 that anyone in your family is going to have an accident for 178 instance in the next year or two years, but if each driver 179 is expected to have a frequency of at-fault accident only 180 once every 15 years, there is a proportional allocation each 181 year to satisfy their reserves to pay-out claims that 182 eventually occur and will occur in random fashion obviously. 183 If a driver has had traffic convictions or at-184 fault accidents, however, there is a study which is known as 185 the California Study-- it is an independent research study 186 done by the California Department of Motor Vehicles --187 wherein there was a determination made that, based on a 188 driver's past traffic conviction or accident history, there 189 is an increased likelihood that a driver will be involved in 190 an accident in the future with a greater frequency as 191 compared to a driver that has a clean record. 192 What that boils down to is, rather than having an 193 expected rate of accident once every 15 years, Richard would 194 have a corresponding increase based on either his traffic 195 convictions or his accident. You'll note in the last two 196 paragraphs you can see what the percentage is. Taking, for 197 instance, based on his traffic conviction records, there was 198 a 3.61 times greater chance of accident. What that says in 199 effect is that there is three and a half times greater 200 chance that he's going to be involved in an at-fault

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accident in a future year compared to a driver with a clean record. Taking the average of once every 15 years, dividing it by three and a half, you come up with roughly once every four years.

205 So what that means is if Allstate insures Richard 206 over a period of time it is more likely Allstate will pay 207 out a lot more in terms of premium and in terms of the 208 claims dollars than it will take in from premium. 209 basis, since predictably Richard or other drivers similarly 210 situated who have three traffic convictions -- since we're 211 using just the traffic convictions to make that analysis 212 right now-- any other driver who has at least three traffic 213 convictions exceeds the underwriting guidelines and has the 214 corresponding increase or predicted increase of frequency of 215 at-fault accidents, will have a direct and adverse impact 216 upon the company's ability for profit.

217 There are several thousand drivers that have at 218 least two traffic convictions which exceeds Allstate's 219 underwriting guidelines and then have three, four, five or 220 more and all those drivers have a different frequency 221 factor. We haven't gotten into the affidavit by Matthew 222 Stegle yet, but you'll see that based on traffic convictions 223 that someone who has traffic convictions has a 2.7 times 224 greater chance. It just increases. You just continue to go 225 up.

226 Based on that reason, Allstate seeks to exclude 227 Richard from your family policy, since everyone else 228 conforms with the underwriting guidelines and has fewer traffic convictions or at-fault accidents than would 229 230 necessarily cause them to be excluded. But, if any other 231 driver eventually exceeded the underwriting guidelines and 232 the company found out about it, the company would seek to 233 exclude them and in the event you or your husband as 234 policyholders did not agree to go along with the exclusion, 235 then the entire policy would be cancelled which is what's 236 occurring here. 237 On the last page, Allstate makes mention of the 238 offer, the unconditional offer of Allstate indemnity 239 coverage and explains that in some detail. I would suggest 240 that you explore that with your insurance agent. 241 I move into evidence the last exhibit, the 242 affidavit of Matthew Stegle which I provided you with a copy 243 at the beginning of this hearing. In the affidavit, Matt 244 Stegle, who is territorial underwriting manager for Allstate 245 Insurance Company, discusses Allstate's use of the 246 California study, the Maryland statistics and records the 247 average claims pay-out for calendar years 1986, 1987, and 248 1988. That's on page three. 249 Beginning on page six, there is a statistical 250 abstract from the California study. This goes to the

251 validity of the study. It includes the equations used. 252 You'll see that there is a correlation coefficient of .994 253 which is extremely high, indicating that there is a strong 254 correlation between the statistics and predicting the facts 255 they predict. 256 On page eight is the application of the frequency factors to Richard's driving record. If you'd like to take 257 258 a few minutes to go through that, it essentially goes into a 259 little more detail of my comments, but I've given you a 260 broad brush approach to what Allstate's position is with 261 regards to the exclusion of Richard. I move to introduce 262 the affidavit of Matthew Stegle as Licensee's Exhibit No. 2 263 HEARING EXAMINER HOLLIWAY: Okay. The affidavit of 264 Matthew Stegle becomes Licensee Exhibit No. 2. 265 (Whereupon, a document was marked for 266 identification and received into evidence 267 as Licensee Exhibit No. 2.) 268 269 MR. KRESESKI: Allstate has fairly applied its 270 underwriting guidelines to this situation and has not been 271 arbitrary or capricious. 272 HEARING EXAMINER HOLLIWAY: Does that conclude --273 MR. KRESESKI: My direct? Yes, sir. 274 HEARING EXAMINER HOLLIWAY: Okay. Mrs. Troy, do you 275 have any comments or questions or anything?

276 MRS. TROY: No, I don't. 277 HEARING EXAMINER HOLLIWAY: Alright. Do you have 278 anything further? 279 MR. KRESESKI: No, sir. HEARING EXAMINER HOLLIWAY: Okay. Then let me once 280 281 again -- I'll give this to you in writing as well -- let me go 282 through the explanation I talked about. You need do nothing 283 at this point because my decision is not made today. It 284 comes in the form of a written paper which you will 285 eventually get in the mail. Until you get that order, the 286 insurance continues just as it was and nothing is changed. 287 Once you get that order, if it should be in favor 288 of yourself or your son really, then you need do nothing 289 further. However, you also need to be sure what to do if the 290 order is adverse to you. The first thing: You have twenty 291 days, if you decide not to appeal my order further, which 292 But, first, if I'll explain how you do that in a second. 293 you should decide not to appeal my order and it happens to -294 be adverse, then you have 20 days from the date on that 295 order. There will be a date on there. You use those 20 days 296 to contact your agent and inform them you've decided to 297 accept the exclusion offer which removes Richard C. Troy off 298 the policy, but the remainder of the family continues as 299 before. You have 20 days to do that. If you do not exercise

that option within 20 days, then Allstate is free to go

301 ahead and cancel the entire policy. Actually, I believe 302 there are two policies it looks like. And Allstate can 303 cancel those within that period if you do not inform them of 304 your election to accept the exclusion, in which case no one, 305 yourself, your husband, the other members of the family as 306 well as Richard, no one is-- you are all in effect without 307 insurance until you make other arrangements. 308 So that's 20 days and you needn't start thinking 309 20 days until the order actually comes in the mail. You're 310 fine until that order does show in the mail. The other part of this is my decision, if it is an 311 312 adverse one, is appealable. It can be appealed either by 313 yourself on the one hand or, if it is adverse to the 314 insurance carrier, they also can have the same appeal 315 rights. But my decision can be appealed in the Circuit Court 316 for Baltimore City and it must be done within 30 days from 317 the day of my order. However, if my order is being appealed 318 and you wish, as I would presume everyone would, to keep the 319 insurance in effect unchanged, then a petition for a stay of 320 my order must be filed in the Circuit Court for Baltimore 321 City within 20 days of the date on my order. As I say, I 322 will give you this in writing. It reiterates what I've said, 323 plus it provides the appropriate court address and telephone 324 numbers.

MRS. TROY: I do have one question. If you rule

326 against us, then is the insurance automatically at that time 327 cancelled or is it cancelled as of the regular termination 328 period? 329 HEARING EXAMINER HOLLIWAY: No. There will be a 330 date on my order, and, as I say, I can't tell you precisely 331 what it is because I haven't written it yet and that's the 332 last thing that goes on the order before it goes out. Within 333 20 days of the date on that order, if they hear nothing from 334 you saying we're going to accept the exclusion offer, then 335 they can go ahead and cancel. They are not permitted to 336 cancel automatically the very day the order goes out. Does 337 that answer your question? It gives you a 20-day grace 338 period, for want of a better term, to either accept their 339 exclusion offer or remain silent, in which case then they 340 will go ahead and non-renew everybody. 341 MRS. TROY: Okay. That's not what I meant. 342 regular termination date is August 7. So, what I'm asking 343 is--344 HEARING EXAMINER HOLLIWAY: You'll have your order 345 well before that. 346 MRS. TROY: So I would get a refund from Allstate? 347 MR. KRESESKI: You'd get a rebate. 348 HEARING EXAMINER HOLLIWAY: If you were to pay your 349 ordinary normal premium renewal and you pay that and then,

say, a month hence along comes an order saying the insurance

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351
      company can take the action, they non-renew your son, then
     you get a rebate. In this case, as I say, unless I somehow
352
353
      get very behind or get hit by a car or something, my order
354
      will probably be out certainly sometime in June. So, there
      will be a disposition of this either way well in advance of
355
356
     August 8th.
357
                MRS. TROY: Okay. I understand.
358
                HEARING EXAMINER HOLLIWAY: Okay. Do we have
359
      anything further. If not, I thank you both.
360
                (Whereupon, the hearing was concluded.)
```

MARYLAND NOTICE OF NON-RENEWAL NOTICE OF CANCELLATION

NAMED INSURED AND ADDRESS

TERRY TROY
7819 IVYMOUNT TERR
POTOMAC, MD 20854

MD Insurance Division Exhibit No.

