STATE OF ARIZONA FILED

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OCT 3 1 1994

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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In the Matter of
THE SURETY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Docket No. 8589

CONSENT ORDER

Respondent.

An Examination of Respondent, The Surety Association of America, hereinafter referred to as Respondent, was conducted by Rate Examiners ("the Examiners") for the Arizona Department of Insurance ("ADOI"). Based on the Report of Market Conduct Examination prepared by the Examiners, it is alleged that Respondent has violated provisions of the Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 20, including Sections 20-385 and 20-389. Respondent wishes to resolve this matter without formal adjudicative proceedings and hereby agrees to a Consent Order.

The Director of Insurance of the State of Arizona ("the Director") enters the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, which are neither admitted nor denied by the Respondent, and the following Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent is licensed as a rate service, advisory organization engaged in the business of suretyship by the Director.
- 2. The Examiners were authorized by the ADOI to conduct an examination of Respondent. The on-site examination was concluded as of January 21, 1994 and a Report of Examination ("Report") was written.

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- 3. Respondent failed to file with the ADOI its program developed on 1975 and amended in 1982, calling for surcharges to be levied against carriers for delinquent reporting of statistical data.
- 4. Respondent failed to uniformly implement the application of the "Incentive Assessment Procedures" and the collection of assessments in accordance with its developed rules.
- 5. Respondent failed to file with the ADOI an exception to December of for rule prior 1992, its Individual Modification Rating Plans, RP-1and RP-2for Financial Institutions Section III(A), (Special Rules for Rating Unique and Unusual Conditions) and Section III(B), (A Rating Sizable Risks).
- 6. Respondent failed to file with the ADOI an exception rule after December 1992 for its Individual Risk Modification Plan, Loss Cost pages LCRP-1 and LCRP-2 for Financial Institutions, Section III(A) Special Rules for Rating Unique or Unusual Conditions.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. By failing to file with the ADOI its program levying surcharges for delinquent reporting to statistical data, Respondent violated A.R.S. §§ 20-389(C)(1) through (5) and 20-389(E).
- 2. By failing to uniformly implement the application of the "Incentive Assessment Procedures" and the collection of assessments in accordance with its developed rules, Respondent violated A.R.S. § 20-389(B).

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- 3. By failing to file with the ADOI an exception rule prior to December of 1992, for its Individual Risk Modification Rating Plans, RP-1 and RP-2 for Financial Institutions Section III(A), (Special Rules for Rating Unique and Unusual Conditions) and Section III(B), (A Rating Sizable Risks), Respondent violated A.R.S. § 20-385(A).
- 4. By failing to file with the ADOI an exception rule after December 1992 for its Individual Risk Modification Plan, Loss Cost pages LCRP-1 and LCRP-2 for Financial Institutions, Section III(A) Special Rules for Rating Unique or Unusual Conditions, Respondent violated A.R.S. § 20-385(A).
- 5. Grounds exist for the entry of all provisions of the following Order.

ORDER

Respondent having admitted the jurisdiction of the Director to enter the Order set forth herein, having waived the Notice of Hearing, and having consented to the entry of the Order set forth hereinafter, and there being no just reason for delay:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Respondent shall cease and desist from failing to file all plans, programs and exceptions thereto with the ADOI.
 - 2. Respondent has filed with the ADOI the following:
- a. the SSA Incentive Assessment Procedure, including a description of each "Call Letter" item that is to be included in the procedure.

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b. an exception rule of its pre-1992 Rate Manual excluding Arizona from Section III(A) and III(B) of the Individual Risk Modification Rating Plans, RP1 and RP2.

- c. an exception rule to its 1992 Manual of Rules and Procedures and Classifications, excepting Arizona for Section III(A) of the Individual Risk Modification Rating Plan, Loss Cost page LCRP-1 and LCRP-2.
- Respondent has filed with the ADOI an action plan to and uniform application of the SAA Incentive Assessment Program, including a procedure for collecting amounts due from all member companies assessment that owe assessments according to the assessment procedure rules. This action plan should include the development of a program and a follow up system to determine the accurate number of days late and a billing procedure for the additional amounts due after day 20.
- 4. The ADOI shall be permitted, through authorized representatives, to verify that Respondent has fully complied with all requirements of this Order, and the Director may separately order AGIC to comply.
- 5. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of One Thousand Dollar (\$1,000.00) to the Director for remission to the State Treasurer for deposit in the State General Fund in accordance with A.R.S. §20-220(B). Said amount shall be provided to the Administrative Law Division of the ADOI on or before October 28, 1994.

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	6.	The	Janu	ary	21,	1994	Report	of	Exa	minati	on,	to	inc	clude
any	objec	ctions	to	the	Rep	ort k	y Resp	onde	nt,	shall	be	fil	ed	with
the	ADOI.													
DATE	ED at	Phoen	ix,	Ariz	ona	this	31st da	y of	0	ctober		,199	94.	

Chris Herstam Director of Insurance

CONSENT TO ORDER

- 1. Respondent, The Surety Association of America, has reviewed the foregoing Consent Order.
- 2. Respondent is aware of its right to a hearing at which hearing Respondent may be represented by counsel, present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. Respondent has irrevocably waived their right to such public hearing and to any court appeals relating thereto.
- 3. Respondent admits the jurisdiction of the Director of Insurance, State of Arizona, and consents to the entry of this Consent Order.
- 4. Respondent states that no promise of any kind or nature whatsoever was made to it to induce it to enter into this Consent Order and that it has entered into this Consent Order voluntarily.
- 5. Respondent acknowledges that the acceptance of this Order by the Director of Insurance, State of Arizona, is solely for the purpose of settling this matter against it and does not preclude any other agency or officer of this state or subdivision thereof from instituting other civil or criminal proceedings as may be appropriate now or in the future.
- 6. Lloyd Provost represents that as

 president he is an officer of Respondent and that, as such, he is authorized by it to enter into this Consent Order on its behalf.

THE SURETY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

October 24, 1994	By
(Date)	Lloyd Provost, President

1 COPY of the foregoing mailed/delivered 1st this day of November , 1994, to: 2 Gay Ann Williams 3 Deputy Director Gregory Y. Harris 4 Chief Administrative Law Judge Erin Klug 5 Manager Market Conduct Examinations Division 6 Saul Saulson Supervisor 7 Examinations Section Bernard Hill 8 Supervisor Property and Casualty Section 9 Deloris E. Williamson Assistant Director 10 Rates & Regulations Division Gary Torticill 11 Assistant Director and Chief Financial Examiner Corporate & Financial Affairs Division 12 Cathy O'Neil Assistant Director 13 Consumer Services and Investigations 14 DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE 2910 North 44th Street, Suite 210 15 Phoenix, AZ 85018 16 Lloyd Provost President 17 The Surety Association of America 100 Wood Avenue South 18 Iselin, NJ 08830-2773 19 Chris Crawford 20 21 22 23 24 25

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