MARK BRNOVICH 2

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Electronically Recorded

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA

11 STATE OF ARIZONA, ex rel. MARK 12 BRNOVICH, Attorney General,

Plaintiff,

BRENT FORD,

Defendant.

Case No.: CV2018-008783

DEFAULT JUDGMENT AS TO DEFENDANT BRENT FORD

(Assigned to the Hon. Pamela Gates)

(Default Hearing assigned to Commissioner Lindsay Abramson)

This matter having come before the Court on the State's Motion for Default Judgment and Request for Hearing, and the Court having reviewed the pleadings and having conducted a hearing on November 27, 2018 on the issue of relief to be awarded to the State, finds that BRENT FORD was regularly served with process and failed to plead or otherwise defend against the State's Complaint within the time allowed by law and that the default of Defendant BRENT FORD was duly entered by the Clerk of this Court on October 18, 2018 pursuant to Ariz. R. Civ. P. 55.

The Court further finds that the above-named Defendant is neither an infant nor incompetent and that the State is entitled to affirmative relief against him. Accordingly, the Court makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and enters the following Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Defendant Brent Ford ("Ford") promised to perform certain landscaping construction services to Arizona consumers.
- 2. Ford took up-front payments from ten consumers to perform such services totaling \$89,599.
 - 3. Ford failed to perform the promised services.
- 4. Ford intentionally misrepresented to consumers that the promised services would be performed.
- 5. Ford misled consumers with false pretenses regarding why the work was not being performed when and as promised.
- 6. Ford did not provide a refund to consumers for whom he failed to provide the promised services.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 7. Defendant Ford, in connection with the sale or advertisement of merchandise, used or employed deception, deceptive or unfair acts or practices, fraud, false pretense, false promises, misrepresentation, or concealment, suppression, or omission of any material fact with the intent that others rely on such concealment, suppression or omission, thereby engaging in unlawful practices as proscribed by the Arizona Consumer Fraud Act, A.R.S. § 44-1521, et seq.
- 8. While engaging in the acts and practice alleged above, Defendant BRENT FORD acted willfully as defined by A.R.S. § 44-1531(B).

ORDER

Based on the above and for good cause, the court orders as follows:

- 1. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1528(A), Defendant Ford, and his officers, agents, servants employees, attorneys, and all other persons who are in active concert or participation with him, are permanently enjoined from engaging in, directly or indirectly, any activities relating to landscaping construction services while in the State of Arizona or to any Arizona consumer.
- 2. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1528(A), Defendant Ford shall comply with the Arizona Consumer Fraud Act, as it is currently written or as amended in the future, to the extent such Act applies to any of his activities in the State of Arizona.
- 3. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1528(A)(2), the State is awarded judgment against Defendant Ford, in the amount of \$89,599 with interest at the prime rate plus 1% each year pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1201(B) until paid, as consumer restitution.
- 4. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1531, the State is awarded judgment against Defendant Ford in the amount of \$100,000 with interest at the prime rate plus 1% each year pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1201(B) until paid, as civil penalties.
- 5. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1534, the State is awarded judgment against Defendant Ford, in the amount of \$ 6,162.00, with interest at the prime rate plus 1% each year pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1201(B) until paid, as attorneys' fees and costs.

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- 6. The State shall allocate payments received pursuant to this Judgment first to restitution, then to attorneys' fees and costs, and then to civil penalties, until the total of \$ 195,761 (plus any interest due) is reached. Payments allocated for restitution shall be deposited in an interest-bearing account within the Consumer Restitution and Remediation Revolving Fund pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1531.02(B). All other payments shall be deposited into the Consumer Protection Consumer Fraud Revolving Fund pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1531.01.
- 7. Any amounts received for restitution that cannot be distributed to eligible consumers shall revert to the Consumer Protection Consumer Fraud Revolving Fund pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1531.01.
- 8. This judgment resolves all outstanding claims. As no further matters remain pending, this is a final judgment entered pursuant to Ariz. R. Civ. P. 54(c).

DATED this 27 day of November, 2018.

Superior Court Commissioner

COMMISSIONER LINDSAY ABRAMSON

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