1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 11 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SOUTHERN DIVISION 12 FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION, Case No. SACV10-1452 JST (PJWx) 13 Plaintiff, 14 STIPULATED FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER FOR PERMANENT v. 15 INJUNCTION AND OTHER U.S. HOMEOWNERS RELIEF, INC., 16 EOUITABLE RELIEF AS TO et al., **DEFENDANTS AMINULLAH** 17 SARPAS AND NEW LIFE Defendants. SOLUTIONS, INC. 18 19 20 Plaintiff Federal Trade Commission ("FTC") commenced this civil action on 21 September 27, 2010, pursuant to Sections 13(b) and 19 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 22 §§ 53(b) and 57b, and the Telemarketing and Consumer Fraud and Abuse 23 Prevention Act, 15 U.S.C. § 6101 et seq., to obtain preliminary and permanent 24 injunctive and other equitable relief for Defe 25 26 27 28 STIP. FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER AS TO AMINULLAH SARPAS AND NEW LIFE SOLUTIONS, INC. - 1

assistance relief services. On September 28, 2010, the Court entered an STIP. FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER AS TO AMINULLAH SARPAS AND NEW LIFE SOLUTIONS, INC. - 2

- a. performing customer service functions including, but not limited to, receiving or responding to consumer complaints;
- b. formulating or providing, or arranging for the formulation or provision of, any advertising or marketing material, including, but not limited to, any telephone sales script, direct mail solicitation, or the text of any Internet website, email, or other electronic communication;
- c. formulating or providing, or arranging for the formulation or provision of, any marketing support material or service, including but not limited to, web or Internet Protocol addresses or domain name registration for any Internet websites, affiliate marketing services, or media placement services;
- d. providing names of, or assisting in the generation of, potential customers;
- e. performing marketing, billing, or payment services of any kind; and
- f. acting or serving as an owner, officer, director, manager, or principal of any entity.
- 3. "Competent and reliable evidence" means tests, analyses, research,

- 7. "**Defendants**" means U.S. Homeowners Relief, Inc., also d/b/a Greenleaf and Greenleaf Modify; Waypoint Law Group, Inc.; American Lending Review, Inc., also d/b/a American Law Center; New Life Solutions, Inc.; D.G.C. Consulting, LLC; DLD Consulting, LLC; Paul Bain; Macie Bain; Aminullah Sarpas; and Damon Grant Carriger.
- 8. "Document" is synonymous in meaning and equal in scope to the usage of the term in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 34(a), and includes writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, audio and video recordings, computer records, and other data compilations from which the information can be obtained and translated, if necessary, through detection devices into reasonably usable form. A draft or non-identical copy is a separate document within the meaning of the term.
- 9. "Federal homeowner relief or financial stability program" means any program (including its sponsoring agencies, telephone numbers, and Internet websites) operated or endorsed by the United States government to provide relief to homeowners or stabilize the economy, including but not limited to:
  - a. the Making Home Affordable Program;
  - b. the Financial Stability Plan;

STIP. FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER AS TO AMINULLAH SARPAS AND NEW LIFE SOLUTIONS, INC. - 5

- c. the Troubled Asset Relief Program and any other program sponsored or operated by the United States Department of the Treasury;
- d. the HOPE for Homeowners program, any program operated or created pursuant to the Helping Families Save Their Homes Act, and any other program sponsored or operated by the Federal Housing Administration; or
- e. any program sponsored or operated by the United States

  Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD"), the HOPE NOW

  Alliance, the Homeownership Preservation Foundation, or any other HUD
  approved housing counseling agency.
- 10. **"Financial related product or service"** means any product, service, plan, or program represented, expressly or by implication, to:
  - a. provide any consumer, arrange for any consumer to receive, or assist any consumer in receiving, credit, debit, or stored value cards;
  - b. improve, or arrange to improve, any consumer's credit record, credit history, or credit rating;
  - c. provide advice or assistance to any consumer with regard to any activity or service the purpose of which is to improve a consumer's credit record, credit history, or credit rating;
  - d. provide any consumer, arrange for any consumer to receive, or assist any consumer in receiving, a loan or other extension of credit; or
  - e. provide any consumer, arrange for any consumer to receive, or assist any consumer in receiving any service represented, expressly or by implication, to renegotiate, settle, or in any way alter the terms of payment or other terms of the debt or obligation, including but not limited to a tax

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debt or obligation, between a consumer and one or more secured creditors, servicers, or debt collectors.

