State Board of Auctioneer Examiners November 9, 2020

BOARD MEMBERS:

Nevin B. Rentzel, Chairman, Professional Member Sherman E. Hostetter Jr., Professional Member K. Kalonji Johnson, Commissioner, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs - Absent Gerald A. Rader, Professional Member

Daniel A. Trace, Secretary, Professional Member Heather M. Troutman, Consumer Protection Agent

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Kenneth J. Suter, Esquire, Board Counsel
J. Karl Geschwindt, Esquire, Board Prosecution
Liaison

Carolyn A. DeLaurentis, Deputy Chief Counsel, Prosecution Division

Terrie Kocher, Board Administrator

Theodore Stauffer, Executive Secretary, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs

3 * * * 1 State Board of Auctioneer Examiners 2 3 November 9, 2020 * * * 4 5 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 6 10:00 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session with Kenneth J. Suter, Esquire, Board Counsel, for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations on matters that are currently pending before the Board. 10 The Board returned to open session at 10:30 a.m.] * * * 11 12 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State 13 Board of Auctioneer Examiners was held on Monday, 14 November 9, 2020. Nevin B. Rentzel, Chairman, 15 Professional Member, called the meeting to order at 16 10:31 a.m. * * * 17 Moment of Silence 18 19 [Chairman Rentzel asked for a moment of silence.] 20 * * * 21 Roll Call 22 [Chairman Rentzel requested roll call be taken.] 23 [Theodore Stauffer, Executive Secretary, Bureau of 24 25 Professional and Occupational Affairs, announced that

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the meeting was being recorded, and those who remained
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   on the line were giving their consent to being
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   recorded.]
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   Approval of minutes of the September 14, 2020 meeting
   CHAIRMAN RENTZEL:
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                  Do I hear a motion to accept the minutes
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                  as presented?
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   MR. HOSTETTER:
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                  So moved.
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   MR. RADER:
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                  Second.
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   CHAIRMAN RENTZEL:
                  All those in favor give their consent by
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                  saying aye.
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   [The motion carried unanimously.]
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   Report of Board Counsel
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   [Kenneth J. Suter, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted the
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   Board met in Executive Session prior to the meeting to
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   discuss items 4 and 5 on the agenda.]
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   MR. SUTER:
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                  As a result of the Executive Session, I
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                  understand the Board will entertain a
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I make the motion.

- 2 CHAIRMAN RENTZEL:
- 3 Is there a second?
- 4 MR. TRACE:
- 5 Second.
- 6 CHAIRMAN RENTZEL:
- 7 Any discussion? All those in favor give
- 8 their consent by saying aye.
- 9 [The motion carried unanimously.]
- 10 ***
- 11 Report of Board Chairman
- 12 [Nevin B. Rentzel, Chairman, Professional Member,
- 13 addressed the prior request from Pearson VUE asking
- 14 professional members to review questions for testing
- 15 administrators. He noted completion of the review and
- 16 suggested a meeting with the testing organization to
- 17 recommend additional questions. He also noted very
- 18 | little about internet options and requested that
- 19 testing was current to today's business climate.
- 20 Mr. Hostetter also mentioned the need for social
- 21 media-type marketing.
- 22 Ms. Kocher will schedule a meeting with Pearson
- 23 VUE the day before or after the next Board meeting to
- 24 ensure everyone is available.
- 25 Chair Rentzel requested an update or summary of

cases at the next meeting. 1 Carolyn A. DeLaurentis, Esquire, Deputy Chief 2 Counsel, Prosecution Division, agreed to provide 3 updates at the January meeting. 5 Chairman Rentzel reminded everyone to renew their 6 license in February.] * * * Report of Commissioner - No Report 10 Report of Board Administrator 11 [Terrie Kocher, Board Administrator, announced the 12 2021 Pennsylvania Auctioneering Association Annual Conference will be held in May.] 13 * * * 14 15 MR. RADER: 16 I make the motion to have Board members 17 Dan Trace and Sherm Hostetter attend the 18 PAA Conference and go as Board members. 19 CHAIR RENTZEL: 2.0 I'll second that motion. The motion was 21 made and seconded. 22 [The motion carried unanimously.] 2.3 24 Report of Board Administrator - Election of Officers 25 MR. SUTER:

