STATE OF WASHINGTON 1 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS **SECURITIES DIVISION** 2 IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING 3 Whether there has been a violation of the Washington Franchise Investment Protection 4 Act by: 5 Beautiful Surfaces, Inc. d/b/a Garage Kings, 6 Respondent. 7 8 9

Order No.: S-19-2676-19-CO01

CONSENT ORDER

Pursuant to the Washington Franchise Investment Protection Act, RCW 19.100, the Securities Division and Respondent Beautiful Surfaces, Inc. d/b/a Garage Kings ("Garage Kings") do hereby enter into this Consent Order in settlement of the matters alleged herein. Respondent Garage Kings neither admits nor denies the Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law as stated below.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Respondents

1. Garage Kings is a Canadian entity with its principal place of business in Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada. Garage Kings is in the business of franchising garage floor coating territories.

Registration Status

2. Respondent Garage Kings is not currently registered to sell franchises in the State of Washington and has not previously been so registered. There is no notification of exemption on file with the State of Washington. An affiliate, GarageKings.com, Inc., filed a franchise registration application with the Securities Division on February 15, 2019. The application is still pending.

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Nature of Conduct

- 3. In 2018, Garage Kings advertised the sale of territories through an online marketplace for businesses. In the advertisement, Garage Kings promised high profit margins, no royalties, and represented that half of its territory owners expanded or were planning on doing so in the next year. In connection with its "no royalties" claim, Garage Kings also represented that it only made money when the territory owner made money.
- 4. Garage Kings failed to provide a basis for its "high profit margin" claim. Garage Kings did not require financial statements from its territory owners, and instead of basing its claim on data derived from these statements, Garage Kings based its claim on anecdotal conversations with its territory owners about revenue generated from individual jobs. Garage Kings also did not disclose in its advertisement that its claim was based on a per-job estimate, instead of a quarterly or annual analysis of the earnings of its territories.
- 5. Garage Kings did not disclose in its advertisement that it charged a membership fee of \$2,000.00 per month, half of which was spent on online marketing services.
- 6. Garage Kings failed to provide a basis for its claim that half of its territory owners expanded or were planning to expand in the next year. Garage Kings did not require financial statements from its territory owners, and instead of basing its claim on data derived from these statements, Garage Kings based its claim on anecdotal conversations with its territory owners. Additionally, Garage Kings did not disclose the financial status of the other half of territory owners.
- 7. Garage Kings entered into a "Garage Kings Installer Agreement/Marketing Program" with a Washington state resident ("Franchisee A") on July 5, 2018, and gave Franchisee A a right to use the Garage King trademark. Garage Kings charged Franchisee A a \$15,000.00 fee to purchase his territory, and agreed to charge Franchisee A a \$2,000.00 monthly membership fee beginning in September 2018. Garage Kings

did not provide Franchisee A a franchise disclosure document in connection with his purchase of a Garage Kings territory.

8. Franchisee A's relationship with Garage Kings ended in December 2018.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The offer or sale of territories as described above constitutes the offer or sale of a franchise as defined in RCW 19.100.010(6), RCW 19.100.010(12), and RCW 19.100.010(17).
- 2. The offer or sale of said territories was in violation of RCW 19.100.020 because no registration for such offer or sale is on file with the Washington Securities Administrator.
- 3. The offer or sale of said territories was in violation of RCW 19.100.080 because Garage Kings failed to provide the franchisees with a franchise disclosure document prior to the sale of the franchises.
- 4. The offer or sale of said territories was in violation of RCW 19.100.170 because Garage Kings made untrue statements of material facts or omitted material facts necessary to make the statements made in light of the circumstances under which they were made not misleading.

CONSENT ORDER

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

IT IS AGREED AND ORDERED that Respondent Garage Kings, its agents, and its employees shall each cease and desist from offering or selling franchises in violation of RCW 19.100.020, the registration section of the Washington Franchise Investment Protection Act.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED AND ORDERED that Respondent Garage Kings, its agents, and its employees shall each cease and desist from any violation of RCW 19.100.080, the franchise disclosure document section of the Washington Franchise Investment Protection Act.

CONSENT ORDER

IT IS FURTHER AGREED AND ORDI	ERED that Respondent Garage Kings, its agents, and its
employees shall each cease and desist from an	y violation of RCW 19.100.170, the false or misleading
statements or omissions section of the Washingto	on Franchise Investment Protection Act.
IT IS FURTHER AGREED AND ORDE	RED that Respondent Garage Kings shall be liable for and
shall pay investigative costs of \$2281.25 prior to	the entry of this Consent Order.
IT IS FURTHER AGREED that the Secur	ities Division has jurisdiction to enter this Consent Order.
IT IS FURTHER AGREED that Responde	ent Garage Kings, enters into this Consent Order freely and
voluntarily and with a full understanding of its te	rms and significance.
IT IS FURTHER AGREED that in consider	eration of the foregoing, Respondent Garage Kings waives
its right to a hearing and to judicial review of this	matter.
Signed this5th day ofSepte	mber, 2019
Signed by:	Approved as to form by:
Beautiful Surfaces, Inc.	
By/s/	/s/
Timothy Frazer Chief Operating Officer	David J. Kaufmann, Attorney for Respondent Bar No. 1420363

	SIGNED and ENTER	ED this <u>16th</u>	day of _	September	, 2019
			William M	Reatty	En Seats
				Administrator	
Approved	l by:		Presented b	y:	
Suzanne S Chief of E	Sarason Enforcement		Patrick Stic Financial I	ckney Legal Examiner	<u></u>
Reviewed Jack McCl Financial I		oor			