# STATE OF WASHINGTON

1 2	DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SECURITIES DIVISION							
3 4 5 6	IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING Whether there has been a violation of the Securities Act of Washington by:  GETCARBIDS INC.; DGL DEVELOPMENT, LLC; and DANIEL LANGLEY,  Respondents.  Order No.: S-17-2248-18-SC01  ) STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND ) NOTICE OF INTENT TO ) ENTER ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST, ) TO IMPOSE FINES, ) AND TO CHARGE COSTS							
7 8 9	THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO:  GetCarBids Inc.  DGL Development, LLC  Daniel Langley							
10	STATEMENT OF CHARGES							
11	Please take notice that the Securities Administrator of the state of Washington has reason to believe that							
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L3	Washington. The Securities Administrator believes those violations justify the entry of an order against the Respondents							
L4	to cease and desist from such violations and to charge costs pursuant to RCW 21.20.390, and under RCW 21.20.395 to							
L5	impose a fines. The Securities Administrator finds as follows:							
L6	TENTATIVE FINDINGS OF FACT							
L7	Respondent							
18	GetCarBids Inc. ("GetCarBids") was a Nevada corporation that was formed on September 24, 2015.							
L9	During most of the period relevant to this Statement of Charges, GetCarBids's principal place of business was in Bonney							
20	Lake, Washington. Its corporate registration with Nevada has been in default status since September 30, 2017.							
21	GetCarBids was in the business of developing and marketing an online platform for the sale of new and used cars.							
22	2. DGL Development, LLC ("DGL Development") was a Washington LLC that was formed on July 11,							
23	2008 with a principal place of business at the time in Tacoma, Washington. Daniel Langley formed it hoping to turn it							
24	into a consulting business for car dealerships, but that never materialized. DGL Development dissolved in 2009 and had							
25	STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND NOTICE 1 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS OF INTENT TO ENTER ORDER TO Securities Division CEASE AND DESIST, TO IMPOSE FINES, PO Box 9033							

AND TO CHARGE COSTS

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no apparent business activity until Respondents began using it to offer and sell GetCarBids investments, as will be further detailed below.

3. Daniel Langley ("Langley") resided in Bonney Lake, Washington and Renton, Washington during the period relevant to this Statement of Charges. He was the founder and sole member of DGL Development. He was also the founder, a director, and president of GetCarBids.

# **Nature of the Conduct**

#### Overview

- 4. From around August 2015 to at least July 2017, Respondents raised at least \$535,300 by selling GetCarBids common and preferred stock to at least 28 investors. At least 21 of these investors were Washington residents. Respondents sold these investments by telling investors that GetCarBids would develop and soon launch a website called CarBids, an online auction and reverse auction site for car dealerships and retail customers. To date, the platform has not launched. Instead, Langley used most of the investor funds to pay for what appear to be his personal expenses.
- 5. Langley incorporated GetCarBids in September 2015 to develop CarBids. Though the CarBids concept matured over time, particularly after Langley formed a board of directors, Langley envisioned that it would contain two main components: an online auction between car dealerships to buy and sell their excess car inventory, and a reverse auction where car dealerships could bid for the business of retail customers in the market for new or used cars. Eventually, he hoped to expand CarBids to offer car-related services and vendors, such as insurance, financing, and repairs. GetCarBids would generate revenue by charging a fee for each transaction.
- 6. Respondents began selling GetCarBids investments around August 2015, at least a month before Langley incorporated GetCarBids. From the start, Langley used DGL Development, an LLC he formed in 2008, in the investment scheme. Respondents told several investors that DGL Development owned the GetCarBids stock that were being offered and sold to them. Respondents also directed investors to pay DGL Development for their stock, as will be further discussed below.
  - 7. Despite some early development work on the CarBids site, Respondents' main focus from 2015 into

