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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA Plaintiff,

VS.

RENOVATE AMERICA, INC., a Delaware corporation,

Defendant.

Case No: RIC 1904068

FINAL JUDGMENT PURSUANT TO STIPULATION

Plaintiff, the PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA (hereinafter, "the People"), appears herein through its attorneys, Michael A. Hestrin, District Attorney for the County of Riverside, by Deputy District Attorney Lauren Dossey; Summer Stephan, District Attorney for the County of San Diego, by Senior Deputy District Attorney Thomas Papageorge and Deputy District Attorney Colleen E. Huschke; Mara W. Elliott, City Attorney of San Diego, by Chief Deputy City Attorney Mark Ankcorn; Cynthia J. Zimmer, District Attorney for the County of Kern, by Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey Noe; Allison Haley, District Attorney for the County of Napa, by Deputy District Attorney Patrick Collins; Jeffrey S. Rosell, District Attorney for the County of Santa Cruz, by Deputy District Attorney Douglas Allen; and Jeannine Pacioni, District Attorney for the County of Monterey, by Deputy District Attorney James Burlison.

Defendant Renovate America, Inc., appears herein through its attorneys, Larson O'Brien LLP, by Stephen Larson, Esq.

Plaintiff and Defendant (the "Parties") have stipulated that this Final Judgment Pursuant to Stipulation (herein the "Final Judgment") may be entered without trial or adjudication of any issue of fact or law. The Parties enter into this Final Judgment pursuant to a settlement of certain disputed claims between them as alleged in the Complaint. Nothing in this Final Judgment shall be construed as an admission by Defendant of any fact, issue of law or violations of law.

Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. Unless otherwise stated, all obligations imposed upon Defendant by the terms of this Final Judgment are ordered pursuant to California Business and Professions Code sections 17200 *et seq.*, and 17500 *et seq.*.
- 2. The Parties have waived the right to appeal from this Final Judgment both as to form and content.

PARTIES

- 3. The People of the State of California are the Plaintiff in this case.
- 4. Renovate America, Inc. is the Defendant in this case.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

5. This civil law enforcement action is brought by Plaintiff in the public interest under the laws of the State of California. Defendant administers PACE programs, on behalf of and with the consent of public agencies, under the name "The HERO Program." The HERO program is available throughout the State of California, including the Counties of Riverside, San Diego, Kern, Napa, Santa Cruz, Monterey and the City of San Diego. Additionally, Defendant has advertised "The HERO Program" via mailed and radio advertisements, and advertisements on its website, which such advertisements were directed at and/or viewed by PROPERTY OWNERS throughout the State of California, including residents of the counties of Riverside, San Diego, Kern, Napa, Santa Cruz, Monterey and the City of San Diego. Accordingly, the

1	Riverside County Superior Court has jurisdiction of the subject matter hereof and of the Parties			
2	hereto and is a proper venue for this action.			
3	APPLICABILITY			
4	6. This Final Judgment is applicable to Defendant and to its agents, servants,			
5	employees, representatives, officers, directors, managers, subsidiaries, successors and assigns			
6	with actual or constructive notice of this Final Judgment. Whenever the term "Defendant" is			
7	used herein, it shall be understood and defined as described in this paragraph.			
8	<u>DEFINITIONS</u>			
9	7. For purposes of this Final Judgment, the following definitions apply:			
10	a. "ADVERTISING" means making or disseminating to any consumer or			
11	business located in the State of California, any statement, written or oral, including, but not			
12	limited to, any statement made over the Internet, in any newspaper, publication, or advertising			
13	device, or in any literature, instructions, labels, pamphlets or other printed material.			
14	b. "ASSESSMENT CONTRACT," as defined in Streets and Highways Code			
15	section 5902(a), means an agreement entered into between all property owners of record on real			
16	property and a public agency in which, for voluntary contractual assessments imposed on the			
17	real property, the public agency provides a PACE ASSESSMENT for the installation of one or			
18	more EFFECIENCY IMPROVEMENTS on the real property in accordance with a PACE			
19	program, specified in Streets and Highways Code section 5898.20(a)(2), 5899, 5899.3, or			
20	5899.4, or a special tax as provided in Government Code section 53328.1.			
21	c. "AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE" means an attorney-in-fact, as defined			
22	in Probate Code section 4014, or a conservator of the estate, as defined in Probate Code section			
23	2400, of the PROPERTY OWNER.			
24	d. "EFFECTIVE DATE OF JUDGMENT" means the date this judgment is file-			
25	endorsed by the Clerk of Court, following approval and signature by a Judge of the Superior			
26	Court.			
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m. "PROPERTY OWNER"	means all property owners of record on the property
subject to the PACE ASSESSMENT.	

n. "REGISTERED CONTRACTOR(S)" means those home improvement contractors who register with the HERO Program in order to present the HERO Program to their customers as a financing option for their proposed work.

