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8	IN THE CUREDIOD COURT OF T	THE COLUMN OF WASHINGTON						
9	9 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF KING							
10	STATE OF WASHINGTON,	NO.						
11	Plaintiff,	ASSURANCE OF						
12	v	DISCONTINUANCE						
13	DSB INVESTMENTS, LLC,							
14	Defendant.							
15	The State of Washington, by and through its attorneys, Robert W. Ferguson, Attorney							
16	General, and Colleen M. Melody, Assistant Attorney General, files this Assurance o							
17	Discontinuance pursuant to RCW 19.86.100. All communications related to this Assurance o							
8	Discontinuance may be directed to: Civil Rights Unit, Office of the Attorney General, 800 Fifth							
9	Avenue, Suite 2000, Seattle, WA, 98104.							
20		ARTIES						
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22	1.1. The Attorney General initiated an investigation into the business practices of							
23	Defendant, DSB INVESTMENTS, LLC.							
4	1.2. The Defendant is a for-profit business in Washington State and is engaged in							
25	the rental of residential dwellings as defined by RCW 49.60.040(9). The Defendant's principal							

place of business is located at 95 South Tobin Street, Suite 201, Renton, Washington. The Defendant owns and operates multi-family residential rental properties, including Glacier View Apartments located at 5904 Highway Place, Everett, Washington.

1.3. This Assurance of Discontinuance is a settlement of a disputed matter. The Attorney General alleges that the Defendant engaged in unfair real estate practices and employed discriminatory terms and conditions with respect to its management of Glacier View Apartments. The Defendant denies these allegations. In order to avoid costly and protracted litigation, the parties agree that the Attorney General's claims should be resolved without further proceedings.

II. INVESTIGATION

- 2.1. The Attorney General deems and the Defendant acknowledges the following to constitute unfair practices with respect to real estate transactions in violation of the Washington Law Against Discrimination, RCW 49.60.222(1)(b), 49.60.222(1)(g), and 49.60.2235, and the Consumer Protection Act, RCW 19.86.020.
 - **2.1.1.** Discriminating against any person in the terms, conditions, or privileges of renting a dwelling unit, or in the provision of services or facilities connected therewith, because of race or color;
 - **2.1.2.** Discriminating in the application of a "Parking/Vehicles" policy on the basis of race or color, including by targeting cars associated with African Americans for towing while allowing other cars in similar or worse condition to remain on the property;
 - **2.1.3.** Making statements that describe cars associated with African Americans as unsightly or devaluing the property; and

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2.1.4. Refusing to perform or delaying performance of necessary maintenance or repairs to residential units because the tenants have previously exercised their fair housing rights.

III. ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE

- 3.1. The Defendant agrees to discontinue and/or not engage in the unfair practices described in section 2.1.
 - 3.1.1. The following circumstances will not be considered a violation of section 2.1.4:
 - 3.1.1.1. The Defendant's inability to conduct repairs due to the tenants' refusal to allow access to the premises;
 - **3.1.1.2.** The Defendant's refusal to conduct repairs or maintenance for defects that do not exist in the premises or defects caused by tenants;
 - 3.1.1.3. The Defendant's refusal to conduct repairs because the Defendant reasonably believes the repair is not required by the Residential Landlord Tenant Act, local ordinances, or the rental agreement; or
 - 3.1.1.4. The Defendant's refusal or inability to conduct repairs or maintenance for other reasons not related to the tenants' exercise of their fair housing rights.
- 3.2. This Assurance of Discontinuance shall not be considered as an admission of a violation for any purpose. The Defendant and the Office of the Attorney General agree that no provision of the Assurance of Discontinuance operates as a penalty, forfeiture, or punishment under the laws of Washington.

3.3. The Defendant understands and agrees that this Assurance of Discontinuance applies to the Defendant, its principals, officers, directors, agents, managers, employees, representatives, successors, and assigns, jointly and severally, while acting personally or through any corporation or other business entity.

IV. NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

- **4.1.** Within sixty (60) days of the entry of this Assurance of Discontinuance by the Court, the Defendant shall adopt a Nondiscrimination Policy covering all of its residential rental properties. The Nondiscrimination Policy will be submitted to the Office of the Attorney General at least ten (10) days before its implementation. The Nondiscrimination Policy will take effect if the Office of the Attorney General makes no objection to the Nondiscrimination Policy prior to its proposed effective date.
- 4.2. Within ten (10) days of its adoption, the Defendant shall distribute a copy of this Assurance of Discontinuance and the Nondiscrimination Policy to all principals, officers, directors, agents, managers, employees, and representatives who have responsibility for showing, leasing, managing, or maintaining the Defendant's residential rental properties. During the term of this Assurance of Discontinuance, any new principal, officer, director, manager, employee, or representative shall be given a copy of this Assurance of Discontinuance and the Nondiscrimination Policy within ten (10) days of commencing employment.