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- 8. Respondents did not have any screening criteria for investors to determine their investment experience or ability to bear the risk of loss. Many investors were not accredited investors or were otherwise unsophisticated investors.
- 9. Respondents aided their sales efforts by providing some investors with offering documents, but were not consistent in what they provided. They provided one early investor with pro forma financial projections that they did not provide to any other investor, to the Division's knowledge. Respondents also provided some later investors with a pitch deck a PowerPoint slideshow that provided information about GetCarBids' concept, potential market, and financial projections. However, Respondents failed to give many investors, particularly those who invested earlier, with any offering or disclosure documents before they invested. They also failed to provide several unaccredited investors with any financial statements.
- Respondents promised many investors that the CarBids website would launch in 2017, and that it would breakeven and generate profit within the first year. In financial projections that Respondents provided to an investor around August 2015, they projected that GetCarBids would bring in nearly \$3.7 million in revenue in the first year of operations. By the seventh year, Respondents projected that GetCarBids would earn gross revenues of over \$270 million. In the pitch deck that they provided to investors around Spring 2017, Respondents projected that GetCarBids would earn almost double that \$500 million by the seventh year. Respondents made numerous other earnings projections in the pitch deck predicting millions in annual revenue. Respondents failed to provide investors with the basis or assumptions that they used to arrive at these financial projections.
- Respondents also falsely represented to investors that GetCarBids already had key components of its business in place, enabling it to quickly generate revenue. Respondents told several investors that it had already received millions of dollars in investments. In the pitch deck, Respondents stated that GetCarBids had secured \$10 million in

- 12. Respondents also falsely represented in the pitch deck that GetCarBids had "current signed deals" with four companies who would offer the CarBids platform to its employees, resulting in a ready source of 2.3 million retail customers for GetCarBids. Three of these companies were major multi-national corporations. Respondents stated that the deals with these companies allowed GetCarBids "to build [its] retail practice quickly with millions of members offering immediate value to the signed dealerships and vendors." In reality, GetCarBids never entered into any agreements with at least three, if not all four, of the companies.
- 13. Similarly, Respondents misrepresented to several investors that GetCarBids had lined up or had commitments from hundreds of car dealerships to participate in the CarBids site. In the pitch deck, for example, Respondents represented that it had "signed deals with over 200 NW dealerships." GetCarBids never had any "signed deals" with any car dealerships nor any commitments from hundreds of dealerships, as Respondents claimed to investors.
- 14. Respondents misrepresented to several investors that they could see a return on their investments when GetCarBids launched its initial public offering (IPO) and that their stock would drastically increase in value as a result. For example, they promised one investor who invested in the summer of 2016 that the IPO would occur in January 2017 and that the investor's common stock would increase from the purchase price of 45 cents per share to \$7-8 per share right after the IPO. The investor pulled money from his IRA to pay for his investment and was concerned about the resulting tax liability. Respondents told the investor that the January 2017 IPO and the large return the investor would receive by selling his stock would take care of the tax issue. Respondents failed to disclose to this investor the risk of the IPO not occurring and instead misled the investor into believing that the IPO was a certainty. Respondents also failed to provide this and several other investors with the basis for their post-IPO stock valuations.
- 15. Overall, Respondents did not provide many investors with the general risks of investing, nor with the specific risks of investing in an online car-buying platform.

16. To date, the CarBids website has not launched and no IPO has occurred. GetCarBids' corporate registration is in default with the state of Nevada and it is unknown what its current business activities are. No investor has received any return on their investment, to the Division's knowledge.

# DGL Development's Role in GetCarBids Investment

- 17. Respondents required investors to purchase their GetCarBids stock through DGL Development by paying DGL Development and, at times, by executing investment-related contracts with DGL Development. Respondents told some investors that the investment was set up in this manner because DGL Development owned the GetCarBids stock that the investor was purchasing. Around the time that he incorporated GetCarBids in September 2015, Langley issued 60% of GetCarBids' 200 million shares of authorized common stock to himself and the remaining 40% to "DGL Developments LLC," even though DGL Development was dissolved at the time, for a purchase price of \$12,000 each. Langley admitted that neither he nor DGL Development paid any money for the stock. Respondents did not provide several other investors with any information whatsoever to explain DGL Development's involvement in the investment.
- 18. Respondents failed to disclose to several investors that DGL Development was dissolved and had no legal existence. They also did not disclose to these investors the risks of purchasing stock from, or entering into contracts with, a legally non-existent entity, including the risk that the stock purchase and contract could be deemed legally invalid.
- 19. Respondents also failed to disclose to investors who purchased preferred stock that GetCarBids had never authorized the issuance of preferred stock. GetCarBids had only authorized common stock. Respondents sold at least 125,000 shares of preferred stock to at least five investors, raising at least \$75,000.
- 20. Instead of clarifying the relationship of DGL Development to the investment or disclosing that it was dissolved, Respondents often represented to investors that DGL Development and GetCarBids were the same entity. Though Respondents often did not enter into any contracts with investors at the time they invested, if ever, many of the

DGL Development's legal name is "DGL Development, LLC," not "DGL Developments LLC."

agreements that they did execute represented DGL Development and GetCarBids as the same company. For example, in many stock assignment agreements that Respondents entered into with investors, they referred to the entities as "DGL Development (AKA GetCarBids Inc.)." In other agreements, Respondents listed DGL Development as the owner of the GetCarBids stock it was selling, but also stated that GetCarBids was "standing in the name of DGL Development." Respondents' lack of clarity regarding the entities led several investors to wrongly believe that DGL Development was the same entity as GetCarBids, that it was the parent company of GetCarBids, or that DGL Development was langley's alter ego and not a separate legal entity itself.