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I am opening it up for nominations for
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                  chairperson.
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   MR. HOSTETTER:
                  I nominate Nevin.
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   MR. TRACE:
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                  Second.
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   MR. SUTER:
                  Are there any other nominations for
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                  chairperson?
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                        Does somebody want to make a motion
                  to close nominations?
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   MR. HOSTETTER:
                  I make that motion.
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   MS. TROUTMAN:
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                  Second.
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   MR. SUTER:
                  All those in favor as Nevin Rentzel for
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                  chairperson signify by saying aye.
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                  Nays? Abstentions?
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   [The motion carried unanimously.]
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   CHAIR HOSTETTER:
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                  Do I hear any nominations for secretary?
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   MR. RADER:
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                  Dan Trace.
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   MR. HOSTETTER:
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                  Second.
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   CHAIR RENTZEL:
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                  Gerald Rader and seconded by Sherm
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                  Hostetter. Are there any other
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                  nominations for Board secretary?
                       Do I hear a motion to close the
                  nominations?
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   MR. HOSTETTER:
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                  So moved.
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   MR. RADER:
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                  Second.
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   CHAIR RENTZEL:
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                  All those in favor of Dan Trace being
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                  elected to secretary of the Board give
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                  their consent by saying aye.
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   [The motion carried unanimously.]
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   Report of Board Administrator
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   [Terrie Kocher, Board Administrator, noted proposed
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   2022 meeting dates for Board approval at the January
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   meeting.]
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   Appointment - Act 53 of 2020 List of Relevant Crimes
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     Presentation
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- [Cynthia K. Montgomery, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel, Department of State, presented to the Board to address the draft list of relevant offenses under Act 53 of 2020. She described Act 53 as criminal history reform to how boards utilize criminal history in licensure determinations.
 - Ms. Montgomery referred to § 3117 of Act 53, where Commissioner Johnson has the duty and power to publish the lists of crimes that may constitute grounds to refuse to issue, suspend, or revoke a license after consultation with the licensing boards and representatives of the business community with knowledge of the profession.

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- Ms. Montgomery stated the list was curated by Board counsel working with the prosecution division to identify crimes directly related to the auctioneering profession and provided a definition of "directly related." She noted the goal of Board counsel and prosecution was to create a list of criminal convictions that would implicate public safety.
- Ms. Montgomery addressed rebuttable presumption, where individuals convicted of crimes on the list of offenses directly related to the profession would pose a substantial risk to the health and safety of their clients or the public or a substantial risk of further

1 criminal convictions. She mentioned the applicant or 2 licensee would have to demonstrate they do not pose 3 such a risk.

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Ms. Montgomery referred to criteria in § 3113 of Act 53 for the Board could use to evaluate whether the individual poses such a risk set forth in 3113(c) regarding the time lapses since the offense, maturity since the offense, and amount of offenses. She stated the lists are published and becomes part of a best practices guide to provide information concerning how the boards will consider criminal history record information and the effect of the crime.

Ms. Montgomery referred to § 3117 of Act 53, where the list is to be used for preparing a preliminary determination of an individual considering the auctioneering field and applying up front for a preliminary determination as to whether their criminal conviction may be an impediment to licensure.

Ms. Montgomery explained that a crime being on the list did not mean a bar to licensure, but the individual would need to demonstrate why they do not pose a significant risk to their clients, public, or further criminal convictions. She also noted crimes not on the list is not a free pass to get a license but means there is no rebuttable presumption, and the

duty would be on the Board through prosecution to demonstrate why the individual does pose a risk.

Ms. Montgomery referred to § 3113(e) regarding acts of violence, where an individual convicted of a crime of violence may be granted a license if at least 3 years from incarceration or 3 years from imposition of the sentence have elapsed, the individual has remained conviction-free, and demonstrates significant rehabilitation.

Ms. Montgomery noted receiving a letter from the Pennsylvania Auctioneers Association (PAA) after the list was sent to interested parties and stakeholders.

Mr. Suter stated PAA had no comment other than to support the schedule as drafted.

Mr. Hostetter referred to § 39.27 concerning failure to make the required disposition, noting it to also be where funds are put and not comingling and questioned whether there should be something additional to address that or if the license law enough.

Ms. Montgomery explained that this is regarding criminal convictions, and all other violations of the statue or regulations are still on the table and could be charged and proved by the commonwealth, where the Board could refuse to issue a license.

Mr. Suter further explained that he looked at criminal convictions where adjudications and orders were issued. He noted what Mr. Hostetter was addressing is a violation of the Board act but not necessarily a criminal conviction.

Chair Rentzel questioned when the list will be submitted and recognized to be part of the law.

Ms. Montgomery stated Commissioner Johnson is required to promulgate the list as a regulation, and it will be available for use as of December 27 when Act 53 goes into effect. She noted the statue requires the list to be published as proposed within 120 days of the effective date of Act 53 and then published as final rulemaking within 2 years.

Mr. Suter stated the Board will be using the list at the end of December, but the Board will be seeing the list again through the regulatory process.

