WHEREAS, the Banking Commissioner ("Commissioner") is charged with the administration of Part XII of Chapter 669, Sections 36a-800 to 36a-814, inclusive, of the Connecticut General Statutes, "Consumer Collection Agencies", and the regulations promulgated thereunder, Sections 36a-809-6 to 36a-809-17, inclusive, of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies;

CONSENT ORDER

WHEREAS, ICR is a Delaware limited liability company with its main office at 871 Venetia Bay Blvd, Suite 112, Venice, Florida;

WHEREAS, ICR has never been licensed to act as a consumer collection agency in Connecticut;
WHEREAS, on April 1, 2025, ICR filed an application for a consumer collection agency license in
Connecticut on the Nationwide Multistate Licensing System and Registry ("NMLS"), which application is currently pending;

WHEREAS, the Commissioner, through the Consumer Credit Division of the Department of Banking, conducted an investigation into the activities of ICR, pursuant to Section 36a-17 of the Connecticut General Statutes, to determine if it had violated, was violating or was about to violate the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies within the jurisdiction of the Commissioner;

WHEREAS, as a result of such investigation, the Commissioner alleges that ICR acted as a consumer collection agency in this state without the required license from February 2024 to present, in violation of Section 36a-801(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes;

WHEREAS, the Commissioner believes that such allegation would support initiation of enforcement proceedings against ICR, including, without limitation, proceedings to issue an order to cease and desist against ICR pursuant to Sections 36a-804(b) and 36a-52(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, and an order imposing a civil penalty of up to One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) per violation upon ICR pursuant to Sections 36a-804(b) and 36a-50(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes;

WHEREAS, initiation of such enforcement proceedings would constitute a "contested case" within the meaning of Section 4-166(4) of the Connecticut General Statutes. Section 4-177(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes and Section 36a-1-55(a) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies provide that a contested case may be resolved by consent order, unless precluded by law;

WHEREAS, the Commissioner and ICR acknowledge the possible consequences of formal administrative proceedings, and ICR voluntarily agrees to consent to the entry of the sanctions imposed below without admitting or denying the allegation set forth herein, and solely for the purpose of obviating the need for formal administrative proceedings concerning the allegation set forth herein;

WHEREAS, the Commissioner and ICR now desire to resolve the matter set forth herein;

WHEREAS, ICR specifically assures the Commissioner that the violation alleged herein shall not occur in the future;

WHEREAS, ICR acknowledges that this Consent Order is a public record and is a reportable event for purposes of the regulatory disclosure questions on NMLS, as applicable;

WHEREAS, ICR acknowledges that it has had the opportunity to consult with and be represented by independent counsel in negotiating and reviewing this Consent Order and executes this Consent Order freely;

AND WHEREAS, ICR, through its execution of this Consent Order, voluntarily agrees to waive its procedural rights, including a right to a notice and an opportunity for a hearing as it pertains to the allegation set forth herein, and voluntarily waives its right to seek judicial review or otherwise challenge or contest the validity of this Consent Order.

CONSENT TO ENTRY OF SANCTIONS

WHEREAS, ICR, through its execution of this Consent Order, consents to the Commissioner's entry of a Consent Order imposing the following sanctions:

- 1. ICR shall cease and desist from acting as a consumer collection agency in this state without a license, in violation of Section 36a-801(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes;
- 2. No later than the date this Consent Order is executed by ICR, it shall remit to the Department of Banking by electronic funds transfer, cashier's check, certified check or money order made payable to "Treasurer, State of Connecticut", the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) as a civil penalty; and
- 3. No later than the date this Consent Order is executed by ICR, it shall remit to the Department of Banking by electronic funds transfer, cashier's check, certified check or money order made payable to "Treasurer, State of Connecticut", the sum of Four Hundred Dollars (\$400) as payment for back-licensing fees.

CONSENT ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, the Commissioner enters the following:

- 1. The Sanctions set forth above be and are hereby entered;
- 2. Upon issuance of this Consent Order by the Commissioner, this matter will be resolved and the Commissioner will not take any future enforcement action against ICR based upon the allegation contained herein; provided that issuance of this Consent Order is without prejudice to the right of the Commissioner to take enforcement action against ICR based upon a violation of this Consent Order or the matters underlying its entry, if the Commissioner determines that compliance with the terms herein is not being observed or if any representation made by ICR and reflected herein is subsequently discovered to be untrue;
- 3. ICR shall not take any action or make or permit to be made any public statement, including in regulatory filings, any proceeding in any forum or otherwise, denying directly or indirectly, any allegation referenced in this Consent Order or create the impression that this Consent Order is without factual basis. Except as specifically provided herein, ICR shall not take any position in any proceeding brought by or on behalf of the Commissioner, or to which the Commissioner is a party, that is inconsistent with any part of this Consent Order. Nothing in this provision affects ICR's (i) testimonial obligations, or (ii) right to take legal or factual positions that may

contradict an allegation in this Consent Order in litigation or other legal proceedings in which the Commissioner is not a party;

- 4. Subject to the foregoing, and so long as this Consent Order is promptly disclosed by ICR and its control persons on NMLS, as applicable, nothing in the issuance of this Consent Order shall adversely affect the ability of ICR to apply for or obtain an initial license or renewal licenses under Part XII of Chapter 669, Sections 36a-800 *et seq.*, of the Connecticut General Statutes, provided that all applicable legal requirements for any such license are satisfied and the terms of this Consent Order are being followed;
- 5. This Consent Order shall be binding upon ICR and its successors and assigns; and
- 6. This Consent Order shall become final when issued.

		<u>/s/</u>
Issued at Hartford, Connecticut		Jorge L. Perez
this <u>14th</u> day of <u>July</u>	2025.	Banking Commissioner

I, <u>James Prawel</u> , state on behalf of Independence	Capital Recovery, LLC that I have		
read the foregoing Consent Order; that I know and fully understand its contents; that I am authorized to			
execute this Consent Order on behalf of Independence Capital Reco	overy, LLC; that Independence Capital		
Recovery, LLC agrees freely and without threat or coercion of any	kind to comply with the sanctions		
entered and terms and conditions ordered herein; and Independence	Capital Recovery, LLC voluntarily		
agrees to enter into this Consent Order, expressly waiving the proce	edural rights set forth herein as to the		
matters described herein.			
Title: CEO	Prawel Capital Recovery, LLC		
State of: New York			
County of: Erie			
On this the 27th day of June, 2025, before me,	Brendan H. Little , the		
undersigned officer, personally appeared James Prawel	, who acknowledged himself/herself		
to be the <u>CEO</u> of Independence Capital Recovery,	LLC a member managed/manager		
managed limited liability company, and that he/she as such, being authorized			
so to do, executed the foregoing instrument for the purposes therein	contained, by signing the name of the		
limited liability company by himself/herself as CEO	<u> </u>		
In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand.			
	: Brendan H. Little sion Expires: 05/19/2028		