OCCC CASE NO. L20-00077

IN THE MATTER OF:	§	BEFORE THE
	§	
	§	OFFICE OF CONSUMER
MASTER FILE NO.: 7578	§	
NORTH HILLS AUTO INC.	§	CREDIT COMMISSIONER
8017 BLVD. 26	§	
NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, TEXAS 76180	Š	STATE OF TEXAS

ORDER TO ALLOW EXAMINATION AND INVESTIGATION

The Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner ("OCCC") issues this Order to Allow Examination and Investigation against North Hills Auto Inc. ("North Hills Auto"), based on the violations of law described below.¹

Statement of Facts and Law

Under Chapter 348 of the Texas Finance Code, a person must hold a motor vehicle sales finance license in order to act as a holder of a motor vehicle retail installment contract.² A holder is a person who operates as a retail seller or holds and collects on a contract in which the person agrees to accept the cash price of a motor vehicle in one or more deferred installments.³

North Hills Auto is a motor vehicle sales finance dealer licensed by the OCCC to operate as a holder under Chapter 348 of the Texas Finance Code. North Hills Auto operates under master file number 7578 at one licensed location, under license number 42749. North Hills Auto's compliance officer is Homer Kelashian, and its designated contact address is 8017 Blvd. 26, North Richland Hills, Texas 76180.

Under Chapter 348 of the Texas Finance Code, at times the OCCC considers necessary, the OCCC will examine each place of business of each licensee, and will investigate the licensee's transactions and records.⁴ A licensee must give the OCCC free access to the licensee's office and place of business.⁵

¹ Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208.

² Tex. Fin. Code § 348.501.

³ Tex. Fin. Code § 348.001(3), (7), (8).

⁴ Tex. Fin. Code § 348.514(a).

⁵ Tex. Fin. Code § 348.514(b).

The OCCC may conduct an examination after advance notice and during normal business hours.⁶ If the OCCC has reasonable cause to believe that a person is violating Chapter 348, then the OCCC may conduct an investigation to discover a violation or obtain required information.⁷ Under Chapter 348's implementing rules, a licensee is responsible for ensuring that all contact information on file with the OCCC is current and correct.⁸

On December 2, 2019, after advance notice, the OCCC attempted to examine North Hills Auto's licensed location at 8017 Grapevine Hwy., North Richland Hills, Texas 76180. The OCCC was not able to examine the licensed location because no employees of North Hills Auto were present at the location, a different business was located at that address, and the nearby North Hills Auto building at 8051 Grapevine Highway was not open to the public. Other attempts to contact North Hills Auto were not returned. By failing to allow the OCCC to examine its licensed location, records, and transactions, North Hills Auto violated Chapter 348 of the Texas Finance Code.

Authority

If the Consumer Credit Commissioner ("Commissioner") has reasonable cause to believe that a person is violating Chapter 348 of the Texas Finance Code, the Commissioner may issue an order to cease and desist from the violation, an order to take affirmative action, or both to enforce compliance.⁹

The Commissioner has reasonable cause to believe that North Hills Auto has violated Chapter 348 of the Texas Finance Code by failing to allow the OCCC to examine its licensed location, records, and transactions.

Order

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. North Hills Auto must cease and desist failing to allow the OCCC to

⁶ Tex. Fin. Code § 348.514(f).

⁷ Tex. Fin. Code § 348.515.

^{8 7} Tex. Admin. Code § 84.607(c).

⁹ Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208(a).

examine its location, records, and transactions.

- 2. North Hills Auto must allow the OCCC to conduct an investigation of its location, records, and transactions.
- 3. **No later than February 28, 2020,** North Hills Auto must send a letter to the OCCC stating the complete address of any location where North Hills Auto may be examined and investigated. The letter must also state the complete address of any location where North Hills Auto conducts business, keeps records of transactions, or receives payments from retail buyers. The letter must be sent by e-mail to Matthew Nance at matthew.nance@occc.texas.gov.
- 4. **No later than February 28, 2020,** North Hills Auto must ensure that all contact information for North Hills Auto is current and correct in the OCCC's online licensing system.

Violation of Order

North Hills Auto may be assessed an administrative penalty of up to \$1,000 for each day of violation of this Order. A violation of this Order may result in the revocation of North Hills Auto's license. 11

Right to Request Hearing

North Hills Auto has the right to request a hearing regarding this Order. ¹² North Hills Auto's request must be made in writing and sent to the OCCC not later than 30 days after North Hills Auto receives this Order. North Hills Auto must send its request to:

Matthew Nance Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner 2601 N. Lamar Blvd. Austin, Texas 78705

¹⁰ Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208(c).

¹¹ Tex. Fin. Code § 348.508.

¹² Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208(b).

If North Hills Auto requests a hearing, a hearing on this matter will be set and conducted in accordance with Chapter 2001 of the Texas Government Code. ¹³ If North Hills Auto fails to request a hearing by this deadline, this Order is considered final and enforceable. ¹⁴

All communications with the OCCC concerning this matter must be through Matthew Nance, Deputy General Counsel, who may be contacted by mail at 2601 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas 78705, by telephone at (512) 936-7660, or by email to matthew.nance@occc.texas.gov.

Signed this 17th day of January, 2020.

<u>/s/ Leslie Pettijohn</u>
Leslie L. Pettijohn
Consumer Credit Commissioner
State of Texas

¹³ Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208(b).

¹⁴ Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208(c).

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on January 17, 2020, a true and correct copy of this Order to Allow Examination and Investigation has been sent to North Hills Auto Inc. by the following:

North Hills Auto Inc. Attn: Homer Kelashian, Compliance Officer 8017 Blvd. 26 North Richland Hills, TX 76180 kelashian@gmail.com	hand-delivery	
	☐ facsimile ☐ electronic mail	
	certified mail, return receipt requested#9214 8901 9403 8300 0004 3543 99	
	North Hills Auto Inc. Attn: Homayoun Kelashian, Registered Agent 6615 Greenspring Dr. Arlington, TX 76016 kelashian@gmail.com	hand-delivery
facsimile		
⊠ electronic mail		
⊠ regular mail		
certified mail, return receipt requested #9214 8901 9403 8300 0004 3544 05		

/s/ Matthew Nance

Matthew J. Nance
Deputy General Counsel
Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner
State Bar No. 24074794
2601 North Lamar Blvd.
Austin, Texas 78705
512-936-7660 (phone)
512-936-7610 (fax)
matthew.nance@occc.texas.gov