21. In sworn testimony before the Securities Division, Langley stated that he considered the funds raised from the investments to belong to DGL Development (or himself, as he was its sole member) because DGL Development owned the stock that Respondents sold to investors. Langley also testified that he considered any investment funds used for the GetCarBids business to be a loan from DGL Development to GetCarBids. Langley admitted that he had not decided on the terms of any such loan, nor was any loan ever memorialized in a written agreement. Respondents failed to disclose to several investors that their investment funds would be treated as a loan from DGL Development to GetCarBids.

## Use of Investor Funds

- 22. By directing investors to pay DGL Development under the guise that they were purchasing DGL Development-owned stock, Langley was able to deposit most, if not all, of the investor funds into a DGL Development bank account that only he controlled. Of the \$535,300 minimum that Respondents raised by selling GetCarBids stock, Langley deposited about \$486,290 into the DGL Development account. The remaining \$49,010 in investor funds are unaccounted for.
- 23. Langley was the sole manager of DGL Development and GetCarBids' finances and had sole spending authority for both companies. Langley did not open a bank account for GetCarBids until March 2017. He funded that account almost entirely from transfers of investor funds from the DGL Development account. Until he opened the GetCarBids account, GetCarBids expenses were paid out of the DGL Development account. Langley also used the DGL Development account as his own personal account.

STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST, TO IMPOSE FINES, AND TO CHARGE COSTS

24. When Respondents sold the investments, they misrepresented to many investors how they would use the investment funds or omitted this information altogether. Respondents told some investors that their investment funds would generally be used for the GetCarBids business or to develop the online platform, but provided no specifics. In particular, Respondents did not disclose to many investors that Langley would be paid a salary, could take draws from the investment funds at his sole discretion, or would otherwise personally benefit financially from their investments.

25. Langley testified to the Division that GetCarBids and DGL Development had virtually no overhead and that GetCarBids' expenses consisted mainly of web development, travel expenses, and a few one-time electronic equipment purchases.<sup>2</sup> Though Respondents spent some investor funds on these expenses, they spent the majority of investor funds on what appear to be Langley's personal expenses. The following table summarizes the total deposits and most, but not all, of Langley's non-business expenditures from the DGL Development account from September 2015 through August 2017, during the period that Respondents were selling GetCarBids investments:

DGL Development Checking Account - Sept. 1, 2015 to August 31, 2017 (Approximate Totals)

Deposits by Category		Expenditures by Category (Non-Business)		
Investor Funds	\$486,290	Cash & ATM Withdrawals (Non-Casino)	\$195,289.91	
Cash/ATM Deposits <sup>3</sup>	\$59,940 Casino & ATM Withdrawals at Casino		\$153,365.17	
Transfers/Refunds/Misc.	\$18,648.53	Retail/Services	\$34,007.27	
Funds From Existing Investors (Unknown Purpose)	\$10,000	Dining	\$11,328.69	
		Automobile/Maintenance	\$10,449.34	
Total Deposits	\$576,678.53	Total Expenditures (Non-Business, Minimum)	\$404,440.38	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> From September 2015 through August 2017, Langley spent around \$25,251.69 on travel, including hotel, airfare, and gas. Langley admitted that he did not have a system in place to track personal versus business expenses. The travel expenses included three trips that Langley took to Las Vegas costing at least \$9,000. Langley claimed that at least one of these trips to Las Vegas was to meet with potential investors.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The sources of the \$59,940 in cash that Langley deposited are currently unknown. As stated earlier, some \$49,010 in investor funds cannot be accounted for but may be included in the deposited cash.

26. The following snapshots are illustrative of how Langley spent investor funds:

a. In 2016, around \$96,200 was deposited into the DGL Development account, at least \$95,000 of which was from one investor. Langley had only \$107.10 in the account before these deposits. Over the next 24 days, Langley withdrew \$36,209 of the deposited amount in cash and spent another \$21,066 at the casino. He also used \$10,000 to repay a prior loan and spent at least \$6,400 on other personal expenses.