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24018				
 1				
DATE OF NOTICE 12-14-88				
TERMINATION EFFECTIVE DATE 2-7-89 12:01 A.M. Standard Time				
POLICY NUMBER (1) 018 264 792 (2) 052 463 940				
VEHICLE AS LISTED ON POLICY				
AGENCY WHITE BC 285 mm				

ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY

LSTATE INDEMNITY COMPANY

C

You are hereby notified in accordance with the terms and conditions of the policy identified above that this policy is terminated effective the DATE OF CANCELLATION OR NON-RENEWAL shown hereon and after that date no further protection will be provided thereunder. Therefore, you should immediately contact an agent or broker for other insurance or request Insurance through the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund. The Fund affords eligible persons the right to obtain insurance. In addition to contacting an insurance broker or agent you may directly contact the office of the Fund for an explanation.

The phone number and address of the Fund are:

301-269-1680

Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund

1750 Forest Drive

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Applicable paragraphs marked X

REASON OR REASONS FOR CANCELLATION OR REFUSAL TO RENEW:

The Allstate Insurance Company has as its economic and business purposes the following: (1) the continued solvency of the corporation, (2) the making of a reasonable profit to provide continued service to policyholders and for corporate growth and expansion, and (3) the maintenance of the lowest possible rate structure for its policyholders.

RICHARD CHRISTIAN TROY DATE OF BIRTH 6-11-70

EXCLUSION OFFER: See reverse side for further details regarding an offer to provide a policy excluding from coverage. Under such a policy we would not be liable for damages, losses or claims arising out of the operation or use of the insured motor vehicle by the named excluded person or persons, whether or not such operation or use was with the expressed or implied permission of a person insured under the Policy. Policy Premium \$(1) \$1,527.11 (2) \$577.72

This quotation covers all presently listed automobiles on your policy.

See reverse side for details regarding your right to PROTEST ACTION AND REQUEST HEARING BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE. SEE PAGE TWO FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION

#### **IMPORTANT**

"Right of Protest"

For your protest to be duly filed you must sign two copies of the notice and send them to the:

Maryland Insurance Commissioner

501 St. Paul Place

**Baltimore, Maryland 21202** 

within thirty (30) days after receipt of the notice. Unless your protest is filed within thirty days, the protest cannot be considered by the Insurance Division as provided under Article 48A, Section 240AA of the Insurance Code.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

21

(other side =

1. 22

THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS APPLICABLE ONLY WHEN THE POLICY IS A POLICY OF MOTOR VEHICLE LIABILITY INSURANCE AND WHEN THE BOX TO THE LEFT OF THE APPROPRIATE PARAGRAPH ON THE FRONT SIDE OF THIS NOTICE IS MARKED WITH AN "X".

#### RIGHT TO PROTEST AND REQUEST HEARING

This notice has been sent to you in triplicate. You have the right to protest this action and request a hearing thereon before the Commissioner by signing two copies of the notice in the space provided and sending them to the Maryland Insurance Commissioner, 501 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, within 30 days after receipt of this notice.

If protest is filed this policy will remain in effect until a determination is made by the Commissioner upon payment of any lawful premium due or becoming due prior to termination.

The Commissioner has authority to award reasonable counsel fees to the insured for services rendered to the insured in connection with any such hearing if he finds the proposed action to be unjustified.

I hereby request a hearing.

DATE Jan 8, 1928 SIGNED Terry Trong

#### **EXCLUSION OFFER**

If you are desirous of having a policy which will exclude from coverage the person or persons identified on the front side of this notice, indicate acceptance by signing below and return this notice together with a remittance in the amount of the policy premium specified prior to the effective date of cancellation or non-renewal. It should be understood that a similar limitation will be included within any subsequent transfer, reinstatement or renewal of such policy or policies.

DATE	SIGNED



PAGE 2 mm 018 264 792 & 052 463 940

To achieve this, we maintain a program in which we seek to insure the average or better than average risk. The average Maryland driver that we have insured during the past three years has been involved in an at-fault accident at the rate of one in every fifteen (15) to seventeen (17) years of driving. This rate of accident involvement has remained fairly constant over the past several years.

Prior to renewal, the company reviews the records of policyholders with losses during the past three years. There are a number of situations that will occur which when analyzed by an Allstate Underwriter, may result in a decision not to continue a risk. Such a decision is made when the Underwriter is convinced that the risk of future loss exceeds the exposure anticipated and that the economic and business interests of Allstate would no longer be served by the continuation of such a risk. Some of the more typical examples of such situations follow: (1) facts which would support a conviction of a serious violation, such as driving under the influence, reckless driving, failure to stop and identify oneself when involved in an accident, etc., (2) suspension or revocation of a drivers license, (3) fraudulent claim activity, (4) a frequency of convictions for motor vehicle violations (Allstate's non-continuation standard is at least two convictions by any one operator). (5) a frequency of loss which is defined as two occurrences by any one operator,  $\sqrt{6}$  a frequency of combined losses and convictions which is defined as at least two per operator, (7) a loss situation where the insured operator shows an above-average degree of negligence in the operation of the automobile, (8) policy claims experience which exceeds twice the average Allstate policy claims experience which means that any policy with 3 or more claims of any nature within the past 3 years will be non-renewed.

A review of your policy records shows the following: Richard has 8-9-88 sideswiped claimant - \$705.00 paid; 3-31-88 speed; 4-30-88 speed; 8-8-88 failure to stop at stop/yield at yield sign.

Independent research studies have shown that persons with accident and or motor vehicle violation involvement are more likely to have future accidents than persons without this involvement. One such study shows the chance of an accident rises almost correspondingly with the number of convictions the driver has in a three (3) year period. The average conviction record compared with "0" convictions in a three (3) year period based on this study would indicate a 1.95 greater chance of accident. Allstate does not have a rating plan to accommodate the potential for future accident involvement indicated by this violation record.

The same study shows that the chance of an accident rises almost correspondingly with the number of accidents the driver has in a three-year period. The above record compared with "0" accident involvement would indicate a 3.61 times greater chance of accidents.



PAGE 3 mm 052 463 940 & 018 264 792

We do surcharge for certain at-fault accidents, however, the projected increased exposure indicated by the above driving record is beyond the scope of that anticipated by our classification and rating structure.

Our action to terminate coverage is in compliance with our stated economic and business purposes and supported by the fact that such action would be the same for any of our policyholders with the same circumstances or similar driving record.

Take Advantage Of This Timely Offer.....

At this time you may qualify for Allstate Indemnity Insurance. This insurance may be arranged immediately thru the Agent who recently took your Allstate Insurance application.

Allstate Indemnity is one of the Allstate companies. With Allstate Indemnity you can enjoy advantages like-budget payment plan-coast to coast offices--and fast, fair, claim service--all these available to you thru Allstate's network of service offices.

When you talk to the Allstate Agent, show him this notice. He may be able to provide you with protection, right now.

If you have any questions, please contact your agent.

MD Insurance Division Entitle 1



January 8, 1988

Memo for Maryland Insurance Commissioner

From: Terry Troy, Allstate Insured

Policy Number [1] 018 264 792 [2] 052 463 940

Subject: Protest of Intention of Non-Renewal by Insurance Co

This memorandum and two signed copies of the Allstate notice constitute our protest to the threatened non-renewal action to discontinue, and to the alternative exclusion offer to continue without my son Richard, our automobile insurance policy. We request that our insurance remain in force for ourselves and our daughters and son Richard.

Richard is a full time college student living in a dorm at the University of Maryland and doesn't have access to a car for most of the eight months of the year that he is in school. He realizes the seriousness of what he has done. We believe that he has learned his lesson, is not likely to have future accidents, and will be a safe driver.

Because of inexperience in driving his sisters' car and bad weather conditions on an strange road, Richard had an unhappy incident late last Spring. With two lanes merging into one in fogging weather, Richard attempted to enter the remaining lane [quickly, to improve safety] but another vehicle coming from the blind side did not yield. He was not charged with any violation by the police who were on the scene and saw the accident as the two vehicles attempted to take the same lane. He never had an accident before and he has learned from this experience.

We, Richard's parents, were shocked to learn that he had received two speeding ticket just before high school graduation when young men are learning to grow up. In addition to the accident and the speeding tickets last spring, he failed to come to a complete stop at a yield sign this fall. [Had we known, we would have supported him in protesting this last charge in court as the law doesn't require a full stop.] Nevertheless, we have severely reprimanded Richard and believe that he has learned his lesson about safe and lawful driving responsibilities.