- "Material" means likely to affect a person's choice of, or conduct regarding, goods or services.
- "Mortgage assistance relief product or service" means any 12. product, service, plan, or program, offered or provided to the consumer in exchange for consideration, that is represented, expressly or by implication, to assist or attempt to assist the consumer with any of the following:
  - stopping, preventing, or postponing any mortgage or deed of a. trust foreclosure sale for the consumer's dwelling, any repossession of the consumer's dwelling, or otherwise saving the consumer's dwelling from foreclosure or repossession;
  - b. negotiating, obtaining, or arranging a modification of any term of a dwelling loan, including a reduction in the amount of interest, principal balance, monthly payments, or fees;
  - obtaining any forbearance or modification in the timing of payments from any dwelling loan holder or servicer on any dwelling loan;
  - negotiating, obtaining, or arranging any extension of the period d. of time within which the consumer may (i) cure his or her default on a dwelling loan, (ii) reinstate his or her dwelling loan, (iii) redeem a dwelling, or (iv) exercise any right to reinstate a dwelling loan or redeem a dwelling;
  - obtaining any waiver of an acceleration clause or balloon e. payment contained in any promissory note or contract secured by any dwelling; or
  - negotiating, obtaining, or arranging (i) a short sale of a f. dwelling, (ii) a deed-in-lieu of foreclosure, or (iii) any other disposition of a

dwelling loan other than a sale to a third party that is not the dwelling loan holder.

The foregoing shall include any manner of claimed assistance, including, but not limited to, auditing or examining a consumer's mortgage or home loan application.

- 13. "**Person**" means a natural person, an organization or other legal entity, including a corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, limited liability company, association, cooperative, or any other group or combination acting as an entity.
- 14. "Settling Defendants" means Aminullah Sarpas, a.k.a. David Sarpas, and New Life Solutions, Inc.
  - a. "Corporate Settling Defendant" means New Life Solutions, Inc., and its successors and assigns.
    - b. "Individual Settling Defendant" means Aminullah Sarpas.

I.

#### BAN ON MARKETING DEBT RELIEF SERVICES

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Settling Defendants, whether acting directly or through any other person, are permanently restrained and enjoined from:

- A. Advertising, marketing, promoting, offering for sale, or selling any debt relief product or service; and
- B. Assisting others engaged in advertising, marketing, promoting, offering for sale, or selling any debt relief product or service.

- B. Advising a customer that the customer cannot or should not contact, communicate with, or make payments to the customer's lender or servicer; and
- C. Advertising or assisting others in advertising credit terms other than those terms that actually are or will be arranged or offered by a creditor or lender.

#### IV.

# PROHIBITED MISREPRESENTATIONS RELATING TO ANY PRODUCT OR SERVICE

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Settling Defendants and their officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and those persons or entities in active concert or participation with any of them who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service, facsimile transmission, email, or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other device, in

representation is made, the Settling Defendants possess and rely upon competent and reliable evidence that substantiates that the representation is true.

#### VI.

## PROHIBITED TELEMARKETING ACTIVITIES

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Settling Defendants and their successors, assigns, officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and those persons or entities in active concert or participation with any of them who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether acting directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other device, in connection with the telemarketing, advertising, marketing, promotion, offering for sale or sale of any good or service, are hereby permanently restrained and enjoined from violating, or assisting others in violating, any provision of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, 16 C.F.R. Part 310, including, but not limited to:

- A. Section 310.3(a)(2)(iii) of the TSR, 16 C.F.R. § 310.3(a)(2)(iii), by misrepresenting, directly or by implication, any material aspect of the performance, efficacy, nature, or central characteristic of any good or service;
- B. Section 310.3(a)(2)(iv) of the TSR, 16 C.F.R. § 310.3(a)(2)(iv), by misrepresenting, directly or by implication, the seller's refund, cancellation, exchange, or repurchase policies; and
- C. Section 310.3(a)(2)(vii) of the TSR, 16 C.F.R. § 310.3(a)(2)(vii), by misrepresenting, directly or by implication, affiliation with, or endorsement by, any government or third-party organization.

