

# Illinois Department of Insurance

PAT QUINN Governor ANDREW BORON Director

January 14, 2014

Mr. Steven LeMasters President American Bankers Life Assurance Company of Florida 11222 Quail Roost Dr Miami, FL 33157

sent via USPS certified mail return receipt requested

Re: Market Conduct Examination Report

Dear Mr. LeMasters:

A Market Conduct Examination of your company was conducted by authorized examiners designated by the Director of Insurance pursuant to Illinois Insurance Code Sections 132, 401, 402, 403 and 425 of the Illinois Insurance Code. The examination covered the period January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012.

A copy of the examination report is enclosed with this letter. As required by the Illinois Insurance Code Section 132, the Director must notify the company concerning the contents of the verified examination report before filing it and making the report public of any matters relating thereto, and must afford the company an opportunity to demand a hearing with reference to the facts and other evidence therein contained. The company may request a hearing within 10 days after receipt of the examination report by giving the Director written notice of the request, together with a statement of its objections. The examination report will generally not be filed until a hearing is completed. Companies that do not demand a formal hearing may submit their rebuttal with respect to any matters in the examination report. The rebuttal will be considered by the Director before the examination report is filed.

Since no violations were found during the examination, the Department intends to close this exam if there are no objections from the company to the enclosed examination report. Please provide a formal written response to the Department by no later than January 31, 2014 regarding the company's position.

Once the report of examination has been filed, the exam report, the company's rebuttal, if any, and corresponding Orders (if applicable) are public documents under the Freedom of Information Act (5 ILCS 140/1 et el.) and may be posted on the Department's website. In the event of a formal hearing, the

record of the hearing, the Hearing Officer Recommendations, and the Director's final Order are also public documents and may be posted on the Department's website.

Please contact me if you have any questions. I may be reached at 217-557-7311.

Sincerely,

Caryn C. Carmean, A.C.A.S., M.A.A.A..
Acting Deputy Director Consumer Outreach and Protection Illinois Department of Insurance
320 West Washington Street
Springfield, IL 62767

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217-557-7311

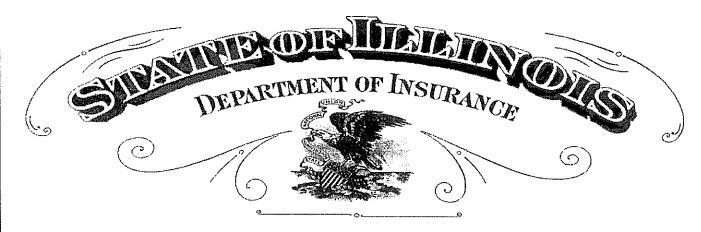
This Market Conduct Examination was conducted pursuant to Sections 5/132, 5/401, 5/402, 5/403 and 5/425 of the Illinois Insurance Code (215 ILCS 5/132, 5/401, 5/402, 5/403 and 5/425). It was conducted in accordance with standard procedures of the Market Conduct Examination Section by duly qualified examiners of the Illinois Department of Insurance.

This report is divided into five parts. They are as follows: Summary, Background, Methodology, Findings and Technical Appendices. All files reviewed were reviewed on the basis of the files' contents at the time of the examination. Unless otherwise noted, all overcharges (underwriting) and/or underpayments (claims) were reimbursed during the course of the examination.

No company, corporation, or individual shall use this report or any statement, excerpt, portion, or section thereof for any advertising, marketing or solicitation purpose. Any company, corporation or individual action contrary to the above shall be deemed a violation of Section 149 of the Illinois Insurance Code (215 ILCS 5/149).

The Examiner-in-Charge was responsible for the conduct of this examination. The Examiner-in-Charge did approve of each criticism contained herein and has sworn to the accuracy of this report.