We ask for a favorable decision on the renewal of our insurance of 23 years with Allstate and to include our youngest of five children, Richard. If you have any questions, please call me at work 301 975-4039. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER Governor

WILLIAM A. FOGLE, JR. Secretary

E. SUSAN KELLOGG Insurance Commissioner



## Department of Licensing and Regulation INSURANCE DIVISION

501 ST. PAUL PLACE BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202-2272

DIRECT DIAL 301/333-

	TENGLAC PAST	MD Insurance Division Exhibit No.	2
100 TON	• SUITS 400 V/	22091-000	
SUBJEC	OTEST		
	TERRY TROY 7819 IV POTENTS	A-Q	
	POLICY NO .	340	
TLEME	N:		
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WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER Governor

WILLIAM A. FOGLE, JR. Secretary

E. SUSAN KELLOGG Insurance Commissioner



Department of Licensing and Regulation INSURANCE DIVISION

> 501 ST. PAUL PLACE BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202-2272

DIRECT DIAL 301/333- 2920

**:** 

INSURED'S NAME: TERRY TROY FILE NUMBER: 73489 11889 03 INSURER'S NAME: ALLSTATE INS CO

NOTICE TO INSURED

DIRPO DIA

C.F. 1 1009

FEB 7 1009

INSURANCE DIVISION RATHER THAN CALLING MY OFFICE, PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND RETURN TO MY ATTENTION:

- LIST NAMES AND AGES OF ALL LICENSED DRIVERS UNDER THE POLICY IN DUESTION:
  - (1) TERRY TROY 53 (3) DARLYN TROY 48
  - (4) NOEL SANDY TROY 2/ 121 LESLEY TROY 22
- (5) RICHARD TROY 18 (6) ED TROY 30
  LIST VEHICLES INSURED UNDER YOUR POLICY AND ESTIMATED MILEAGE BY EACH OF THE ABOVE LISTED DRIVERS:

FORD RICHARD IK CORVETTE TERRY 215 ALIHA ROMED NOWL SANDY 5K DOOGE TERRY 5K CADILLAC DARLYN 12K ALPHA MILAND LESLEY

- HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN INSURED WITH THIS INSURANCE COMPANY? 25 YEARS
- PLEASE COMMENT ON THE SPECIFIC REASONS GIVEN BY THE COMPANY FOR TERMINATING YOUR INSURANCE, INCLUDING HOW EACH ACCIDENT AND/OR VIOLATION, IF ANY, OCCURRED AND BY WHICH DRIVER. USE REVERSE SIDE IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED. They are saying that Richard is likely to have another accident. I believe he learned from his first & only accident and is not likely to have a second accident. (see letter of JAN8) YOUR DEFICE TELEPHONE # 301 975 4039 SIGNED

POTOMAC, MD YOUR HOME TELEPHONE # 301 299 3396 ACDRESS 7819 INYMOUNT TEK

THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BE OF SERVICE. PLEASE RETURN YOUR RESPONSE TO MY ATTENTION WITHIN 15 WORKING DAYS.

RICHARD H. REESS

INSURANCE INVESTIBLE BAPTIMORE METRO AREA, TOLL FREE 1-800-492-6116 TTY FOR DEAF, BALTIMORE METRO AREA 383-7555, D.C. METRO 565-0451 FAX: (301) 333-1229

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER overnor

WILLIAM A. FOGLE, JR. Secretary

E. SUSAN KELLOGG Insurance Commissioner



## Department of Licensing and Regulation INSURANCE DIVISION

501 ST. PAUL PLACE BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202-2272

DIRECT DIAL 301/333- 2920

Allstate Ins. Co. 1850 Centennial Park Drive Box 4200, Suite 400 Reston, Va. 22091-000

MD Insurance Division Exhibit No



Date Marc	ch <sup>7</sup> , 1989			
Insured Ter				
Policy No. 018264792,052463940				
Our File No.	73489 03 19			

your pol which af 234A and mined fr	relier communication you were advised of a protest filed with this Division by icyholder. That protest related to the action initiated by your recent notice feets the above reference policy. In accordance with the provisions of Section 240AA of Article 48A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, it has been determent to the information contained in your notice that the protest has merit. Upon adding your proposed action is disallowed for the following:
(1)	_Failed to give required forty-five (45) days notice.
(2)	Failed to offer proper named driver exclusion/or quote premium if exclusion is offered.
(3)	Failed to state in the Notice the right of the Complainant to protest.
(4)	Failed to state in the Notice the right to replace with MAIF and give address.
(5)	Reasons given in Notice have been determined to be factually incorrect.
(6)	Notice relies in part on traffic violations or accidents more than three (3) years from the effective renewal date, or five (5) years old on the date of the application on new business.
(7)	The insurer has failed to meet its burden of proof by stating the standard used to terminate the coverage.
(8)	The Maryland Insurance Division, at present, requires that an incident covered by a filed and approved surcharge plan be rated in accordance with that plan. This requirement merely reflects the insurance company's filing which states that the insurance company has an adequate rate for this insured. The remedy, if desired, is not cancellation but the filing of a proper rate or the withdrawal of the rate that is alleged to be improper.
(9) XXX	Other - See attached. Policy must continue.

FORM DLR/SID/P/#16-04/10-88/5M/89-277

Therefore, your company is hereby directed to continue in effect the insurance coverage of the Complainant's policy referred to herein.

SECTION 240AA (f) PROVIDES THAT ANY AGGRIEVED PARTY MAY REQUEST A HEARING WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF THIS NOTICE. A HEARING MAY BE REQUESTED BY DIRECTING A LETTER TO THE UNDERSIGNED STATING THE REASONS THEREFORE.

IN THE EVENT THAT A HEARING IS REQUESTED ALL INSURANCE COVERAGES WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT PENDING A FINAL DETERMINATION OF THE PROTEST BY THE COMMISSIONER, PROVIDED ANY LAWFUL PREMIUM DUE OR BECOMING DUE PRIOR TO SUCH DETERMINATION IS PAID.

IN THE EVENT OF A HEARING THE INSURER HAS THE BURDEN OR PERSUASION THAT THE STANDARDS APPLIED IN ITS PROPOSED ACTION ARE REASONABLY RELATED TO ITS ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS PURPOSES AND/OR THE BURDEN OF PROOF THAT ITS ACTION IS JUSTIFIED, AND IN DOING SO, IT MAY RELY ONLY UPON THE REASONS SET FORTH IN ITS NOTICE TO THE INSURED. NO EVIDENCE EXTRANEOUS TO THE NOTICE REASONS WILL BE HEARD.

Very truly yours,

By: Richard H. Reese
Insurance Investigator

RHR: mm

cc: Insured

#### NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 234A(a) of Article 48A, Annotated Code of Maryland (1986 Replacement Volume), any standard which forms the basis of an insurer's cancellation, refusal to underwrite, or refusal to renew a particular insurance risk or class of risk must be reasonably related to the insurer's economic and business purposes.

The Maryland Court of Special Appeals has ruled that evidence intended to satisfy this requirement must contain facts which answer at least the following questions:

- 1.) What is the statistical basis for the supposition that a given set of facts, i.e. a particular insured's accident or violation record, renders that insured more likely to incur future losses than an insured who has had fewer accidents or violations in the past?
- 2.) How valid is any such statistical evidence?
- 3.) If there is statistical validity to the supposition, what direct and substantial adverse effect would it have upon the insurer's losses and expenses in light of its current approved rating plan?1

The attached protest has been resolved in favor of the insured because the requirements set forth above have not been met.

You have the right to dispute this finding. However, please be advised that in order to prevail on this protest you must produce testimony and evidence which satisfies the requirements set forth above.

For a more detailed statement from the Court, see <u>Crumlish v. Insurance Commissioner</u>, 70 Md. App. 182 (1987) and <u>Medical Mutual Liability Insurance Society of Maryland, et. al. v. Michael O. Magan, \_\_\_\_ Md.\_\_\_\_, 529 A.2d. 841 (1987).</u>

# **Allstate**

Capital Region 1850 Centennial Park Drive Suite 400 P.O. Box 4200 Reston, VA 22091 703-648-1600

M Insurance Proces

\_5\_

March 24, 1989

Richard H. Reese
Department of Licensing and Regulation
Insurance Division
Complaints and Investigations
501 Saint Paul Place
Baltimore, Maryland 21202-2272

File Number: 73489 03 19

Policy Numbers: 018 264 792 and 052 463 940

Insured: TROY, Terry

Dear Mr. Reese:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 234C of Article 48A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, I request a hearing on the above insurance policy.

We feel our notice was proper and in compliance with the provisions of the Code. We applied standards that are reasonably related to our economic and business purposes.

Sincerely,

Matthew R. Stegle

Territorial Underwriting Manager

Matthew R. Steglen

cgh

cc: Agent White Location 285

Steven L. Kreseski

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER Governor

WILLIAM A. FOGLE, JR. Secretary



Department of Licensing and Regulation OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY Administrative Hearings

> 13th FLOOR 501 ST. PAUL PLACE BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202-2272 301/333-6216

Allstate Insurance Company 1850 Centennial Park Drive P.O. Box 4200 Suite 400 Reston, Virginia 22091

Steve Kreseski, Esquire c/o Joseph A. Schwartz, III, P.A. Washington Place 10 West Madison Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201

April 23, 1989
Re: Terry Troy
Policy No.: 018264792
Case No.: 1467-4/89

NOTICE OF HEARING

ID Insurance Division Exhibit No.

.\_\_\_

Please inform this office of any changes in address and/or phone number while this matter is pending.

Hearing Information Attached

рp

Ivymount Terrace

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER Governor

WILLIAM A. FOGLE, JR. Secretary

cc:



#### Department of Licensing and Regulation OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY Administrative Hearings

13th FLOOR 501 ST. PAUL PLACE BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202-2272 301/333-6216

### NOTICE OF HEARING

hearing has been requested by bursuant to the provisions of Sections 234A, 240AA and 55 of Article 48A, nnotated Code of Maryland (The Insurance Code). The above captioned protest as been scheduled for a hearing to be held on			
Please inform the undersigned of any changes in address and/or phone number while this matter is pending.			