MONETARY RELIEF: SUBORDINATION

- 8. In order to remedy potential defaults against California PACE consumers,
 Defendant has subordinated approximately 2,500 assessments levied on California real property
 subject to PACE ASSESSMENTS, which ASSESSMENTS were entered into as part of the
 HERO Program, and has re-bonded those ASSESSMENTS. As of December 2016, these
 subordinations resulted in Defendant expending approximately \$17,000,000 to change the
 PACE ASSESSMENTS from first-lien positions to subordinate positions. Defendant shall
 complete that process of subordination in all those instances where it had begun that process
 during the pendency of the People's investigation.
- 9. Defendant shall retain documents demonstrating the completion of these subordinations for a period of five (5) years. Defendants shall make those documents available to the People within thirty (30) days of receipt of the People's written request.
- 10. Defendant shall provide to the People, within ninety (90) days of the ENTRY OF JUDGMENT, a log of all then-completed subordinations, and Defendant shall also provide to the People a supplemental log of all subordinations referenced in paragraph 8 above within 30 days of the final completion of those additional subordinations.

MONETARY RELIEF: PAYMENT OF PREPAYMENT PREMIUMS

11. In order to prevent payment of prepayment premiums resulting from PACE consumers electing to pay off assessment balances early, Defendant has paid approximately one million nine hundred thousand dollars (\$1,900,000) in prepayment premiums for California PACE consumers. Defendant shall complete the payment of prepayment premiums in all those instances where it had begun that process during the pendency of the People's investigation.

- 12. Defendant shall retain documents demonstrating the complete payment of these prepayment premiums for a period of five (5) years. Defendants shall make those documents available to the People within thirty (30) days of receipt of the People's written request.
- 13. Defendant shall provide to the People, within ninety (90) days of the ENTRY OF JUDGMENT, a log of all then-completed prepayment premium payments, and Defendant shall also provide to the People a supplemental log of all prepayment premiums referenced in paragraph 11 above within 30 days of the final completion of those additional premium payments.

MONETARY RELIEF: PAYMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE FEES

- 14. To prevent payment of certain administrative fees contained in the ASSESSMENT CONTRACTS, Defendant has paid approximately two million four hundred thousand dollars (\$2,400,000) in various administrative fees for California PACE customers. Defendant shall complete the payment of those administrative fees in all those instances where it had begun that process during the pendency of the People's investigation.
- 15. Defendant shall retain documents demonstrating the completion of these administrative fee payments for a period of five (5) years. Defendant shall make those documents available to the People within thirty (30) days of receipt of the People's written request.
- 16. Defendant shall provide to the People within ninety (90) days after ENTRY OF JUDGMENT a log of all then-completed administrative fee payments made by Defendant, and Defendant shall also provide to the People a supplemental log of all administrative fee payments referenced in paragraph 14 above within thirty (30) days of the final completion of those administrative fee payments.

INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

17. The Defendant is hereby ENJOINED and RESTRAINED, pursuant to Business and Professions Code sections 17203 and 17535, from violating any provision of Business and Professions Code section 17500 *et. seq.* with respect to The HERO Program including, but not limited to:

CONTRACT, (2) the date on which the PROPERTY OWNER received the Financing Estimate and Disclosure, or (3) the date on which the PROPERTY OWNER received the Notice of Right to Cancel, as set forth in Streets and Highways Code section 5898.16(b).

28. All recordings of oral confirmation calls required under Streets & Highways Code section 5913 shall be retained for no less than five (5) years from the date of the call. All such recordings shall be made available to a regulatory or law enforcement agency within ten (10) days of a written request or such other time period as agreed between Defendant and the requesting agency.

EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT MODIFICATION

29. Defendant shall create and follow a written policy that adequately sets forth practices and procedures to follow in the event of any modification or change that increases the amount to be financed by the PACE ASSESSMENT. Such policy shall require an evaluation that the modification or change will not result in a total contract price exceeding the PROPERTY OWNER'S approval amount.