#### VII.

## PROHIBITION ON DISCLOSING CUSTOMER INFORMATION

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Settling Defendants and their successors, assigns, officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and those persons or entities in active concert or participation with any of them who receive

STIP. FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER AS TO AMINULLAH SARPAS AND NEW LIFE SOLUTIONS, INC. - 13

relief, including but not limited to consumer redress and any attendant expenses for

including but not limited to consumer information remedies, as the FTC determines

Any funds received by the FTC pursuant to this Section shall be

1 deposited into a fund administered by the FTC or its agent to be used for equitable 2 3 the administration of any redress funds. In the event that direct redress to 4 consumers is wholly or partially impracticable or funds remain after redress is 5 completed, the FTC may apply any remaining funds for such other equitable relief, 6 to be reasonably related to the practices alleged in the Complaint. Any funds not 8 used for such equitable relief shall be deposited to the U.S. Treasury as equitable 9 10

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C. The Settling Defendants relinquish all dominion, control, and title to the funds paid to the fullest extent permitted by law. The Settling Defendants shall make no claim to or demand for return of the funds, directly or indirectly, through counsel or otherwise.

disgorgement. The Settling Defendants shall have no right to challenge the FTC's

choice of remedies or the manner of distribution.

- D. The Settling Defendants agree that the facts as alleged in the Complaint filed in this action shall be taken as true without further proof in any bankruptcy case or subsequent civil litigation pursued by the FTC to enforce its rights to any payment or money judgment pursuant to this Order, including but not limited to a nondischargeability complaint in any bankruptcy case. The Settling Defendants further stipulate and agree that the facts alleged in the Complaint establish all elements necessary to sustain an action by the FTC pursuant to Section 523(a)(2)(A) of the Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(2)(A), and that this Order shall have collateral estoppel effect for such purposes.
- E. The judgment entered pursuant to this Section is equitable monetary relief, solely remedial in nature, and not a fine, penalty, punitive assessment or forfeiture.

- F. Upon request, the Settling Defendants are hereby required, in accordance with 31 U.S.C. § 7701, to furnish to the FTC their tax identification numbers, which shall be used for purposes of collecting and reporting on any delinquent amount arising out of this Order.
- G. Pursuant to Section 604(1) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1681b(1), any consumer reporting agency may furnish a consumer report concerning any Settling Defendant to the FTC, which shall be used for purposes of collecting and reporting on any delinquent amount arising out of this Order.

## IX.

#### **ASSET FREEZE**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, upon entry of this Order, the freeze of the Settling Defendants' assets shall be dissolved.

#### X.

#### **COOPERATION WITH FTC COUNSEL**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Settling Defendants shall, in connection with this action or any subsequent investigation related to or associated with the transactions or the occurrences that are the subject of the FTC's Complaint, cooperate in good faith with the FTC and appear or, in the case of the Corporate Settling Defendant, cause its officers, employees, representatives, or agents to appear at such places and times as the FTC shall reasonably request, after written notice, for interviews, conferences, pretrial discovery, review of documents, and for such other matters as may be reasonably requested by the FTC. If requested in writing by the FTC, Settling Defendants shall appear or, in the case of the Corporate Settling Defendant, cause its officers, employees, representatives, or agents to appear and provide truthful testimony in any trial, deposition, or other proceeding related to or associated with the transactions or the occurrences that are the subject of the Complaint, without the service of a subpoena.