Caryn Carmean Acting Deputy Director Consumer Outreach and Protection Illinois Department of Insurance



IN THE MATTER OF THE EXAMINATION OF

AMERICAN BANKERS LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF FLORIDA 11222 QUAIL ROOST DRIVE MIAMI, FL 33157

## MARKET CONDUCT EXAMINATION WARRANT

I, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of Illinois, pursuant to Sections 132, 401, 401.5, 402, 403 and 425 of the Illinois Insurance Code (215 ILCS 5/132, 5/401, 5/401.5, 5/402 and 5/425) do hereby appoint Bernie Sullivan, at the Illinois Department of Insurance, as Examiner-In-Charge, and Scott A. Hanfling, Mark Wilson, Tim Kelly, and Meghan Welch, each at Kerns Frost & Pearlman LLC, as Examiners, to examine the insurance business and affairs of American Bankers Life Assurance Company of Florida, NAIC # 60275, and to make a full and true report to me of the examination made by them of American Bankers Life Assurance Company of Florida, with any other information as shall in their opinion be requisite to furnish me a statement of the condition and operation of its business and affairs and the manner in which it conducts its business. This will be a specific targeted exam on the credit business of the company and will involve determining whether the company is paying commissions to unlicensed individuals. The costs of this examination shall be borne by the company.

The persons so appointed shall also have the power to administer oaths and to examine any person concerning the business, conduct, or affairs of American Bankers Life Assurance Company of Florida. This warrant supersedes the warrant dated December 26, 2012 that was previously issued by the Illinois Department of Insurance for American Bankers Life Assurance Company of Florida.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF. I hereto set my hand and cause to be affixed this Seal.

Done at the City of Chicago, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2013

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Director



# MARKET CONDUCT EXAMINATION REPORT

DATE OF EXAMINATION: April 4, 2013, through May 16, 2013

EXAMINATION OF: American Bankers Life Assurance Company of Florida

(NAIC# 60275)

LOCATION: 11222 Quail Roost Drive

Miami, FL 33157

PERIOD COVERED BY

**EXAMINATION:** 

January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012

EXAMINERS: Scott A. Hanfling

Bernie Sullivan Jr. LUTCF

Examiner-in-Charge

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## I. SUMMARY

1. The Company complied with 215 ILCS 5/500-80 by only paying commissions on its credit life and health business to properly licensed individuals who sold, solicited, or negotiated the insurance in the State of Illinois.

#### II. SCOPE OF EXAMINATION:

This examination comprised a review of credit life insurance and credit health insurance business issued by the company and involved a determination of whether the company was paying commissions to unlicensed individuals or entities or allowing unlicensed individuals or entities to sell, solicit or negotiate insurance. The examiners utilized the interpretation of the applicable statutes set forth in Department Company Bulletin 2009-04, "Producer Licensing Requirements Regarding Group Credit Insurance."

The period of time covered by the examination was from January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 and was limited to Illinois business only. The examination was conducted pursuant to Illinois Department of Insurance policies and procedures and the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' Market Regulation Handbook. This report on the examination is confined to comments on those matters which involve departure from laws, regulations or rules, or which require explanation or description.

### III. BACKGROUND

## American Bankers Life Assurance Company of FLORIDA

American Bankers Life Assurance Company of Florida ("Company") is a stock company that was incorporated in 1952. In 1999, American Bankers was acquired by Fortis, Inc. and merged its operations with those of American Security Group, forming Assurant Group. Assurant Group was renamed Assurant, Inc. in 2004. American Bankers is a Florida domestic insurer with its corporate home office in Miami, Florida.

The Company's 2012 NAIC Annual Statement Page 24 (Illinois) reflects the following: NAIC #60275

	Line	Direct premium written	Direct premium earned	Direct losses paid	Direct losses incurred
24	Group Policies	\$171,503	\$174,184	\$10,130	-\$3.744
24.2	Credit (group and individual)	\$2,755,092	\$2,654,939	\$580,467	\$531,207
25.1	Non-cancellable (other individual policies)	\$101,528	\$101,609	\$2,252	\$1,582
25.6	Totals (other individual policies)	\$101,528	\$101,662	\$2,252	\$1,580
26	Totals (collectively renewable and other individual policies)	\$3,028,123	\$2,930,785	\$592,849	\$529,043

#### IV. METHODOLOGY

The Market Conduct Examination places emphasis on an insurer's systems and procedures used in dealing with insureds and claimants.