COMPLETION CERTIFICATION

30. Upon completion of the EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENT, and before the PROPERTY OWNER signs the completion certificate authorizing the PACE ASSESSMENT to be levied and funds to be released from the HERO Program to the REGISTERED CONTRACTOR, the REGISTERED CONTRACTOR shall certify to Defendant in writing that (1) all necessary initial or final permits have been or will be obtained; and (2) the work was completed and/or is functioning to industry standards. Defendant will instruct the PROPERTY OWNER not to sign the completion certificate until after the REGISTERED CONTRACTOR has signed the completion certificate. Defendant will obtain from the PROPERTY OWNER acknowledgment that (1) the REGISTERED CONTRACTOR has already signed the completion certificate; (2) all necessary final permits and/or inspections have been or will be obtained; and (3) the PROPERTY OWNER is satisfied with the project.

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- 32. Defendant shall create and follow a written policy that adequately sets forth practices and procedures for compliance with Financial Code section 22680.
- 33. Defendant shall obtain written verification from the REGISTERED CONTRACTOR that the REGISTERED CONTRACTOR has complied with the requirements of Streets & Highways Code section 5926.
- 34. Defendant shall create and follow a written policy establishing a procedure for regularly evaluating (no less than twice per year) whether each PACE SOLICITOR or PACE SOLICITOR AGENT is in continued good standing as concerns the license and/or registration required pursuant to Financial Code section 22680(d)(1-2) and (f)(2).
- 35. Defendant shall create and follow a written policy establishing a procedure for PROPERTY OWNERS or their AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES to make complaints

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other any aspect of his/her solicitation activities directly to Defendant. Such a policy shall require a unique email address and a physical address where complaints may be sent. Additionally, Defendant shall also create and maintain a complaint form located on Defendant's website which can be filled out and submitted electronically. The ability to make a complaint and the method and process for making a complaint shall be disclosed as required by Streets & Highways Code section 5898.17. The policy will require that all such complaints be retained

be included in the PACE SOLICITOR or PACE SOLICITOR AGENT'S file. All complaints shall be considered in the evaluation conducted pursuant to Financial Code section 22680(f).

- 36. Defendant shall create and follow a written policy that adequately sets forth practices and procedures to respond to questions and complaints pursuant to Financial Code section 22683.
- 37. The documents described in paragraph 31 and 33 above shall be retained while a PACE SOLICITOR or PACE SOLICITOR AGENT is enrolled with Defendant, and for a period of seven (7) years after either cancellation or withdrawal of the PACE SOLICITOR or PACE SOLICITOR AGENT from The HERO Program. Such documents shall be provided to a regulatory or law enforcement agency within fifteen (15) days of a written request.

TRAINING

- 38. Defendant shall create and follow a written policy that adequately sets forth practices and procedures for training PACE SOLICITORS and PACE SOLICITOR AGENTS as required by Financial Code section 22681. Such policy shall require the inclusion of any changes in laws, statutes, or regulations. Procedures related to PACE solicitation or marketing in California resulting from any changes in law, statutes, or regulations shall be communicated promptly and in writing to PACE SOLICITORS and PACE SOLICITOR AGENTS.
- 39. In addition to the introductory training required by Financial Code section 22681(b), Defendant shall prepare and make available to all enrolled PACE SOLICITORS and PACE SOLICITOR AGENTS supplemental written training materials, in conjunction with the

1	training required under Financial Code section 22681(c), pertaining to the following topics:			
2	a. PACE programs and assessment contracts;			
3	b. PACE disclosures;			
4	c. Ethics;			
5	d. Fraud prevention;			
6	e. Consumer protection;			
7	f. Nondiscrimination; and			
8	g. Senior financial abuse.			
9	AUTOMATED VALUATION MODELS			
10	40. Defendant shall create and follow a written policy that adequately sets forth			
11	practices and procedures which conform to the requirements contained in Financial Code 22685			
12	ABILITY TO PAY			
13	41. Defendant shall create and follow a written policy or policies that adequately sets			
14	forth practices and procedures which conform to the requirements set forth in Financial Code			
15	sections 22686 and 22687.			
16	ELDERLY PROPERTY OWNERS			
17	42. Defendant shall determine the age of all its potential PACE customers, and for any			
18	PROPERTY OWNER who is 65 years of age or older at the time of the execution of the			
19	ASSESSMENT CONTRACT, Defendant shall ensure that each such PROPERTY OWNER			
20	receives a disclosure document, written in clear and easily readable form, providing the			
21	following information:			
22	a. For Efficiency Improvements other than heating, ventilation, and air			
23	conditioning (HVAC), Defendant will extend to its PACE customers of 65 years of age or older			
24	the right to cancel the ASSESSMENT CONTRACT from three (3) business days, as contained			
25	in Streets & Highways Code section 5898.16(b), to five (5) business days. The right to cancel			
26	the ASSESSMENT CONTRACT for HVAC Efficiency Improvements shall remain three (3)			
27	business days, as set forth in Streets & Highways Code section 5898.16(b), unless the			
28	requirements of Streets & Highways Code section 5940(d) are satisfied.			