Very truly yours,			
Richard Globus Chief Hearing Examiner RG:			
earing Information on Reverse Side			

#### HEARING INFORMATION

### PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

All cases duly scheduled by the Maryland Insurance Division for hearing before the Insurance Commissioner or his appointed Hearing Officer will proceed as scheduled without delay whether or not the parties appear. Where there is absence of a party or witness, a determination and Order on Hearing will be made from testimony of attending witnesses, file documents and information otherwise deemed necessary by the Hearing Officer.

Policy coverages will remain in effect until: (1) parties are notified of the Commissioner's determination by written Order issued within thirty (30) days after the hearing record is closed; or (2) parties are notified that the hearing is cancelled: provided ANY LAWFUL PREMIUM DUE OR BECOMING DUE PRIOR TO SUCH DETERMINATION IS PAID.

At the hearing the Insurer will have the burden of persuasion that its standards are reasonably related to its economic and business purposes and the burden of proof that its action is justified, and in doing so may rely only upon the reasons set forth in its notice to the insured. No testimony extraneous to the Notice reasons will be heard. THE HEARING OFFICER MAY NOT REVERSE OR AMEND INCIDENTS CONTAINED IN MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION DRIVING RECORDS NOR DETERMINEISSUES OF NEGLIGENCE, LIABILITY OR FAULT IN ACCIDENTS.

If the Commissioner finds in the hearing that the proposed action of the Insurer is unjustified, he shall disallow the action and may, in addition, order the Insurer to pay such reasonable counsel fees incurred by the Insured for representation at the time of the hearing, unless otherwise determined by the Hearing Officer.

Please be advised that in the event you choose to engage the services of an attorney to represent you, Maryland law requires that the attorney be licensed to practice law in Maryland, or is specially admitted in the case by the Circuit Court for Baltimore City. (Article 10, Section 7(b) of the Annotated Code of Maryland).

Any party aggrieved with the decision of the Commissioner may appeal that decision to the Circuit Court for Baltimore City. If there is an appeal from the Commissioner's Order, all costs in connection with the making and/or photocopying of the transcript and exhibits must be paid by the party making the Appeal. When a court reporter is not requested, a record of the hearing shall be made by the Commissioner. Any party requesting a court reporter must do so in a reasonable time prior to the hearing, in writing, and must pay that expense.

Postponements will be granted only under exceptional circumstances. Requests must be made in writing, received in this office not later than seven (7) working days prior to the hearing date and should contain the reason for the request, names of the parties, date of hearing, case number and telephone number for contact between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Please mail a copy of the request to the other parties involved in the hearing. The Chief Hearing Officer will make the final decision on postponements and notify all parties.



INT REQUESTED AT 15:16:11 MAR 30, 1989

TERMINAL 1558

### M A R Y L A N D MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION

SOUNDEX	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	RACE	SEX	DATE-OF-BIRTH	RESTR	PAGE
T 600-738-115-437	6-00	175	1	14	06-11-70		1
RICHARD CHRISTIAN	TROY				LICENSE	EXPIRES	
7819 IVYMONT TER					CLASS D	06-11-90	
POTOMAC	M	MD	20854				

CURRENT LICENSE STATUS VALID

	THE	RECORD REF	LECTS ENTRIES FOR	THE PAST 36 MONTHS	
	V-DATE	C-DATE	SUMMARY	DESCRIPTION	POINTS
	08-09-86		D381723	FAIL TO CARRY REG CARD IN VEH	1/
				DISPLAY IT UPON DEMAND	
_	03-31-88	07-19-88	F309789	EXCEEDING MAXIMUM SPEED	01
				LIMIT BY 1-9 MPH	
,	-30-88	08-22-88	US DIST COURT	EXCEEDING MAXIMUM SPEED	
				LIMIT BY 1-9 MPH	
	08-08-88	10-20-88	G255287	FAILURE TO STOP AT STOP SIGN/	01
				YIELD AT YIELD SIGN	

RECORD END TOTAL CURRENT POINTS 02



March, 1989

#### AFFIDAVIT OF MATTHEW STEGLE

- 1. I am the Territorial Underwriting Manager for Allstate Insurance Company assigned to the Maryland Region. Allstate has provided me with special training for this position to which I was first assigned over three years ago. At present, my responsibilities include supervising Allstate's underwriting program with respect to all automobile insurance for the entire State of Maryland.
- 2. In Allstate's Maryland automobile cancellation/non-renewal notices, Allstate cites statistics from the independent research study conducted by the California Department of Motor Vehicles (California Study). These statistics indicate an increased frequency of future accident involvement for drivers with past accident/violation involvement when compared to drivers without past accident/violation involvements.
- 3. The California Study was first published in 1964 and subsequently updated on several occasions, most recently in December, 1987. The California Study is a comprehensive examination of driving behavior and risk factors associated with accidents. The only data Allstate draws from the California Study is statistical data with regard to accident frequencies for drivers with prior accidents/convictions within a three (3) year period. This data compares the expected frequency of accident

involvement for drivers with a certain number of accidents/convictions compared to those drivers with no accidents/convictions during the same three (3) year period. Allstate does not utilize any other portion of the California study with the exception of alcohol related data which is not relevant to this proceeding.

- 4. The California Study is utilized by most, if not all, insurance carriers licensed to do business in the State of Maryland. The Insurance Commissioner for the State of Maryland has taken administrative notice of the validity of the California Study and a copy of this study is on file with the administrative offices of the Insurance Commissioner. Allstate's underwriting department relies upon the statistics contained in the most recent update (December, 1987). The California Study is based on accident involvement without regard to fault. Allstate relies upon at-fault accidents in determining to non-renew/cancel a policy of automobile liability insurance and therefore the statistical data selected from the California Study would be the most conservative estimate of future accident involvement for that driver.
- 5. Allstate has also performed "in house" studies to determine the frequency of accident involvement by its average insured. Allstate states on page 2 of its notice of non-renewal/cancellation that "the average Maryland driver that we have insured during the past three years has been involved in an at-fault accident at the rate of one in every fifteen (15) to

seventeen (17) years of driving. This rate of accident involvement has remained fairly constant over the past several years." Allstate's actuarial department has determined that for each 100 Allstate Maryland insureds, that Allstate paid out property damage and bodily injury claims on 6.17 of these 100 insureds each year. The reciprocal of 6.17 is approximately 16.2; therefore, in an effort to personalize this yearly liability claim frequency, Allstate states that each insured is expected to have an at-fault accident once every 16.2 years. This expected frequency factor has varied slightly year to year between a range of 16.0 to 16.2 years.

6. Allstate's Regional Controller's Office has determined that the average claim payout for an at-fault loss sustained by a Maryland insured has been as follows:

1986	\$ 1,341.00
1987	1,485.56
1988	1,511.04

The above referenced claim payout includes allocated expenses which are the expenses incurred by Allstate in processing and paying at-fault property damage and/or bodily injury claims.

7. The automobile liability policy premium charged an Allstate insured is based on the aforestated frequency of at-fault accident involvement by the average Maryland driver insured by Allstate. Allstate has calculated its current approved surcharge rating plan based upon the administrative and actual

dollar cost of at-fault accident involvement by its Maryland insureds (including both property damage and bodily injury payouts).

- 8. A statistical analysis of Allstate's recent loss experience indicates that for those Maryland insured's who are covered by Allstate's current approved rate filing (two or less surchargeable at-fault accidents), that the surcharge rates are adequate.
- 9. Allstate's premium and surcharge rating plan does <u>not</u> adequately compensate the Company for the increased loss potential projected by the California study (December, 1987) for drivers with two or more non-surchargeable occurrences. The additional loss potential projected for this insured is not adequately covered by Allstate's present premium and surcharge rate filing. If Allstate were required to continue to insure this risk, the resulting loss would have a direct and substantial adverse effect upon Allstate's business and economic purpose which is to provide low cost automobile insurance to as many drivers as possible, while making a reasonable profit. In this particular instance, Allstate would be inadequately compensated by premium and surcharge dollars to continue insuring this driver who exceeds the standards of Allstate's current approved rate filing.

Matthew Stegle

SWORN TO before me, a Notary Public of the State of Virginia, this 22 day of March, 1989.

My Commission Expires:

Notary Public

Allstate.Aff2

Allstate includes in the cancellation/non-renewal notices used in the State of Maryland statistics from an independent research study that addresses the increased chances of future accident involvement for drivers with prior accident/violation involvement compared with drivers without prior accident/violation involvement. This study was conducted by the California Department of Motor Vehicles (The California Driver Fact Book, April, 1981). This study developed the following data:

#### CONVICTIONS

NUMBER OF CONVICTIONS FIRST TWO YEARS	ACCIDENTS TIMES-AS-MANY FACTOR* (THIRD YEAR)			
0	1.00			
1	1.95			
2	2.70			
3	3.54			
4	3.98			
5	4.55			

#### **ACCIDENTS**

NUMBER OF	ACCIDENTS				
ACCIDENTS	TIMES-AS-MANY FACTOR*				
FIRST TWO YEARS	(THIRD YEAR)				
	1.00				
0	1.00				
1	1.74				
2	2.93				
<b>3</b> .	3.61				
4	5.73				

<sup>\*</sup> This number represents the relative increase in accident rate in the third year over the zero conviction group of the first two years. For example, if an individual has two convictions during the first two years of the study, that group of drivers' accident rate was 2.70 times the accident frequency of the group that had zero convictions in their first two years of the study.