The review of this category is accomplished through examination of Company and Department of Insurance records. Each of these categories is examined for compliance with Department of Insurance rules and regulations and applicable state laws.

The report concerns itself with improper practices performed with such frequency as to indicate general business practices. Individual criticisms are identified and communicated with the insurer, but not cited in the report if not indicative of a general trend.

The following method was used to obtain the required samples and to assure a methodical selection.

The following category is the general area examined:

### Producers Review

A listing of all commissions or fees paid to producers/agents on credit life and health business within the period under examination was requested. The listing was furnished to the Department of Insurance Licensing Unit to determine the licensing status of each producer.

### Selection of Samples

Survey	<u>Population</u>	# <u>Reviewed</u>	% <u>Reviewed</u>
Producers Review			
Commissions Payments and Licensing	5	5	100.00%

### V. FINDINGS

## A. Producers Review

## 1. Commission Payments and Licensing

During the experience period, the Company paid commissions to five insurance producers who sold, solicited, or negotiated credit life and health policies on its behalf in Illinois. Each of the five insurance producers was properly licensed under Illinois law for the period during which they sold, solicited, or negotiated credit life and health policies in Illinois. The Company is therefore in compliance with 215 ILCS 5/500-80.

STATE OF ILLINOIS	)
	) ss
COUNTY OF COOK	)

Bernie Sullivan being first duly sworn upon his oath, deposes and says:

That he was appointed by the Director of Insurance of the State of Illinois (the "Director") as Examiner-In Charge to examine the insurance business and affairs of:

American Bankers Life Assurance Company of Florida, NAIC #60275

That, as Examiner-In-Charge, he was directed to make a full and true report to the Director of the examination with a full statement of the condition and operation of the business and affairs of the Company with any other information as shall in the opinion of the Examiner-In-Charge be requisite to furnish the Director with a statement of the condition and operation of the Company's business and affairs and the manner in which the Company conducts its business;

That neither he nor any other persons designated as examiners nor any members of their immediate families is an officer of, connected with, or financially interested in the Company nor any of the Company's affiliates other than as policyholders, and that neither he nor any other persons designated as examiners nor any members of their immediate families is financially interested in any other corporation or person affected by the examination;

That an examination was made of the affairs of the Company pursuant to the authority vested in the Examiner-In-Charge by the Director of Insurance of the State of Illinois;

That he was the Examiner-in-Charge of said examination and the attached report of examination is a full and true statement of the condition and operation of the insurance business and affairs of the Company for the period covered by the Report as determined by the examiners;

That the Report contains only facts ascertained from the books, papers, records, or documents, and other evidence obtained by investigation and examined or ascertained from the testimony of officers or agents or other persons examined under oath concerning the business, affairs, conduct, and performance of the Company.

FABIOLA LARA Notary Public - State of Illinois My Commission Expires Apr 10, 2017 Bernie Sullivan Examiner-In-Charge

Seman Sulley

Subscribed and sworm to before me this Ugay of Otto 4 2013.

Notary Public



# Illinois Department of Insurance

PAT QUINN Governor

ANDREW BORON Director

February 5, 2014

Mr. John Larios
Director, Regulatory Administration
American Bankers Life Assurance
Company of Florida
11222 Quail Roost Dr
Miami, FL 33157

Re: American Bankers Life Assurance Company Market Conduct Examination Report

Dear Mr. Larios:

Thank you for the company's response dated January 28, 2014. You have indicated that the company has reviewed the report and is in agreement that it is acceptable.

Since there was no additional action that is needed to be taken by the company, the Department is closing its file on this exam. I intend to ask the Director to make the Examination Report available for public inspection as authorized by 215 ILCS 5/132.

63+4X 11

Lysa Sarah

Senior Policy Advisor

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