- In a 41-day period in 2016, approximately \$50,170 was deposited into the DGL Development b. account. Investor funds accounted for \$50,000 of that amount. The account balance before these deposits was \$7.88. During this period, Langley spent \$18,911 at the casino, withdrew \$18,300 in cash, and spent at least \$7,869 on other personal expenses.
- In a 34-day period in early 2017, around \$95,250 was deposited into the DGL Development account, at least \$92,000 of which came from three investors. The DGL Development account was overdrawn by \$250.26 before these deposits. Langley withdrew \$38,102 of the deposited amount in cash and spent \$13,303 at the casino. He also spent an additional \$16,746 of the deposited amount on other personal expenses.
- 27. Respondents failed to disclose to the investor that invested in all three of the above examples how Langley would use the investors' funds. Specifically, they did not disclose to this investor that Langley would use the investor's investment for his personal financial benefit. This investor believed his investment would be used for the GetCarBids business.

#### Registration Status

- 28. GetCarBids Inc. is not currently registered to sell its securities in the state of Washington and has not previously been so registered, nor has it filed a claim of exemption from registration.
- 29. DGL Development, LLC has also not currently registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the state of Washington and has not previously been so registered.

30. Daniel Langley is not currently registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the state of Washington and has not previously been so registered.

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

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The offer and/or sale of the GetCarBids common and preferred stock described above constitute the offer and/or sale of a security as defined in RCW 21.20.005(14) and (17).
- GetCarBids Inc.; DGL Development, LLC; and Daniel Langley have each violated RCW 21.20.140,
   because, as set forth in the Tentative Findings of Fact, they offered and/or sold securities for which no registration is on
   file with the Securities Administrator.
- 3. DGL Development, LLC and Daniel Langley have each violated RCW 21.20.040 by offering and/or selling said securities while not being registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the state of Washington.
- GetCarBids Inc.; DGL Development, LLC; and Daniel Langley have each violated RCW 21.20.010(1),
   because, as set forth in the Tentative Findings of Fact, they employed a device, scheme, or artifice to defraud investors.
- 5. GetCarBids Inc.; DGL Development, LLC; and Daniel Langley have each violated RCW 21.20.010(2), because, as set forth in the Tentative Findings of Fact, they made untrue statements of material fact or omitted to state material facts necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances in which they were made, not misleading.
- 5. GetCarBids Inc.; DGL Development, LLC; and Daniel Langley have each violated RCW 21.20.010(3), because, as set forth in the Tentative Findings of Fact, they engaged in an act, practice, or course of business which operated or would have operated as a fraud or deceit upon investors.

# NOTICE OF INTENT TO ORDER THE RESPONDENT TO CEASE AND DESIST

Based upon the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order, pursuant to RCW 21.20.390(1), that:

AND TO CHARGE COSTS

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- a. Respondents GetCarBids Inc.; DGL Development, LLC; Daniel Langley; and each of their agents and employees shall cease and desist from violations of RCW 21.20.010 and RCW 21.20.140; and
- Respondents DGL Development, LLC; Daniel Langley; and each of their agents and employees shall cease and desist from violations of RCW 21.20.040.

#### NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPOSE FINES

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.395, and based upon the Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that Respondents GetCarBids Inc.; DGL Development, LLC; and Daniel Langley shall be jointly and severally liable for and shall pay a fine of \$100,000.

#### NOTICE OF INTENT TO CHARGE COSTS

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.390, and based upon the Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that Respondents GetCarBids Inc.; DGL Development, LLC; and Daniel Langley shall be jointly and severally liable for and shall pay the costs, fees, and other expenses incurred in the administrative investigation and hearing of this matter, in an amount of not less than \$25,000.

## AUTHORITY AND PROCEDURE

This Statement of Charges is entered pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 21.20 RCW and is subject to the provisions of Chapter 34.05 RCW. Respondents GetCarBids Inc.; DGL Development, LLC; and Daniel Langley 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 make a hearing request in the time allowed, the Securities Administrator intends to adopt the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as final and to enter a permanent order to cease and desist as to that Respondent, to impose any fines sought against that respondent, and to charge any costs sought against that Respondent.

1	Signed and Entered this21stday of	February		<u>,</u> 2018.	
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