The above data demonstrates that, as a group, drivers having convictions and accidents during one two year period are substantially more likely to have accidents in the following year. As the number of prior convictions increase the future accidents frequency also increases.

The above data can also be tested for its validity by determining its correlation coefficient. The correlation coefficient is a statistic that indicates how strongly two variables are related. In this case, prior conviction records and subsequent accident involvement. The actual third year accident frequency is used instead of the "times-as-many" factor to compute the correlation coefficient. These data and formulae are displayed below:

CORRELATION OF PRIOR CONVICTION HISTORY AND SUBSEQUENT ACCIDENT FREQUENCY
BASED ON CALIFORNIA STUDY DATA

	<u> </u>				
CONVICTIONS IN FIRST TWO YEARS 'X'	THIRD YEAR ACCIDENT FREQUENCY 'Y'	(X-E(X))	2 (Y-E(Y))	(X-E(X)) *(Y-E(Y))	
0 1 2 3 4	0.117 0.228 0.316 0.414 0.466	4.000 1.000 0.000 1.000 4.000	0.039 0.006 0.000 0.011 0.025	0.382 0.080 0.000 0.106 0.316	
	E(Y) =	2.000 0.308 1.414 0.126			
Correlation Coe	efficient=	0.994			
Number of Point	.s =	N			
Mean X = E(X)	=	X/N			
Mean $Y = E(Y)$	=	Y/N			
Standard Deviation (X) = $Sx = \frac{\overline{E(X-E(X))}}{N}$					
Standard Deviat	ion (Y) = Sy	$- \frac{E(Y-E(Y))}{2}$	).		
Correlation Coe	fficient (X,Y)		X))(Y-E(Y)) .Sx.Sy		

Page 7

A correlation coefficient of 1.000 indicates a perfect relationship. Taking a conservative approach, a value of .7 or greater indicates a very strong relationship and one that can be relied upon. Thus, the correlation coefficient of .978 for the California data indicates that the relationship of prior accident history and subsequent accident frequency is significant. A similar correlation can be shown for conviction history.

As stated in Allstate's Notice of Non-Renewal, Allstate has analyzed the at-fault accident involvement of their Maryland insureds. It was determined that, on average, 6% of the Maryland insureds are involved in an at-fault accident resulting in bodily injury or property damage liability claims each year. This means that the average policy has one at-fault accident approximately every 15 to 17 years. This at-fault accident frequency has remained consistent for a number of years.

Allstate's current rate filing requires a Maryland driver to be excluded or policy non-renewed if a driver has two or more incidents within the previous 3 year period. An incident is defined as at-fault accident involvement or traffic convictions. Allstate does surcharge for certain at-fault accidents however, Allstate does not surcharge for traffic convictions. Allstate does not have a surcharge plan applicable to this insured to adequately compensate Allstate for the increase risk of future at-fault involvements. Allstate's charge is based upon an expected average at-fault accident frequency of .06 (6% of Maryland insureds involved in at-fault accidents per year). Based upon the statistics developed from the California Study, this insured is expected to have an at-fault accident frequency of .117 (1.95 x .06) or .217 (3.61 x .06). These frequencies are almost 4 times the at-fault accident involvement for the average Allstate insured. The losses associated with this increased accident frequency would have a direct and adverse affect upon Allstate's profitability in Maryland.

#### STATE OF MARYLAND

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER
Governor

WILLIAM A. FOGLE, JR. Secretary

JOHN A DONAHO Insurance Commissioner



Department of Licensing and Regulation INSURANCE DIVISION

501 ST. PAUL PLACE BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202-2272

DIRECT DIAL 301/333- 4002/3

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Terry Troy
7819 Ivymount Terrace
Potomac, Maryland 20854

Dear Mr. Troy:

July 6, 1989

In accordance with the Maryland Rules of Procedure, Chapter 1100, Rule B2.c and d and B7.1, entitled Administrative Agencies, and Section 40 of Article 48A, entitled Maryland Insurance Code, this will acknowledge the receipt of your order for Appeal in the matter of:

Terry Troy vs.

Insurance Commissioner of the State of Maryland
(Case No. 1467-4/89)

This written notice of the Order of Appeal is being given to every party in this proceeding.

Please arrange to have a Reporting Service write to me or furnish me with a copy of your authorizing letter to them, so that I can forward the original hearing tape recording and exhibits to the Reporting Service for transcribing, photocopying, and binding. The original exhibits, transcription, tape, and one transcribed copy should be returned to this office and one copy will be forwarded to the Appellant by the Reporting Service. You will receive an invoice for transcribing from the Reporting Service.

You may also wish to request an extension of time for filing the record from the Circuit Court, due to the limited time allowed for transcription.

Very truly yours,

Wenda K. Gordon

Administrative Officer

/sm

cc: Meg Rosthal, Assistant Attorney General Allstate Insurance Company Steve Kreseski, Esquire

#### 923 772 612

#### RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL

NO INSURANCE COVERAGE PROVIDED NOT FOR INTERNATIONAL MAIL

(See Heverse)	
Sent to Allstate Ins. C 1860 Centennial	ank Dr.
Street and No.	
P.O., State and ZIP Code	91
Postage	S
Certified Fee	
Special Delivery Fee	
Restricted Delivery Fee	
Return Receipt showing to whom and Date Delivered	
Return Receipt showing to whom, Date, and Address of Delivery	
TOTAL Postage and Fees	S
Postmark or Date	

PS Form 3800, June 1985

## STICK POSTAGE STAMPS TO ARTICLE TO COVER FIRST CLASS POSTAGE, CERTIFIED MAIL FEE, AND CHARGES FOR ANY SELECTED OPTIONAL SERVICES. (see front)

- If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub to the right of the return address leaving the receipt attached and present the article at a post office service window or hand it to your rural carrier. (no extra charge)
- 2. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub to the right of the return address of the article, date, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the article.
  3. If you want a return receipt, write the certified mail number and your name and address one a return receipt card. Form 3811, and attach it to the front of the article by means of the gummed ends if space per-
- mits. Otherwise, affix to back of afficle. Endorse front of article RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED adjacent to the number.
- 4. If you want delivery restricted to the addressee, or to an authorized agent of the addressee, endorse RESTRICTED DELIVERY on the front of the article
- 5. Enter fees for the services requested in the appropriate spaces on the front of this receipt. If return receipt is requested, check the applicable blocks in item 1 of Form 3811.
- 6. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

## P 923 772 613

#### RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL

NO INSURANCE COVERAGE PROVIDED NOT FOR INTERNATIONAL MAIL

(See Reverse) Sent to Street and No 819 Ivymount Temack R.O., State and ZIP Code 20854 retoma e, mi Postage Certified Fee Special Delivery Fee Restricted Delivery Fee Return Receipt showing to whom and Date Delivered Return Receipt showing to whom. Date, and Address of Delivery TOTAL Postage and Fees S Postmark or Date

PS Form 3800, June 1985

### STICK POSTAGE STAMPS TO ARTICLE TO COVER FIRST CLASS POSTAGE, CERTIFIED MAIL FEE, AND CHARGES FOR ANY SELECTED OPTIONAL SERVICES. (see front)

- If you want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub to the right of the return address leaving the receipt attached and present the article at a post office service window or hand it to your rural carrier. (no extra charge)
- the article, date, detach and retain the receipt, and mail the article.

  3. If you want a return receipt, write the certified mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card, Form 3811, and attach it to the front of the article by means of the gummed ends if space permits. Otherwise, affix to back of article. Endorse front of article RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED adjacent to the number.

2. If you do not want this receipt postmarked, stick the gummed stub to the right of the return address of

- 4. If you want delivery restricted to the addressee, or to an authorized agent of the addressee, endorse RESTRICTED DELIVERY on the front of the article.
- Enter fees for the services requested in the appropriate spaces on the front of this receipt. If return receipt is requested, check the applicable blocks in item 1 of Form 3811.
- Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

U.S.G.P.O. 1987-197-722

#### UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE OFFICIAL BUSINESS SENDER INSTRUCTIONS Print your name, address and ZIP Code in the space below. . Complete items 1, 2, 3, and 4 on the

 Attach to front of article if space permits, otherwise affix to back of

Endorse article "Return Receipt

Requested" adjacent to number. RETURN

Print Sender's name, address, and ZIP Code in the space below.

U.S.MAII

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE

USE, \$300

Wendy K. Gordon Adm. Officer Dept. of Licensing & Regulation

Insurance Division 501 St. Paul Place, 6th Floor

Ealtimore, Maryland 2120



reverse.

article.

SENDER: Complete items 1 and 2 when additional s 3 and 4.  Put your address in the "RETURN TO" Space on the reverser of from being returned to you. The return receipt fee will properly to and the date of delivery. For additional fees the following for fees and check box(es) for additional service(s) request 1. A Show to whom delivered, date, and addressee's additional service(s).	se side. Failure to do this will prevent this rovide you the name of the person delivered services are available. Consult postmaster led.