Mr. Hostetter expressed concern of not seeing anything pertaining to real estate, which is an asset class handled by auctioneers, and questioned whether anything should be added to address the real estate aspect.

Ms. Montgomery commented that offenses involving real estate is usually something like financial institution crimes and are often the theft offenses.

- She referred to the Real Estate Commission's list, 1 2 noting basically the same list of crimes as the Board 3 with noting specific to real estate.
- Mr. Hostetter asked Mr. Suter to research real 4 5 estate and environmental issues. He stated there are 6 all kinds of things pertaining to environmental situations that would be some type of a criminal aspect if it was not properly handled.
- Ms. Montgomery explained that the absence of anything from the list did not mean it would not come before the Board but offered to consider the issue. She emphasized that the list is really for 13 transparency purposes to inform the public of crimes 14 the Board considers directly related to their 15 profession.

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- Mr. Geschwindt commented that the prosecution division reviewed the law and requested crimes of violence also be put on the offenses directly related to the profession.
- 2.0 Mr. Suter was unsure whether counsel had the same 21 perspective as the prosecution division.
 - Ms. Montgomery referred to § 3113(e), where an individual convicted of a crime of violence may be granted a license by a licensing board if all of the following apply and believed the prosecution division

raises concern that it applied only to applicants that are seeking licensure. She believed the Act is a procedural act telling the boards how to evaluate criminal history record information.

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Ms. Montgomery referred to § 3117, where the lists are to be used in making preliminary determinations and determining which convictions may result in discipline and determining whether a conviction may result in refusing to issue a license, certificate, registration, or permit. She commented that prosecution could still bring a case against an individual convicted of a crime of violence as defined in this act.

Mr. Suter further explained that not all crimes of violence are necessarily directly related to the profession of auctioneering and did not prohibit the prosecution from bringing a crime and relating it to the profession, but if it was on the list and all crimes of violence were directly related to the profession, there would be a presumption that it was related without having to prove that the crime of violence was related to the profession of auctioneering.

Chair Rentzel congratulated Mr. Suter and prosecution for the comprehensive list to inform those

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   convicted of these crimes to not apply unless they
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   have grounds to defend their conviction.
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        Ms. Montgomery requested the Board approve the
   list as drafted for publication at the end of the year
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   and then to be promulgated as proposed rulemaking.]
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   CHAIR RENTZEL:
                  Would anyone like to make a motion to
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                  adopt the list as presented?
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   MR. RADER:
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                  I make that motion.
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   CHAIR RENTZEL:
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                  Motion made by Gerald Rader.
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   MR. TRACE:
                  I'll second it.
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   CHAIRMAN RENTZEL:
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                  Seconded by Dan Trace. Any discussion?
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                  All in favor give their consent by
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                  saying aye. Opposed?
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   [The motion carried unanimously.]
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   [Nevin B. Rentzel, Chairman, Professional Member,
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   addressed the appointment on the agenda for Steve
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   Latanishen, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, at
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   11:35 a.m., noting Mr. Latanishen did not appear for
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1 | the meeting again. He suggested Mr. Latanishen

- 2 | present an update regarding Board member
- 3 | vacancies/appointments via email.
- 4 Ms. Kocher will contact Mr. Latanishen and
- 5 request a report for the Board via email since he has
- 6 been unable to attend the meetings.
- 7 Mr. Suter requested Mr. Latanishen be made aware
- 8 of the Board's plan to read his letter at the next
- 9 | Board meeting.]
- 10 ***
- 11 Miscellaneous
- 12 [Terrie Kocher, Board Administrator, noted 2021 Board
- 13 | meeting dates.]
- 14 ***
- 15 | Adjournment
- 16 CHAIRMAN RENTZEL:
- 17 Would anyone like to make the motion to
- 18 adjourn?
- 19 MR. TRACE:
- 20 So moved.
- 21 MR. RADER:
- 22 Second.
- 23 CHAIRMAN RENTZEL:
- 24 Seconded by Gerald. All those in favor
- of adjournment give their consent by

18 1 saying aye. 2 [The motion carried unanimously.] 3 4 [There being no further business, the State Board of 5 Auctioneer Examiners Meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.] * * * 6 CERTIFICATE 9 10 I hereby certify that the foregoing summary minutes of the State Board of Auctioneer Examiners 11 12 meeting, was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision, and that the minutes accurately summarize 13 14 the substance of the State Board of Auctioneers 15 meeting. 16 17 18 19 Evan Bingaman, 20 Minute Clerk 21 Sargent's Court Reporting 22 Service, Inc. 2.3 2.4 25