BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS FOR THE BUREAU OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND SERVICES STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

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MHAS COMPANIES, INC. DBA MATTRESS EXPRESS CALI; MANPREET HAYER, PRINCIPAL; AMRITPAL SARAN, PRINCIPAL 1811 Douglas Blvd., Ste 8A Roseville, CA 95661

Furniture and Bedding Retailer No. 172768

Respondent.

Case No. M-172768

DEFAULT DECISION AND ORDER

[Gov. Code, §11520]

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On or about October 22, 2024, Complainant Nicholas Oliver, in his official capacity as the Bureau Chief of the Bureau of Household Goods and Services (Complainant), Department of Consumer Affairs, filed Accusation No. M-172768 against MHAS Companies, Inc. dba Mattress Express Cali; Manpreet Hayer and Amritpal Saran, Principals (Respondent) before the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs. (Accusation attached as Exhibit A.)

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2. On or about May 18, 2017, the Bureau issued Furniture and Bedding Retailer Number 172768 to Respondent. The Furniture and Bedding Retailer License expired May 31, 2021, and was renewed September 23, 2022; and then expired May 3, 2023, and was renewed October 3, 2023. Otherwise, the Furniture and Bedding Retailer License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on May 31, 2025, unless renewed.

3... On or about October 24, 2024, Respondent was served by Certified and First-Class Mail copies of the Accusation No. M-172768, Statement to Respondent, Notice of Defense, Request for Discovery and Discovery Statutes (Government Code sections 11507.5, 11507.6, and 11507.7) at Respondent's address of record which, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 136, is required to be reported and maintained with the Bureau. Respondent's address of record was and is:

1811 Douglas Blvd., Ste 8A

Roseville, CA 95661

- 4. Service of the Accusation was effective as a matter of law under the provisions of Government Code section 11505(c) and/or Business and Professions Code section 124.
 - Government Code section 11506(c) states, in pertinent part:
 - (c) The respondent shall be entitled to a hearing on the merits if the respondent files a notice of defense . . . and the notice shall be deemed a specific denial of all parts of the accusation . . . not expressly admitted. Failure to file a notice of defense . . . shall constitute a waiver of respondent's right to a hearing, but the agency in its discretion may nevertheless grant a hearing.
- 6. The Bureau takes official notice of its records and the fact that Respondent failed to file a Notice of Defense within 15 days after service upon them of the Accusation, and therefore waived its right to a hearing on the merits of Accusation No. M-172768.
 - California Government Code section 11520(a) states, in pertinent part:
 - (a) If the respondent either fails to file a notice of defense . . . or to appear at the hearing, the agency may take action based upon the respondent's express admissions or upon other evidence and affidavits may be used as evidence without any notice to respondent . . .
- 8. Pursuant to its authority under Government Code section 11520, the Director finds Respondent is in default. The Director will take action without further hearing and, based on the

relevant evidence contained in the Default Decision Investigatory Evidence Packet in this matter, finds that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. M-172768, are separately and severally, found to be true and correct by clear and convincing evidence.

 The Director finds that the actual costs for Investigation and Enforcement are \$13,639.25 as of December 20, 2024.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

- Based on the foregoing findings of fact, Respondent MHAS Companies, Inc. dba Mattress Express Cali; Manpreet Hayer and Amritpal Saran, Principals (Respondent) have subjected Furniture and Bedding Retailer License No. 172768 to discipline.
 - 2. The agency has jurisdiction to adjudicate this case by default.
- 3. The Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs is authorized to revoke Respondent's Furniture and Bedding Retailer License based upon the following violations alleged in the Accusation which are supported by the evidence contained in the Default Decision Investigatory Evidence Packet in this case:
- a. Respondent violated Business and Professions Code sections 125.9, 9855.1, 19049 19051, 19055, 19061, 19150, 19200, and 19206, and California Code of Regulations sections 1304.1, 1308, 1310, and 1314 by, among other things:
 - · failing to comply with citation orders of abatement and to pay fines;
 - · false advertising/misrepresentations;
 - · false and misleading guarantees/failures to disclose;
 - advertising or implying that imperfect, irregular, second, or damaged articles were free from defects or were of the same grade or quality of the article customarily offered for sale in the ordinary course of business;
 - · operating without a valid registration and/or license;
 - advertising as "custom made" merchandise that was not made to order and specifications of consumers;
 - · operating under more than one firm name;

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- denial of Bureau access to premises, equipment, material, articles, and/or records;
 and
- · obstructing Bureau investigations.

ORDER

IT IS SO ORDERED that Furniture and Bedding Retailer No. 172768, issued to Respondent MHAS Companies, Inc. dba Mattress Express Cali; Manpreet Hayer and Amritpal Saran, Principals, is revoked.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that MHAS Companies, Inc. dba Mattress Express Cali; Manpreet Hayer and Amritpal Saran, principals, are prohibited from serving as a member of any licensed limited liability company or of any licensed partnership, or as an officer or director of any licensed corporation, or as an officer or person acting in a managerial capacity of any licensed firm or association, and the employment, election, or association of MHAS Companies, Inc. dba Mattress Express Cali; Manpreet Hayer and Amritpal Saran, principals constitute grounds for disciplinary action against the licensee.

Pursuant to Government Code section 11520, subdivision (c), Respondent may serve a written motion requesting that the Decision be vacated and stating the grounds relied on within seven (7) days after service of the Decision on Respondent. The agency in its discretion may vacate the Decision and grant a hearing on a showing of good cause, as defined in the statute.

This Decision shall become effective on Murch 13, 2025.

It is so ORDERED

RYAN MARCROFT

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

LEGAL AFFAIRS DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Default Decision and Order - LIC.docx DOJ Matter ID:SA2024302633

Attachment:

Exhibit A: Accusation