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

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Order No. S-16-2088-20-SC01

ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND FINAL ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST. TO DENY FUTURE REGISTRATIONS, TO IMPOSE A FINE, AND TO CHARGE COSTS

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO: Yuri Prostov

Respondents.

IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING

Whether there has been a violation of the

Global Investment Management Inc., dba

Securities Act of Washington by:

Global Investment Advisors,

Yuri Prostov:

Global Investment Management Inc., dba Global Investment Advisors (CRD #144000)

On August 31, 2020, the Securities Administrator of the state of Washington issued Statement of Charges and Notice of Intent to Enter Order to Cease and Desist, To Deny Future Registrations, To Impose a Fine, and to Charge Costs, Order No. S-16-2088-20-SC01 ("Statement of Charges"). The Statement of Charges, together with a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing ("Notice") and an Application for Adjudicative Hearing ("Application"), were served on Respondents Yuri Prostov and Global Investment Management Inc., dba Global Investment Advisors, on September 25, 2020. The Notice advised Respondents Yuri Prostov and Global Investment Management Inc., dba Global Investment Advisors that the Application must be received within twenty days from the date of receipt of the notice. Respondents Yuri Prostov and Global Investment Management Inc., dba Global Investment Advisors failed to request an administrative hearing within twenty days of receipt of the Statement of Charges and Notice.

The Securities Administrator therefore adopts as final the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as set forth in the Statement of Charges and enters a final order against Respondents Yuri Prostov and Global Investment Management Inc., dba Global Investment Advisors to cease and desist

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from violations of the Securities Act, to deny future registrations, and to impose the fines and costs sought in the Statement of Charges.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Respondents

- 1. Yuri Prostov (Prostov) resides in Bellevue, Washington. Prostov was the President and Chief Operations Officer of Global Investment Management Inc. dba Global Investment Advisors. From June 2009 to December 2014, Prostov was a registered investment adviser representative in Washington State for Global Investment Management Inc. dba Global Investment Advisors. Prostov has a Central Registration Depository (CRD) number of 5668876.
- 2. Global Investment Management Inc. dba Global Investment Advisors (Global Investment Management), a Delaware corporation, was registered as a foreign profit corporation in Washington State from December 16, 2009 until April 3, 2020. Global Investment Management operated out of Bellevue, Washington. From June 2009 to December 2014, Global Investment Management was a registered investment adviser in Washington State. Global Investment Management has a CRD number of 144000.

Nature of the Conduct

Overview

3. Beginning no later than June 2016 and continuing through at least January 2017, Prostov and Global Investment Management acted as an unregistered investment adviser and/or investment adviser representative for at least two Washington State investors. Prostov and Global Investment Management charged these investors an annual fee for these advisory services, which included discretionary securities trading in their retail brokerage accounts.

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Conduct

4. In the summer of 2016, Prostov and Global Investment Management entered into an Engagement Contract: Investment Advisory & Financial Planning Services Agreement with at least two Washington State investors. On the cover page of these Engagement Contracts, Prostov is identified as the Chief Investment Officer. The signature line of these Engagement Contracts identifies Prostov as "Investment Advisor." The Engagement Contract refers to Prostov and Global Investment Management as money manager, investment advisor, financial advisor, and financial planner.

- 5. Prostov and Global Investment Management charged an upfront fee from the investors for the investment advisory services. Prostov and Global Investment Management charged one investor \$500 for six months of investment advisory services, which the investor paid upfront in full. Prostov and Global Investment Management charged another investor \$2,500 for twelve months of investment advisory services, which the investor paid upfront \$1,000.
- 6. The investors both held retail brokerage accounts at Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC ("Fidelity"). In June and July 2016, both investors granted limited trading authority to some of their Fidelity retail brokerage accounts to Prostov. This limited trading authority gave Prostov the authority to view the investors' accounts online and to buy and sell securities on their behalf. Prostov used this limited trading authority to review the investors' accounts and to execute discretionary trades on behalf of at least one investor.
- 7. In August 2016, Fidelity removed Prostov's trading authority over both of the investors' accounts, and Prostov could no longer use his own login credentials to access and make trades in the investors' accounts.
- 8. Shortly after Fidelity removed Prostov's trading authority, Prostov requested both investors to provide him with their Fidelity login credentials so that he could still review and make trades in their

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accounts. Both investors agreed and provided Prostov with their login credentials. Prostov used these login credentials to review and exercise discretionary trading in their accounts.