3. Article Addressed to:	4. Article Number
Terry Troy 7819 Ivymount Terrace Potomae, mD 20854	Type of Service:  Registered Insured Certified COD Express Mail Return Receipt for Merchandise  Always obtain signature of addressee or agent and DATE DELIVERED.
5. Signature - Address	8. Addressee's Address (ONLY if
×	requested and fee paid)
6. Signature AAgent	
* Well Man	
7. Date of Delivery 7-7-85	
00 Earm 3811 Mar 1000 A H C C D O 4000 -040	OGE DOMESTIC DETURN DECEMP

\* U.S.G.P.Q. 1988-212-865 DOMESTIC RETORIS RECEIPT

#### UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Endorse article "Return Receipt

Requested" adjacent to number.

in the space below.

reverse.

article.

SENDER INSTRUCTIONS Print your name, address and ZIP Code . Complete items 1, 2, 3, and 4 on the . Attach to front of article if space permits, otherwise affix to back of



RETURN

Print Sender's name, address, and ZIP Code in the space below.

wenda K. Gordon, Adm. Officer Dept. of Licensing & Regulation Insurance Division 501 St. Paul Place, 6th Floor

Baltimore, Maryland 21202-2272 lucked tollowill the Malut

TO

SENDER: Complete items 1 and 2 when additional services are desired, and complete items 3 and 4.  Put your address in the "RETURN TO" Space on the reverse side. Failure to do this will prevent this card from being returned to you. The return receipt fee will provide you the name of the person delivered to and the date of delivery. For additional fees the following services are available. Consult postmaster for fees and check box(es) for additional service(s) requested.  1. Show to whom delivered, date, and addressee's address.  (Extra charge)  (Extra charge)				
3. Article Addressed to:	4. Article Number			
Alistate Insurance Co.	P 923 772 612 Type of Service:			
1850 Centennial Park Dr.	Registered Insured			
יות אוויים או	Certified COD			
Soite 400	Express Mail Return Receipt for Merchandise			
Reston, virginia 22091	Always obtain signature of addressee or agent and DATE DELIVERED.			
5. Signature - Address	8. Addressee's Address (ONLY if			
X	requested and fee paid)			
6. Signature - Agent (X. Vaince Chambless				
7. Date of Delivery				
PS Form 3811, Mar. 1988 * U.S.G.P.O. 1988-212-	-865 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT			

### 923 772 **6**11

#### RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL

NO INSURANCE COVERAGE PROVIDED NOT FOR INTERNATIONAL MAIL (Con Powerce)

(See neverse)	
Sent to Steve Kneseski Street and No. Cho Joseph A. Schwo P.O. State and ZIP Code 3c. Ho mo 2100	, Esq.
Postage	\$
Certified Fee	
Special Delivery Fee	
Restricted Delivery Fee	
Return Receipt showing to whom and Date Delivered	
Return Receipt showing to whom, Date, and Address of Delivery	
TOTAL Postage and Fees	\$
Postmark or Date	

PS Form 3800, June 1985

### P 923 772 🚮

V

#### RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL

NO INSURANCE COVERAGE PROVIDED NOT FOR INTERNATIONAL MAIL

(See Reverse)

Steve Kneseski Street and No. Cho Joseph A. Schwo P.O. State and ZIP Code Bullon mo 21 00 Postage	ntz,II,	?. <b>Q</b>
Certified Fee	<u> </u>	
Special Delivery Fee		
Restricted Delivery Fee		
Return Receipt showing to whom and Date Delivered		

S

Return Receipt showing to whom. Date, and Address of Delivery

TOTAL Postage and Fees

PS Form 3800, June 1985 Postmark or Date

#### UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE OFFICIAL BUSINESS

in the space below.

reverse.

article.

SENDER INSTRUCTIONS

Requested" adjacent to number.

Print your name, address and ZIP Code Complete items 1, 2, 3, and 4 on the · Attach to front of article if space permits, otherwise affix to back of • Endorse article "Return Receipt



RETURN TO

Print Sender's name, address, and ZIP Code in the space below.

Wondak, Gordon, Adm. Officer Dept. of Licensing & Regulation Insurance Division

Baltimore, Maryland 21202 2272

501 St. Paul Place, 6th Floor

SENDER: Complete items 1 and 2 when additional 3 and 4.  Put your address in the "RETURN TO" Space on the rever card from being returned to you. The return receipt fee will p to and the date of delivery. For additional fees the following for fees and check box(es) for additional service(s) request 1. Show to whom delivered, date, and addressee's ad (Extra charge)	se side. Failure to do this will prevent this rovide you the name of the person delivered services are available. Consult postmaster led.
3. Article Addressed to: Steve Kresesci, Espoire Go Joseph A Shwartz, II. RA. Washington Place 10 west madison St. Balto, MD 21201 5. Signature - Address X 6. Signature - Agent X and Caassen 7. Date of Delivery	4. Article Number  P Q 3 772 61  Type of Service: Registered
PS Form 3811, Mar. 1988 * U.S.G.P.O. 1984-212-	-865 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT

Terry Troy	*	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
7819 Ivymount Terrace		
Potomac, Maryland 21854	*	FOR BALTIMORE CITY
	*	Case No. 89184050/CL99747
APPELLANT		,
	*	
VS.		
	*	Appeal of the Insurance
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER		Commissioner's decision,
OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND	*	Department of Licensing
501 St. Paul Place		and Regulation.
Baltimore, Maryland 21202	*	Upon the Complaint of
		Terry Troy
APPELLEE	*	
		Case No. 1467-4/89
* * * * * * *	* *	* * * * * * * *

# CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH MARYLAND RULE B2.c and d

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 6th day of July 1989, pursuant to Maryland Rule B2.c and d, I have given written notice to the following party to the proceeding styled:

# TERRY TROY VS. INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND (CASE NO. 1467-4/89)

scheduled before the Insurance Division of the Maryland Department of Licensing and Regulation, that an Order for Appeal has been filed in the Circuit Court of Baltimore City by:

#### TERRY TROY

from the decision of the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Maryland, on June 16, 1989.

Meg Rosthal, Esquire Assistant Attorney General Allstate Insurance Company 1850 Centennial Park Dr., Suite 400 Reston, Virginia 22091

Terry Troy
7819 Ivymount Terrace
Potomac, Maryland 20854

Steve Kreseski, Esquire c/o Joseph A. Schwartz, III, P.A. Washington Place 10 West Madison Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Wenda K. Gordon Administrative Officer TERRY TROY
7819 Ivymount Terrace
Potomac, Maryland 21854

APPELLANT

VS.

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND
501 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

\* IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

\* FOR BALTIMORE CITY

\* CASE NO. 89184050/CL99747

\* APPEAL OF THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER'S DECISION,

\* DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATION - UPON THE

\* COMPLAINT OF:

Terry Troy

Case No. 1467-4/89

#### CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPT TO RECORD

STATE OF MARYLAND, CITY OF BALTIMORE, TO WIT:

I, WENDA K. GORDON, hereby certify that the following is a true record taken from the proceedings of the Insurance Division, Department of Licensing and Regulation, in the administrative proceedings styled TERRY TROY VS. INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, CASE NO. 1467-4/89.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affix the seal of the Insurance Division, Department of Licensing and Regulation, this 8th day of August, 1989.

Meg Rosthal, Esquire Assistant Attorney General

Allstate Insurance Company 1850 Centennial Park Drive Suite 400 Reston, Virginia 22091

Steve Kreseski, Esquire c/o Joseph A. Schwartz, III, P.A. Washington Place 10 West Madison Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201 Terry Troy
7819 Ivymount Terrace
Potomac, Maryland 21854



Wenda K. Gordon'

Administrative Officer

FILED

TERRY TROY IN THE

CIRCUIT COURT

JUL 81 1989

Appellant

v.

FOR

CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, ET AL BALTIMORE CITY

CASE NO: 89184050/

CL99747

Appellee

#### ANSWER TO PETITION

ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY, by and through its undersigned attorneys, answers the Petition of the Appellant, TERRY TROY, as follows:

- 1. Allstate denies all allegations contained in Paragraph 1 of the Petition with the exception that Allstate admits it maintains rate filings stating that "any driver who has a frequency of combined losses and convictions defined as at least two per operator within the past three (3) years" will be excluded or non-renewed from the policy of automobile liability insurance.
- 2. Allstate denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 2 of the Petition.
- 3. Allstate admits the allegation contained in Paragraph 3 of the Petition to the extent that Allstate and the Insurance Commissioner found that the policyholder's son [Richard A. Troy] driver record presents additional exposure not contemplated by Allstate's current rating plan; however, Allstate denies Appellant's assumptions with regard to Allstate's use of its' own computer generated statements.

- 4. Allstate denies the allegations contained in Paragraph
  4 of the Petition.
- 5. Allstate admits the allegations contained in Paragraph 5 of the Petition to the extent that the data from the California Study "demonstrated that the son [Richard A. Troy] belongs to a group with 3.54 times greater chance of future accident than a 0-conviction driver" (spelling errors corrected); however, Allstate denies Appellant's mischaracterization of information contained in the California Study.
- 6. Allstate denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 6 of the Petition.
- 7. Allstate denies the allegations contained in Paragraph7 of the Petition.