- b. Where the property of a PACE customer of 65 years of age or older is subject to a reverse mortgage, as defined in California Civil Code section 1923 *et seq.*, the PACE ASSESSMENT might be treated as a default or similar event causing the reverse mortgage loan to become immediately due and payable.
- c. PACE customers of 65 years of age or older should consult with consumer affairs agencies and/or state contractor licensing authorities if they have questions or concerns regarding the PACE program and its obligations. This notice shall provide telephone, e-mail and mailing address contact information for the California Department of Consumer Affairs and the Contractors State Licensing Board office nearest to the PROPERTY OWNER's property.

THIRD PARTY AUDIT PROVISIONS

- 43. Defendant shall retain, at its sole expense, an independent third party auditor ("Auditor") to audit on an annual basis for five (5) years after the entry of this Judgment: (a) Defendant's implementation and maintenance of adequate written policies and procedures to comply with the provisions of this Final Judgment; and (b) Defendant's compliance, in all material respects, with all provisions and requirements of this Final Judgment (collectively, the "Audit Subjects"). The Auditor will develop and conduct the annual audit according to a protocol designed by the Auditor to assess Defendant's compliance with the Audit Subjects during the audit period. The first annual audit will occur fifteen (15) calendar months after the EFFECTIVE DATE OF JUDGMENT and the remaining four audits will occur at regular yearly intervals thereafter.
- 44. As part of the audit, a random selection of a substantial number of oral confirmation calls required under Streets & Highways Code section 5913 shall be provided to the Auditor pursuant to the above section for evaluation and compliance monitoring.
- 45. Within sixty (60) days after receipt by Defendant of each annual compliance audit report (or at such other time as the People and Defendant may agree in writing or the Court may permit), Defendant shall provide the People a written plan to address any compliance deficiencies identified in the compliance audit report or a written explanation for why such compliance is not possible or practicable. And, within ninety (90) days after provision of such a

plan to the People (or such time as the People and Defendant may agree in writing or this Court							
may permit), Defendant shall provide the People with written certification confirming the							
implementation of any such corrective action plan.							
ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS							
46. Within one-hundred-twenty (120) days of the EFFECTIVE DATE OF							
JUDGMENT, Defendant shall create and implement all policies and procedures, and take all							
action, required in this Final Judgment.							
47. Not later than forty-five (45) days from the EFFECTIVE DATE OF							
JUDGEMENT, Defendant shall distribute a copy of this Final Judgment to all corporate officers							
and directors.							
48. Defendant shall retain for a period of five (5) years from the EFFECTIVE DATE							
OF JUDGMENT proof of having delivered copies of this Final Judgment to each person set							
forth above. Such proof shall be provided to the People within ten (10) days of written request.							
RESTITUTION							
49. <i>Cy pres</i> restitution is ordered in this matter in the sum of two million seven							
hundred and ninety thousand dollars (\$2,790,000.00). Said cy pres restitution shall be							
distributed to public interest law groups, chosen by the People in its sole discretion, which assist							
consumers with PACE related legal and financing issues. The sum of \$2,790,000.00 shall be							
paid as follows:							
a. On or before August 15, 2019, a check in the sum of two hundred fifty							
thousand dollars (\$250,000.00);							
b. On or before January 1, 2020, a check in the sum of one hundred fifty							
thousand dollars (\$150,000.00);							
c. On or before April 1, 2020, a check in the sum of one hundred fifty							
thousand dollars (\$150,000.00);							
d. On or before July 1, 2020, a check in the sum of one hundred fifty thousand							
dollars (\$150,000.00);							

1	1 Deputy District Attorney Lauren Dossey, Riverside County District Attorn	ney's (Office –
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- 2 | Consumer Protection Unit, 3960 Orange Street, Riverside, California 92501. Said costs shall be
- 3 divided equally between the Office of the District Attorney for the County Riverside, the Office
- 4 of the District Attorney for the County of San Diego, the Office of the District Attorney for the
- 5 County of Kern, the Office of the District Attorney for the County of Napa, the Office of the
- 6 District Attorney for the County of Santa Cruz, the Office of the District Attorney for the
- 7 | County of Monterey and the Office of the City Attorney for the City of San Diego. It shall be
- 8 the responsibility of the Office of the District Attorney for the County Riverside to promptly
- 9 direct the proportionate share of all costs received by it to the other offices identified in this

10 paragraph.