- 9. For one of the investors, after the initial six month term concluded, Prostov and Global Investment Management sent a letter to the investor stating that they owed an additional \$342.22 in management fees. In the letter, Prostov and Global Investment Management misrepresented that the service agreement the investor had signed included an annual 1% assets under management fee. In reality, the service agreement did not include an assets under management fee, but rather a \$500 fee for six months of investment advisory services, which the investor paid up front. Prostov and Global Investment Management attached monthly invoices to this letter for the previous seven months, which calculated and billed the purported asset under management fees. In these monthly invoices, Prostov and Global Investment Management described the service as "Investment Management & Financial Planning Services." Prostov and Global Investment Management also included in the invoices detailed information of the investor's portfolio holdings, including monthly capital gains.
- 10. In December 2016 and January 2017, the investors decided to end their investment advisory relationship with Prostov and Global Investment Management.

Registration Status

- 11. Prostov is not currently registered as an investment adviser or investment adviser representative in the state of Washington.
- 12. Global Investment Management is not currently registered as an investment adviser or investment adviser representative in the state of Washington.
 - Based upon the above Findings of Fact, the following Conclusions of Law are made:

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CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Yuri Prostov acted as an investment adviser and/or an investment adviser representative as defined in RCW 21.20.005(8) and (9) by advising individuals on purchasing and/or selling securities in Fidelity brokerage accounts for compensation.
- 2. Global Investment Management Inc. dba Global Investment Advisors acted as an investment adviser as defined in RCW 21.20.005(8) by advising individuals on purchasing and/or selling securities in Fidelity brokerage accounts for compensation.
- 3. Yuri Prostov violated RCW 21.20.040(3) by acting as an investment adviser and/or investment adviser representative while not so registered in the state of Washington.
- 4. Global Investment Management Inc. dba Global Investment Advisors violated RCW 21.20.040(3) by acting as an investment adviser while not so registered in the state of Washington.
- 5. Yuri Prostov has acted as an investment adviser, as defined in RCW 21.20.005(8), by representing himself to be an investment advisor, financial planner, financial advisor, chief investment officer, and money manager. By doing so while not registered as an investment adviser and/or investment adviser representative, or exempt from such registration in the state of Washington, Yuri Prostov has violated RCW 21.20.040(4).
- 6. Global Investment Management Inc. dba Global Investment Advisors has acted as an investment adviser, as defined in RCW 21.20.005(8), by representing itself to be an investment advisor, financial planner, financial advisor, and money manager. By doing so while not registered as an investment adviser, or exempt from such registration in the state of Washington, Global Investment Management Inc. dba Global Investment Advisors has violated RCW 21.20.040(4).
- 7. Yuri Prostov violated RCW 21.20.020, as described above, by misrepresenting the advisory fees. Such conduct is a course of business which operates as deceit upon the client.

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8. Global Investment Management Inc. dba Global Investment Advisors violated RCW 21.20.020, as described above, by misrepresenting the advisory fees. Such conduct is a course of business which operates as deceit upon the client.

Based upon the foregoing and finding it in the public interest:

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IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondents Yuri Prostov and Global Investment Management Inc., dba Global Investment Advisors, and their agents and employees, shall each cease and desist from violations of RCW 21.20.040 and RCW 21.20.020.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any future securities registration applications of Respondents Yuri Prostov and Global Investment Management Inc., dba Global Investment Advisors as an investment adviser, broker-dealer, investment adviser representative, or securities salesperson shall be denied.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent Yuri Prostov shall be liable for and pay a fine in the amount of \$10,000.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent Yuri Prostov shall be liable for and pay costs in the amount of \$2,000.

AUTHORITY AND PROCEDURE

This FINAL ORDER is entered pursuant to the provisions of RCW 21.20.110 and RCW 21.20.390, and is subject to the provisions of RCW 21.20.120, RCW 21.20.440, and Chapter 34.05 RCW. Respondents have the right to petition the superior court for judicial review of this agency action under the provisions of Chapter 34.05 RCW. For the requirements for judicial review, see RCW 34.05.510 and sections following. Pursuant to RCW 21.20.395, a certified copy of this Order may be filed in Superior Court. If so filed, the clerk shall treat the Order in the same manner as a Superior Court judgment as to the fine, and the fine may be recorded, enforced, or satisfied in like manner.

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Approved by:

Suzanne Sarason

Chief of Enforcement

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WILLFUL VIOLATION OF THIS ORDER IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

SIGNED and ENTERED this 22nd day of October, 2020.

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William M. Beatty Securities Administrator

Presented by:

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Brian J. Guerard Financial Legal Examiner Supervisor