- 8. Allstate denies the allegations contained in Paragraph8 of the Petition.
- 9. Allstate admits the allegation contained in Paragraph 9 of the Petition to the extent that Allstate's rating plan does not provide for an adequate rate to insure Richard A. Troy nor do Insurance laws permit Allstate to consider past profits from the Troy policy of insurance; however, Allstate denies the remaining allegations made in Paragraph 9 of the Petition.
- 10. Allstate denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 10 of the Petition.
- 11. Allstate denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 11 of the Petition.

WHEREFORE, Allstate Insurance Company respectfully

requests that this Court affirm the decision of the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Maryland as stated in his Order on Hearing issued on June 16th, 1989.

Jøseph A. Schwartz, III

Steven L. Kreseski

Joseph A. Schwartz, III, P.A. 10 West Madison Street

Baltimore, MD 21201 (301) 244-7000

Attorneys for Allstate Insurance Co.

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 28 day of July, 1989, copies of the foregoing Answer were mailed, postage prepaid, to Meg Rosthal, Assistant Attorney General, 501 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, Maryland, 21202; and to Terry Troy, 7819 Ivymount Terrace, Potomac, Maryland (20854).

Attorney for Allstate Ins. Co.

LAW OFFICES

JOSEPH A. SCHWARTZ, III, P. A.

WASHINGTON PLACE

10 WEST MADISON STREET BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201

(301) 244-7000

FILED

JUL 26 1989

CIRCUIT COURT FOR FACSIMILE **BALTIMORE CITY** (301) 332-4505

July 25, 1989

Mr. Terry Troy 7819 Ivymount Terrace Potomac, Maryland 20854

> Troy v. Allstate Insurance Company RE:

Dear Mr. Troy:

JOSEPH A SCHWARTZ, III

STEVEN L. KRESESKI

Please be advised that I have prepared a Motion to Dismiss for Failure to File the Petition in this case. Assistant Attorney General Meg Rosthal has just advised me that you did file a Petition; therefore, I must assume that you failed to provide me with a copy or that my copy was lost by the U.S. Postal Service.

Please be kind enough to provide me with a copy of this Petition immediately and all future pleadings and correspondence you send to the Court. I will hold the Motion to Dismiss for five days pending receipt of the Petition.

Very truly yours,

Steven L. Kreseski

SLK/csc

Clerk, Circuit Court for Baltimore City (89/84050/CL99747) cc: Assistant Attorney General Meg Rosthal

# FILED

TERRY TROY

IN THE

JUL 24 1989

Appellant

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF

CIRCUIT COURT

CIRCLIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY

v.

FOR

BALTIMORE CITY

THE STATE OF MARYLAND, et al.

CASE NO. 89184050/CL99747

Appellees

#### ANSWER TO PETITION

John A. Donaho, Insurance Commissioner of the State of Maryland, by his attorneys, J. Joseph Curran, Jr., Attorney General of Maryland, and Meg L. Rosthal, Assistant Attorney General, answers the Petition of Appellant, Terry Troy, as follows:

- 1) The Insurance Commissioner denies the allegations contained in paragraph 1 of the Petition.
- 21 The Insurance Commissioner denies allegations the contained in paragraph 2 of the Petition.
- 3) The Insurance Commissioner denies the allegations contained in paragraph 3 of the Petition.
- 4) The Insurance Commissioner denies the allegations contained in paragraph 4 of the Petition.
- 5) The Insurance Commissioner denies the allegations contained in paragraph 5 of the Petition.
- The Insurance Commissioner denies allegations 6) the contained in paragraph 6 of the Petition.
- 7) The Insurance Commissioner denies allegations the contained in paragraph 7 of the Petition.

- 8) The Insurance Commissioner denies the allegations contained in paragraph 8 of the Petition.
- 9) The Insurance Commissioner denies the allegations contained in paragraph 9 of the Petition.
- 10) The Insurance Commissioner denies the allegations contained in paragraph 10 of the Petition.
- 11) The Insurance Commissioner denies the allegations contained in paragraph 11 of the Petition.

WHEREFORE, the Insurance Commissioner respectfully requests this Court to affirm his June 16, 1989 Order on Hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

J. JOSEPH CURRAN, JR. ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MARYLAND

Meg L. Rosthal

Assistant Attorney General
501 St. Paul Place - 14th Floor

Baltimore, Maryland 21202

(301) 333-6284

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 20th day of 1989, a copy of the foregoing Answer to Petition was mailed first class to Terry Troy, 7819 Ivymount Terrace, Potomac, Maryland 20854 and to Steven L. Kreseski, Law Offices of Joseph A. Schwartz, III, Washington Place, 10 West Madison Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201.

Med T. Rosthal

Assistant Attorney General

(4)

## FILED

JUL 17 1989

Terry Troy
7819 Ivymount Terrace
Potomac, Maryland 20854

4

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR BALTIMORE CITY

CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY

APPELLANT

Case No. 89184050/CL99747

Appeal of the Insurance

Commissioner's decision.

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND
501 St. Paul Place

VS.

Department of Licensing

\* and Regulation.

Upon the Complaint

APPELLEE

\* of Terry Troy

Case No. 1467-14/89 \* \* \* \* \*

PETITION

Pursuant to Sections 25, 234A and 240AA of Article 48A of Annotated Code of Maryland (1986) a hearing was conducted on May 1989 wherein the above captioned Appellee supported the Allstate Insurance Company's proposed nonrenewal of Appellant's auto insurance or [at Appellant's option] transference of young male race-classification-one driver in his fourth year of driving with one minor accident of \$705 and two points on his driving record to their high risk indemnity insurance subsidiary Allstate would raise the son's rates from \$1000 to \$3300 per  $\checkmark$ The Appellee and Allstate proposed, should Appellant year. refuse the transference, a second option: to exclude the son from the family insurance policy. The Appellant did not accept either option; consequently, the Appellee ORDERED that Allstate be permitted to effect its proposed action. Allstate notified the Appellant of nonrenewal but a Stay was obtained on the Appellee's

#### ERROR COMMITTED BY THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

The Appellant believes that substantial rights have been violated; the administrative findings of fact and conclusions of law are: unsupported by competent, material and substantial evidence, unsupported in view of the entire record submitted, affected by errors of law, and for other reasons to be made explicit in an amended petition after a transcript of the record is received.



The Appellant believes and intends to show that the Appellee erroneously and/or in reversible error:

- 1. Made findings of fact that are future promises: Allstate WILL not continue to insure any driver who has a frequency of combined losses and convictions defined as at least two per operator within the past three years. Apparently Allstate's claim was not true at time of hearing, and Allstate could change its mind. These standards that WILL do something in future were apparently not verified by any evidence; no proof of what they do now, nor was Appellant able to call Allstate's agents to see what they are really telling prospects, i.e., that they will be excluded if they have two occurrences.
- 2. Found on only that PART of the son's driving record most favorable to Allstate. The Appellee ignored most important facts: only one accident of \$705 and two points in over three years of driving. Appellee apparently did not give any weight to the son's subsequent year of driving without any accident or occurrence, or that the son has a radically changed driving pattern [away at school eight months of year and does not drive to work during summer]. This hasty conclusion, that the son exceeds standards that Allstate will have may indicate an intent to show bias in favor of Allstate.
- the son presents additional exposure 3. Found that contemplated by Allstate's rating plan. But Appellee take into account Allstate own computer generated statements, on file with the Insurance Commissioners, showing the increase Allstate would need, [an additional \$70 per period or / \$140 per year], to cover their contemplated additional exposure because of the accident. The Appellee also failed to take into account the extreme low cost of the actual accident. existing premiums more than cover the possibility of a similar accident, the actual earnings from the son's share of the premiums, and that future damages if any may be minor and within the policy's deductablilty.
- 4. Allowed the introduction of 25 year old out-of-State out-of-date statistical data, with outrageous concomitant assumptions, and accepted that that data had sufficiently demonstrated that the son belongs to group with 1.74 times greater chance of future accident than a 0-accident driver. But what does it mean that the son possibly may have 1.74 times as many accidents as the mythical 0-accident California driver had 25 years ago, over an unknown period of time. It proves nothing about what the son's driving record may be in the future. Actually this is a factor of secondary predictability, and if one uses it in conjunction with Allstate's own data it would suggest the possibility that the son would have one or less accidents in the next four years, for a total of two or less in eight years, well below the Allstate standards for exclusion.

- 5. Also found that the data demonstrated that the son belongs to group with 3.54 times greater chance of future accident than a 0convictions driver. What does it mean will he have 3.54 times as many accidents as the mythical O-occurrence California driver had 25 years ago, over an unknown period of time. This is a factor of tertiary predictability and is highly speculative, but the son would still be within the standard if one uses Allstate's At this point in the Order On Hearing, there is indication that the Appellee or Allstate has calculated the chance of a one-accident Maryland driver or a three-conviction Maryland driver having an accident during Allstate's next billing period when presumably they will be at risk. Hence, the Appellee cannot jump to any conclusions, and does not have a valid basis for any statistical inferences.