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- 52. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 17206, Defendant shall pay, by check made payable to the Riverside County District Attorneys' Office, civil penalties in the total amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00). These penalty payments shall be made pursuant to the following schedule:
- a. On or before October 15, 2019, the sum of five hundred forty thousand dollars (\$540,000.00); and
- b. On or before October 15, 2020, the sum of four hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$460,000.00).
- Riverside County District Attorney's Office Consumer Protection Unit, 3960 Orange Street, Riverside, California 92501. Said civil penalties shall be divided equally between the Office of the District Attorney for the County Riverside, the Office of the District Attorney for the County

Each check shall be delivered to Deputy District Attorney Lauren Dossey,

- 23 of San Diego, the Office of the District Attorney for the County of Kern, the Office of the
- 24 District Attorney for the County of Napa, the Office of the District Attorney for the County of
- 25 Santa Cruz, the Office of the District Attorney for the County of Monterey and the Office of the
- 26 City Attorney for the City of San Diego. It shall be the responsibility of the Office of the
- 27 District Attorney for the County Riverside to promptly direct the proportionate share of all civil
 - penalties received by it to the other offices identified in this paragraph.

54. If Defendant fails to make timely and full payment of any payment due under this Final Judgment within fifteen (15) business days of the due date, the Defendant shall be deemed in default of that payment and all remaining payment obligations due under this Final Judgment, resulting in all payment obligations being immediately due and payable. Defendant shall pay interest upon all amounts in default at the post-judgment legal rate of interest from the date of default until the date of payment. The People may seek, on noticed motion, the immediate entry of a separate judgment against Defendant for all remaining amounts due, including accrued interest.

RETENTION OF JURISDICTION AND OTHER TERMS

- 55. Nothing in this Final Judgment releases any private rights of action asserted by entities or persons not a party to this Final Judgment, nor does this Final Judgment limit any defense available to Defendant in any such action.
- 56. This Final Judgment does not limit or affect the rights of Defendant or of the People against any third parties, not party to this Final Judgment, nor does it limit the rights of third parties, not party to this Final Judgment, against Defendant, except as otherwise provided by law.
- 57. This Final Judgment shall not be construed to create rights in, or grant any cause of action to, any third party not a party to this Final Judgment. No such third party shall be entitled to enforce any aspect of this Final Judgment or claim any legal or equitable injury for a violation of this Final Judgment.
- 58. Nothing in this Final Judgment shall be construed as a waiver or limitation of any defense or cause of action otherwise available to Defendant in any action. This Agreement is made without trial or adjudication of any issue of fact or law, without any admission of fact or law, and without any finding of liability of any kind.
- 59. Defendant shall not knowingly permit, cause, or encourage third parties acting on its behalf to engage in practices from which Defendant is prohibited by this Final Judgment.

- 60. Any failure by any party to this Final Judgment to insist upon the strict performance by any other party of any of the provisions of this Final Judgment shall not be deemed a waiver of any of the provisions of this Final Judgment, and such party, notwithstanding such failure, shall have the right thereafter to insist upon the specific performance of any and all of the provisions of this Final Judgment.
- 61. This Court retains jurisdiction of this Final Judgment and the Parties hereto for the purposes of enabling any party to this Final Judgment to apply to the Court at any time for such order or directions as may be necessary or appropriate for the construction of or carrying out of this Final Judgment, for the modification or termination of any of the injunctive provisions thereof, for the enforcement of compliance therewith, or for the punishment of violations thereunder.
 - 62. No costs are awarded to either party in this action, except as provided above.
 - 63. Both parties have waived their right to appeal.

EFFECT AND ENTRY

64. This Final Judgment shall take effect immediately upon entry hereof. No notice of entry of judgment is required to be served upon either party.

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Judge of the Superior Court

WILLIAM P. BARRY