V. TRAINING

5.1 Within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Assurance of Discontinuance, each of the Defendant's principals, officers, directors, agents, managers, employees, and representatives who have responsibility for showing, leasing, managing, or maintaining the Defendant's

residential rental properties shall undergo in-person fair housing training. The training shall be conducted by an independent, qualified third party, approved in advance by the Office of the Attorney General. The Defendant shall obtain confirmation of attendance for each individual who receives training including the date, name of the course, length of the course, name of the instructor, and name of the individual who completed the course. Copies of these certificates shall be submitted to the Office of the Attorney General. The Defendant shall bear any expenses associated with this training.

VI. RECORDKEEPING

- 6.1. Effective immediately and for the term of this Assurance of Discontinuance, the Defendant shall maintain all records that relate to its obligations under this Assurance of Discontinuance, including, but not limited to: tickets, logs, and photographs related to vehicle towing; maintenance requests; work orders; training confirmations; and any complaints made or received that implicate the Nondiscrimination Policy.
- 6.2. Upon reasonable notice to counsel for the Defendant, representatives of the Office of the Attorney General shall be permitted to access, inspect, and/or copy all business records or documents under control of the Defendant and depose any principal, officer, director, agent, manager, employee, or representative of the Defendant in order to monitor compliance with this Assurance of Discontinuance.

VII. TOWING EXPENSES

7.1. Pursuant to RCW 19.86.080, the Defendant voluntarily agrees to pay towing expenses incurred by Tina Lewis. Within thirty (30) days of entry of this Assurance of Discontinuance, the Defendant shall deliver to the Office of the Attorney General a check made

payable to Tina Lewis in the amount of \$657.38. When the Office of the Attorney General receives the check and a release from Tina Lewis in the form of Appendix A, the Office of the Attorney General shall deliver the check to Tina Lewis and the original, signed release to counsel for the Defendant.

VIII. COSTS AND FEES

8.1. Pursuant to RCW 19.86.080, the Defendant voluntarily agrees to pay attorneys' costs and fees incurred in ensuring compliance with applicable law. Within thirty (30) days of the entry of this Assurance of Discontinuance, the Defendant shall deliver to the Office of the Attorney General a check made payable to "Attorney General – State of Washington" in the amount of \$1,250.00.

IX. ENTRY AND DURATION

- 9.1. The Defendant understands and agrees that if this Assurance of Discontinuance is accepted by the Office of the Attorney General, it will be submitted to the King County Superior Court for approval pursuant to RCW 19.86.100. The Defendant waives any further notice that this Assurance of Discontinuance has been submitted to, or filed with, the Court. Counsel for the Defendant agrees to accept electronic service of a conformed or Court-certified copy.
- **9.2.** This Assurance of Discontinuance shall remain in effect for two (2) years after the date of entry.

X. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

10.1. The Defendant acknowledges that no other promises, representations, or agreements of any nature have been made or entered into by the parties. The parties further

I	Presented by:
2	ROBERT W. FERGUSON
3	Attorney General
4	Mu
5	Colleen M. Melody WSBA #42275
6	Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Unit
7	Office of the Attorney General 800 5th Avenue, Suite 2000
8	Seattle, WA 98104
9	(206) 464-5342 <u>ColleenM1@atg.wa.gov</u>
10	
11	Agreed to and approved for entry by:
12	rigious to and approved for entry eye
13	flana K. John
14	Jeana K. Poloni, WSBX #43172 Loeffler Law Group PLLC
150	500 Union Street, Suite 1025 Seattle, WA 98101
16	(206) 443-4545
17	jpoloni@loefflerlegal.com
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APPENDIX A

In consideration of the agreement between the Office of the Attorney General and DSB Investments, LLC and in consideration for the payment of \$657.38 for reimbursed towing expenses, I, Tina Lewis, do hereby release and discharge DSB Investments, LLC, along with its insurers, attorneys, officers, employees, agents, and successors, for any and all claims related to the towing of my vehicles on March 11, 2015. This release includes any claims I have or may have had related to actions or statements made by officers, employees, or agents of DSB Investments, LLC with respect to my vehicles.

•				7
Signature				
Print Name				

Executed this day of

1 |

Home Address

ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON Civil Rights Unit 800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98104-3188 (206) 442-4492