- 6. Found that the statistical data is valid. Appellee did not factor-in length-of-time in using zero accidents/convictions as a determinant; frequency data without a time axis is categorically INVALID. Appellee's conclusions are also INVALID because his intended comparisons cannot be made using "numbers" with no magnitude [the zero accidents/convictions "numbers" have no factor of predictabilityl, zero times any number is always zero. Additionally, Appellee failed to apply weights to secondary and tertiary factors. Occurrences are not accidents and accidents are not claims pay-out money. Appellee has failed to give proper weights to primary factors [large number] that have probable predictability such as actual dollar claims against Allstate, secondary factors [small number] that have only predictability such as number of accidents, and highly speculative tertiary factors [very small number] such as convictions.
- 7. Recognized "other statistical data" not part of the signed affidavit nor notarized. This inadmissible [Appellant's view] data is useless to show any cause and effect at critical stages of the reasoning that should have been but was not set forth, but it was apparently used as a basis that mystically led to conclusions of a "strong relationship" without supporting, or Appellee showing, any intermediate steps. Appellant believes that the Appellee should have examine the actual primary facts not just secondary or tertiary hypothetical speculations.
- 8. Failed to take into account the relevant elements of the son's actual driving record, admitted into evidence, and showing that he had only two points for minor violations. [Allstate and the Commission may have recognized that the son was in racial category one.] The law must always be vigilant when racial classification data is admitted into the administrative record.
- 9. Concluded that Allstate's rating plan does not provide for an adequate rate. What is an adequate rate if \$300 dollars profit in the year of the accident and \$1000 profit for each year that there is no accident is not adequate? Appellee also failed to take into account Allstate's own statements that their rating

plan and rates are adequate for up to two accidents. Appellee apparently ignored the amount of profit gained by Allstate which is part of an industry with premiums running four times the inflation rate, and failed to take into account possible greed of, and conspiracy within, the insurance industry.

- 10. Delegated its authority to decide this case to Allstate's rating plan, to out-of-state out-of-date statistical data, and to highly speculative tertiary factors of predictability. [Has\* Appellee forgotten why the people need an insurance commissioner? Hearing Examiners must carry out their responsibility to the public without fear, e.g., that the insurance industry might cost them their jobs.]
- 11. Failed to show that Allstate or the Insurance Commissioner does NOT allow young male drivers of race-classification-two with more than zero accident, more that \$705 in claims, and more than two points to continue on family policies. Allstate must prove that they have excluded ALL male drivers under age 29 and classified by the State of Maryland as racial category two who have three or more violations; or perhaps they should be investigated for possible charges of racial discrimination.

RELIEF SOUGHT: I request the Circuit Court to reverse the decision of the Insurance Commissioner in CASE NO: 1467-4/89, dated 16th day of June, 1989, that allowed the Allstate Insurance Company to nonrenew my family's insurance policy, and/or exclude my son Richard C. Troy, and/or increase his rate by \$2300 per year; and to remand the case with instructions to the Appellee to deny nonrenewal, deny any exclusion options, and deny any rate increases to the Allstate Insurance Company of or within the Appellant's policy.

I HEREBY CERTIFY on this 14th day of July 1989, pursuant to Maryland Rule B2.e, that I have served [via certified mail] a copy of this Petition on the Insurance Commissioner of Maryland.

Terry Troy, Appellant

FILED

TERRY TROY

JUL 7 1989 Complainant

IN THE

CIRCUIT COURT

v.

CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY

FOR

ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY,

BALTIMORE CITY

ET AL

Licensee

CASE NO: 89184050/

#### ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

Mr. Clerk:

Please enter the appearance of Joseph A. Schwartz, III, Steven L. Kreseski and Joseph A. Schwartz, III, P.A. as attorneys for Licensee, Allstate Insurance Company, in the above captioned administrative appeal from a decision rendered by the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Maryland.

Joseph A. Schwartz, III, P.A. 10 West Madison Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201 (301) 244-7000

Attorneys for Allstate Ins. Co.

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that on this  $6\frac{1}{100}$  day of July, 1989, a copy of the foregoing was hand delivered to Meg Rosthal, Assistant Attorney General, 501 St. Paul Place, 14th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland (21202), attorney for the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Maryland and to Terry Troy, 7819 Ivymount Terrace, Potomac, Maryland (20854).

3

Terry Troy
Insurance Commissioner

FILED

JUL 10 1969

CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY

Terry Troy 7819 Ivymount Terrace Allstate Insurance Company

1850 Centennial Park Drive, Suite

400

Potomac, MD 20854

\* Reston, VA 22091

89184050/cc-

#### ORDER OF COURT

Order this _	ĺć.	of	July	1989
That the dec	ision of the Insu	rance Commissi	oner of Maryland	
In CASE NO:	1467 - 4/89 rende	e <b>red</b> on the 16t	th day of <b>June</b>	
is hereby st	ayed.			
		60.	25 Co	
		· Sw		

(m)1/1/89

Judge

#### July 3, 1989

EX REL:

\* LICENSEE:

Terry Troy

Allstate Insurance Company

7819 Ivymount Terrace

1850 Centennial Park Drive, Suite 400

<del>400</del>

Potomac, MD 20854

Reston, VA 22091

Complainant

CASE NO: 1467-4/89

To The:

Circuit Court for Baltimore City City Division

Subject: Request for a MOTION TO STAY

I, Terry Troy, complainant/petitioner, hereby request a motion to stay the Order of the Insurance Commissioner in CASE NO: 1467-4/89, dated 16th day of June, 1989, because substantial rights have been prejudiced as the result of administrative findings of fact and conclusions of law [that are UNsupported by competent, material and substantial evidence, UNsupported by in view of the entire record submitted, and for other reasons to be contained in my petition].

July 3, 1989

Zung hong

Terry Troy

I hereby certify that on 32d day John 1989 I delivered a copy of the Justing request for Nature to Stay & the I nowwere Commission A 501 Paul Pl.

## FILED

JUL 9 1989

CIRCUIT COURT FOR **BALTIMORE CITY** 

July 3, 1989

89184050

#### ORDER FOR APPEAL

CL 99747 89184050

EX REL:

Terry Troy 7819 Ivymount Terrace 400) -

Allstate Insurance Company 1850 Centennial Park Drive, Suite «

Potomac, MD 20854

Reston, VA 22091

Complainant

CASE NO: 1467-4/89

I, Terry Troy, complainant/petitioner, wish to appeal an adverse ruling issued persuant to an administrative hearing conducted on May 18, 1989, by the Insurance Commissioner and contained in the Hearing Examiner's Order in CASE NO: 1467-4/89, dated 16th day of June, 1989, [and received on June 20] because of administrative findings of fact and conclusions of law that are UNsupported by competent, material and substantial evidence, UNsupported by view of the entire record submitted, and for other reasons.

July 3, 1989

Tuny hang Terry Troy

2:02PM07/03/89 002#2820 B \*\*\*\*

#0891840 #0000050

CIVIL \$80.00 ##TTL \$80.00 CASH \$80.00 CHNG \$0.00

I hereby citify that on 3 st day July 1219 I delivered a copy of the fregoing order of appeal to the Gameree Commission at 501 Paul R. TERRY TROY 7819 IVYMOUNT POTOMAC, MD ALLSTATE INSURANCE CO 1850 CENTENNIAL PARK DR SUITE 400 REJTON, VA 22091

# ORDER OF COURT

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JUDGE

# MSAREF.NET, MSA SC 5458 An Archives of Maryland Publication

D. Lee 2-1-10 Image 141

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#### MSA SC 5458-82-150

**Dates:** 1989-1994

Description: Circuit Court for Baltimore City, Cases # 94004032; 94018024

scan whole case with following sequential file numbers

msa\_sc5458 82\_150\_[full case number]-####

upload pdfs per usual

Cases 94004032 and 94018024 scanned and uploaded by Ray C. on 1/25/10.

Please follow the same procedure for the following:

WOODLIFF VS SEC. OF PUBLIC SAFETY Box 84 Case No. 89047041 [MSA T2691-2720, OR/10/21/82]

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TIMMONS V JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL Box 130 Case No. 89075003 [MSA T2691-2766, OR/10/22/44]

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SIMMS VS SEC OF PUB SAFETY Box 276 Case No. 89142059 [MSA T2691-2912, OR/11/2/22]

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BERMAN VS BOARD OF APPEALS,ET AL Box 319 Case No. 89164046 [MSA T2691-2955, OR/11/2/65]

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TROY VS ALLSTATE INS Box 355 Case No. 89184050 [MSA T2691-2991, ) L 2-1-10 Image 14] OR/11/3/17]

File should be named msa\_sc5458\_82\_150\_[full case number]-####

HIRSCHFIELD VS BD OF MUNCI APL Box 367 Case No. 89194041 [MSA T2691-3003, OR/11/3/29]

File should be named msa\_sc5458\_82\_150\_[full case number]-####

FAISON VS JEFFERSON Box 385 Case No. 89207040 [MSA T2691-3021, OR/11/3/47]

File should be named msa\_sc5458\_82\_150 [full case number]-####

MITCHELL VS PROVIDENT BANK Box 389 Case No. 89209043 [MSA T2691-3025, OR/11/3/51]

File should be named msa\_sc5458\_82\_150\_[full case number]-####