STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS **SECURITIES DIVISION**

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of the Franchise Investment Protection Act of the

FENCO USA, INC.; UI SUP LEE,

State of Washington by:

IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING

whether there has been a violation

Respondents.

Order Number S-07-008-07-SC01

STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER ORDER TO CEASE AND **DESIST**

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO: Fenco USA. Inc.

Ui Sup Lee

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Please take notice that the Securities Administrator of the State of Washington has reason to believe that Respondents, Fenco USA, Inc. and Ui Sup Lee, have each violated the Franchise Investment Protection Act of Washington, RCW 19.100, and that their violations justify the entry of an order of the Securities Administrator under RCW 19.100.248 against each to cease and desist from such violations. The Securities Administrator finds as follows:

TENTATIVE FINDINGS OF FACT

Respondents

1. Fenco USA, Inc. ("Fenco") is a Washington corporation with its principal place of business at 621 Pacific Avenue, Suite 14, Tacoma, Washington 98402. Fenco currently owns a cigar and wine store doing business as Cigarland in Gig Harbor, Washington.

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Ui Sup Lee ("Lee") is owner and President of Fenco, USA.

STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER AN ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST. AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO DENY FUTURE REGISTRATION, IMPOSE FINES, AND RECOVER COSTS

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS **Securities Division** PO Box 9033 Olympia, WA 98507-9033 360-902-8760

Nature of the Offering

- 3. Fenco is the seller of a franchise opportunity to operate a cigar and wine store called "Cigar Wine" in which cigars, cigarettes, wine, and sundries are sold.
- 4. In Fall 2005, Lee offered Purchaser, a Washington resident, a franchise opportunity to run a new cigar and wine store named "Cigar Wine." Lee specifically represented the opportunity as a franchise, stated he was licensed to sell franchises, and agreed not to sell another franchise within a five mile radius. As part of the opportunity, Lee offered to provide Purchaser training in operations, advertising, marketing, accounting, inventory ordering, and customer service. The advertising and marketing support that Lee would provide included the store name, the design for the signs on the storefront, Lee's expertise in designing a cigar and wine store layout, and Lee's choice of a store location based on market research. Purchaser would pay a \$30,000 fee at 18% annual interest. In the course of their discussions, the parties variously called this fee a "royalty," "usage," or "franchise" fee. Purchaser would pay \$2,000 a month with payment of the full \$30,000 plus interest due within two years. At that time, Purchaser would have first rights to purchase the store's fixtures from Fenco at a price that would be determined by depreciation.
- 5. Lee represented to Purchaser that after six months, the store would produce a sales volume of \$1,000 to \$1,100 a day and a monthly profit of \$10,000. These sales figures were based on sales figures and expenses of Cigarland in Gig Harbor.
 - 6. In December 2005, Purchaser made a \$10,000 down payment to Lee.
- 7. Lee obtained a lease, business license and liquor license for Cigar Wine under the name Fenco and supervised the construction and design of the store. Purchaser received several days of training from Lee at Cigarland. The training included how to serve customers and order inventory, which was required to be done through Cigarland. Cigar Wine officially opened for business in March 2006. Lee provided onsite

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8. Purchaser's revenues did not meet Lee's projections. In July 2006, Purchaser paid an additional \$28,500 to Lee with the understanding that this would satisfy the "royalty" fee and release Purchaser from the two-year agreement. Despite receiving the down payment of \$10,000 and the additional payment of \$28,500, Lee insisted that the two-year term was still in effect and Purchaser would need to continue monthly payments.

Misrepresentations and Omissions

- 9. Respondents did not supply Purchaser with a Uniform Franchise Offering Circular.
- Respondents failed to provide a reasonable basis upon which the projections of earnings for a cigar and wine store located in DuPont were made.

Registration Status

11. Fenco and Lee are not currently registered to sell the Cigar Wine franchise in the State of Washington and have not previously been registered.

Based upon the above Tentative Findings of Fact, the following Conclusions of Law are made:

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- The offer or sale of franchise described above constitutes the offer or sale of a franchise as defined in RCW 19.100.010(4) and RCW 19.100.010(16).
- The offer or sale of said franchise is in violation of RCW 19.100.020 because no registration for such offer or sale is on file with the Securities Administrator.

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STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO

14. The offer or sale of said franchise was made in violation of RCW 19.100.170, the anti-fraud provision of the Franchise Investment Protection Act, because Respondents represented that Fenco was licensed to sell franchises in the State of Washington. Additionally, Respondents did not provide reasonable basis upon which projections for earnings were based.

15. The offer and/or sale of the above-described franchise was made in violation of RCW 19.100.080, the disclosure document requirement provision of the Franchise Investment Protection Act, because Respondent did not provide the Washington purchasers with a UFOC that contained all material information about the franchise including, but not necessarily limited to, a financial statement for the seller.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ORDER RESPONDENTS TO CEASE AND DESIST

Based on the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that Respondents, Fenco USA, Inc. and Ui Sup Lee, and their agents and employees, each shall cease and desist from violations of RCW 19.100.020 and RCW 19.100.170.

AUTHORITY AND PROCEDURE

This Statement of Charges is entered pursuant to the provisions of RCW 19.100.248 and RCW 19.100.130 and is subject to the provisions of RCW 34.05. Respondents, Fenco USA, Inc. and Ui Sup Lee, may each make a written request for a hearing as set forth in the NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO DEFEND AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING accompanying this order.

If a Respondent does not request a hearing, the Securities Administrator intends to adopt the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as final and enter a permanent order to cease and desist as to that Respondent.

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