#### XI.

## **COMPLIANCE MONITORING**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, for the purpose of monitoring Settling Defendants' compliance with this Order:

- A. Within 14 days of receipt of a written request from a representative of the Commission, each Settling Defendant must: submit additional compliance reports or other requested information, which must be sworn under penalty of perjury; appear for depositions; and produce documents, for inspection and copying. The Commission is also authorized to obtain discovery, without further leave of court, using any of the procedures prescribed by Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 29, 30 (including telephonic depositions), 31, 33, 34, 36, 45, and 69.
- B. For matters concerning this Order, the Commission is authorized to communicate directly with each Settling Defendant. Settling Defendants must permit representatives of the Commission to interview any employee or other person affiliated with any Settling Defendant who has agreed to such an interview. The person interviewed may have counsel present.
- C. The Commission may use all other lawful means, including posing, through its representatives, as consumers, suppliers, or other individuals or entities, to the Settling Defendants or any individual or entity affiliated with the Settling Defendants, without the necessity of identification or prior notice. Nothing in this Order limits the Commission's lawful use of compulsory process, pursuant to Sections 9 and 20 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 49, 57b-1.

#### XII.

## **COMPLIANCE REPORTING**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Settling Defendants make timely submissions to the Commission:

- A. One year after entry of this Order, each Settling Defendant must submit a compliance report, sworn under penalty of perjury.
  - 1. Each Settling Defendant must: (a) designate at least one telephone number and an email, physical, and postal address as points

- business, including title, role, responsibilities, participation, authority, control, and any ownership.
- B. For 20 years following entry of this Order, each Settling Defendant must submit a compliance notice, sworn under penalty of perjury, within 14 days of any change in the following:
  - 1. Each Settling Defendant must report any change in: (a) any designated point of contact; or (b) the structure of the Corporate Settling Defendant or any entity that Defendant has any ownership interest in or directly or indirectly controls that may affect compliance obligations arising under this Order, including: creation, merger, sale, or dissolution of the entity or any subsidiary, parent, or affiliate that engages in any acts or practices subject to this Order.
  - 2. Additionally, the Individual Settling Defendant must report any change in: (a) name, including aliases or fictitious name, or residence address; or (b) title or role in any business activity, including any business for which such Defendant performs services whether as an employee or otherwise and any entity in which such Defendant has any ownership interest, and identify its name, physical address, and Internet address, if any.
- C. Each Settling Defendant must submit to the Commission notice of the filing of any bankruptcy petition, insolvency proceeding, or any similar proceeding by or against such Defendant within 14 days of its filing.
- D. Any submission to the Commission required by this Order to be sworn under penalty of perjury must be true and accurate and comply with 18 U.S.C. § 1746, such as by concluding: "I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

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Executed on: \_\_\_\_\_ and supplying the date, signatory's full name, title (if applicable), and signature.

Unless otherwise directed by a Commission representative in writing, E. all submissions to the Commission pursuant to this Order must be emailed to DEbrief@ftc.gov or sent by overnight courier (not the U.S. Postal Service) to: Associate Director for Enforcement, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580. The subject line must begin: FTC v. U.S. Homeowners Relief, Inc., et al., X 100050.

## XIII.

## RECORDKEEPING

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Settling Defendants must create certain records for 20 years after entry of the Order, and to retain each such record for 5 years. Specifically, Corporate Settling Defendant and Individual Settling Defendant, for any business in which that Defendant, individually or collectively with any other Defendants, is a majority owner or directly or indirectly controls, must maintain the following records:

- Accounting records showing the revenues from all goods or services Α. sold, all costs incurred in generating those revenues, and the resulting net profit or loss;
- В. Personnel records showing, for each person providing services, whether as an employee or otherwise, that person's: name, addresses, and telephone numbers; job title or position; dates of service; and, if applicable, the reason for termination;
- C. Customer files showing the names, addresses, telephone numbers, dollar amounts paid, and the quantity and description of goods or services purchased;

Complaints and refund requests, whether received directly or indirectly, such as through a third party, and any response;

All records necessary to demonstrate full compliance with each provision of this Order, including all submissions to the Commission; and

A copy of each advertisement or other marketing material.

#### XIV.

## ORDER ACKNOWLEDGMENT

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Settling Defendants obtain

STIP. FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER