



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

Market Conduct Report

of

Standard Insurance Company

November 9, 2020

The Market Conduct Division of the Connecticut Insurance Department examined by targeted review the market conduct practices of Standard Insurance Company using a sample period of January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. The targeted review was limited to Connecticut Annuity Insurance business.

Standard Insurance Company has their home office in the State of Oregon. By authority granted under §38a-15 of the Connecticut General Statutes, this targeted review was conducted by Market Conduct examiners of the State of Connecticut Insurance Department (the Department) at the Department offices in Hartford, Connecticut.

The purpose of the examination survey was to evaluate the Company's annuity replacement activity in the State of Connecticut. The examiners reviewed the Company's response, which included information requested for the examination period.

The Department's findings are as follows:

- The Company failed to provide adequate replacement documentation regarding recommendations recording the reasonable basis specific to product exchanges in compliance with Connecticut regulations.

It is recommended that the Company review its suitability practices to ensure that the annuity exchange documentation, at the time of sale, includes the specific benefit improvements and enhancements provided in the new contract over the old contract but equally important thoroughly details any lost benefits from the old replaced contract(s).



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

-----X
IN THE MATTER OF:
STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANY:
-----X

DOCKET MC 20-75

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

It is hereby stipulated and agreed between Standard Insurance Company, and the State of Connecticut Insurance Department by and through Andrew N. Mais, Insurance Commissioner, to wit:

I

WHEREAS, pursuant to a Market Conduct target review, the Insurance Commissioner alleges the following with respect to Standard Insurance Company:

1. The Standard Insurance Company, hereinafter referred to as respondent, is domiciled in the State of Oregon and is licensed to transact the business of an insurance company in the State of Connecticut under license number 69019 and is authorized to write life, annuity and health insurance.
2. From May 21, 2019 through December 10, 2019, the Department conducted an examination of Respondent's market conduct practices in the State of Connecticut covering the period from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.
3. During the period under examination, Respondent failed to follow established practices and procedures to ensure compliance with statutory requirements, resulting in instances of:
 - a. failure to provide adequate replacement documentation regarding recommendations recording the reasonable basis specific to product exchanges in compliance with Connecticut regulations.
4. The conduct as described above violates §38a-432-5 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, and constitutes cause for the imposition of a fine or other administrative penalty under §§38a-2 and 38a-41 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

II

1. WHEREAS, Respondent neither admits nor denies the allegations contained in paragraphs three and four of Article I of this Stipulation; and
2. WHEREAS, Respondent agrees to undertake a complete review of its practices and procedures to enhance compliance with Connecticut statutes in the areas of concern, as described in the Market Conduct Report and this Stipulation; and
3. WHEREAS, Respondent took actions prior to the issuance of the Market Conduct Report consistent with the recommendations in the Market Conduct Report, and Respondent agrees to provide the Insurance Commissioner with a summary of those actions within ninety (90) days of the date of this document; and
4. WHEREAS, Respondent agrees to pay a fine in the amount of \$10,000 for the violations described herein; and
5. WHEREAS, Respondent, being desirous of terminating this proceeding without the necessity of a formal proceeding or further litigation, does consent to the making of this Consent Order and voluntarily waives:
 - a. any right to a hearing; and
 - b. any requirement that the Insurance Commissioner's decision contain a statement of findings of fact and conclusions of law; and
 - c. any and all rights to object to or challenge before the Insurance Commissioner or in any judicial proceeding any aspect, provision or requirement of this Stipulation.

NOW THEREFORE, upon the consent of the parties, it is hereby ordered and adjudged:

1. That the Insurance Commissioner has jurisdiction of the subject matter of this administrative proceeding.
2. That Respondent is fined the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) for the violations herein above described.

STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANY

By:  12/1/2020
(Representative of Insurance Company)

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned deposes and says that he/she has duly executed this Stipulation and Consent Order on this 7th day of December 2020 for and on behalf of Standard Insurance Company, that he/she is the Director, Regulatory Affairs of such company, and he/she has authority to execute and file such instrument.

By: 

State of

County of

Personally appeared on this _____ day of _____ 2020
_____ signer and sealer of the foregoing Stipulation and
Consent Order, acknowledged same to be his/her free act and deed before me.

Notary Public/Commissioner of the Superior Court

Section Below To Be Completed by State of Connecticut Insurance Department

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 8th day of December 2020.


Andrew N. Mais
Insurance Commissioner



December 1, 2020

Mr. Stephen DeAngelis
State of Connecticut Insurance Department
Market Conduct Division
153 Market Street, 7th Floor
Hartford, CT 06103

Re: Standard Insurance Company Docket MC 20-75

Dear Mr. DeAngelis,

We have received and reviewed the revised Market Conduct Report and Stipulation and Consent Order for Docket MC 20-75 and are prepared to sign and return the Order. However, we are unable to get the document notarized at this time.

The Standard's workforce is required to work from home to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Further, Oregon's Governor recently implemented a statewide "freeze" of most activities, including a requirement for all businesses and employees to work from home to the greatest extent feasible. Our state, and especially the Portland metro area, is experiencing record numbers of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations, necessitating all of us to minimize contact as much as possible. Finally, while Oregon has permitted the use of a remote notarization process, The Standard's employees are still pursuing approval to use this type of service, including software, training, and funding.

It is difficult to estimate when we will again have safe access to notary services, but I expect it may not be for at least a few months.

For these reasons and consistent with Bulletin FS-36, we are submitting the signed Stipulation and Consent Order for Docket MC 20-75, but the signature has not been notarized.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or if anything further is required of us to finalize this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ryan Chieffo', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Ryan Chieffo
Director, Regulatory Affairs