STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SECURITIES DIVISION

3 IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING Whether there has been a violation of the

Franchise Investment Protection Act of

Washington by:

Nutrishop, Inc.;

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Order No.: S-19-2724-19-CO01

CONSENT ORDER

Respondent

Pursuant to the Franchise Investment Protection Act of Washington, RCW 19.100, the Securities Division and Respondent Nutrishop, Inc. do hereby enter into this Consent Order in settlement of the matters alleged herein. Respondent Nutrishop, Inc. neither admits nor denies the Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law as stated below.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Respondent

1. Nutrishop, Inc. ("Nutrishop") is a Nevada corporation with a principal place of business in Henderson, Nevada. Nutrishop was formed in 2003 as a California corporation, and converted into a Nevada corporation on February 5, 2013. Nutrishop grants franchises for stores that sell sports nutrition, dietary supplements, vitamins, weight loss products, food items, and other products. The President of Nutrishop, Inc. is Bryon McLendon.

Nature of the Conduct

2. On July 31, 2018, Nutrishop, Inc. filed an initial franchise registration application (DFI File No. 70016563) with the Securities Administrator. As part of its registration application, Nutrishop, Inc. disclosed that it previously operated under a license model where it granted licensees the right to operate stores in the state of Washington.

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3. In May 2014, an Idaho resident paid \$7,500 to Nutrishop as a deposit to reserve a territory in Spokane, Washington for the operation of Nutrishop store. The Idaho resident owned and operated a Nutrishop store in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. In 2017, the Idaho resident entered into a partnership with another individual who made a second \$7,500 payment to Nutrishop as a license fee. The payment was made in connection with the execution of a one-year Nutrishop Store License Agreement for a store that later opened in Spokane in December 2017.

4. In March 2015, a Washington resident signed a Nutrishop Pro Shop Agreement for a Nutrishop business that began operating in Lacey, Washington in around April 2015. Under the agreement, the licensee had the right to operate a Nutrishop "pro shop" within a fitness studio in Lacey. Under the terms of the two-year agreement, the licensee was to required to pay a \$5,000 origination fee, but Nutrishop waived the required fee due to the licensee's existing endorsement relationship with Nutrishop. A renewal of the agreement was signed on February 1, 2017, which had a one-year term. Another one-year renewal agreement was signed on about February 1, 2018.

- 5. Nutrishop entered into other related agreements with the licensees, including a Product Distribution Agreement, which required the licensees to pay an administration fee on a monthly basis if they failed to purchase a specified minimum amount of products from an affiliate of Nutrishop.
- 6. The Nutrishop Store License Agreement constitutes the sale of a franchise under the Franchise Investment Protection Act of Washington. Nutrishop granted the licensee the right to use the name "Nutrishop" in the operation of a Nutrishop business at a specific location in Washington. At the licensee's request, Nutrishop assisted in the licensee's creation of marketing materials for the licensee to use. The agreement also indicated that Nutrishop would provide training materials and guidelines to the licensee. The Nutrishop Store License Agreement created a business that was substantially associated with a trademark, service, or trade name. The agreement granted the licensee the right and license to use "Licensed Rights"

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including Nutrishop's trademarks and marketing materials at its Nutrishop business. As described above, Nutrishop Store License Agreement also required the licensee to pay a fee to Nutrishop.

7. Nutrishop failed to provide the licensees with a Franchise Disclosure Document containing current material information about Nutrishop and its officers and directors. Nutrishop failed to disclose to licensees that a director of the company, Clement Ziroli, Jr. ("Ziroli"), was subject to litigation for alleged securities violations and violations of Arizona law. Ziroli has been a director of Nutrishop, Inc. since the company's formation in 2003. On December 28, 2010, Ziroli entered into a Consent Order with the Arizona Department of Financial Institutions for alleged violations of Arizona laws and regulations relating to his role as President of First Mortgage Corporation, a California-based mortgage company. As part of the Consent Order, Ziroli and First Mortgage Corporation agreed to pay a \$35,000 civil penalty. On May 31, 2016, Ziroli settled a civil complaint that was filed by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. The SEC's complaint alleged Ziroli and other codefendants violated the federal securities laws in connection with First Mortgage Corporation. As part of the settlement, Ziroli agreed to pay more than \$400,000 in disgorgement and a \$200,000 civil penalty.

Registration Status

8. Respondent Nutrishop, Inc. 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. As described above, on July 31, 2018, Nutrishop, Inc. filed a franchise registration application with the Washington Securities Division. To date, that franchise registration application has not yet been approved.

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

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CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The offer or sale of the franchise 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 franchise was in violation of RCW 19.100.020 because no registration for such offer or sale is on file with the Securities Administrator.
- 3. The offer or sale of said franchise was in violation of RCW 19.100.080 because the Respondent failed to provide the franchise with a franchise disclosure document prior to the sale of the franchise.
- 4. The offer or sale of said franchise was in violation of RCW 19.100.170 because the Respondent omitted to disclose material facts regarding prior litigation against one of the directors of the company.

CONSENT ORDER

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

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

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

IT IS AGREED AND ORDERED that Respondent Nutrishop, Inc. and their agents and employees shall each cease and desist from offering or selling franchises in violation of RCW 19.100.170.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED AND ORDERED that Respondent Nutrishop, Inc. shall be liable for and		
shall pay investigative costs of \$1,000 prior to the entry of	this Consent Order.	
IT IS FURTHER AGREED that the Securities Div	rision has jurisdiction to enter this Consent (Order.
IT IS FURTHER AGREED that Respondent Nutris	shop, Inc. enters into this Consent Order free	ely and
voluntarily and with a full understanding of its terms and s	significance.	
IT IS FURTHER AGREED that in consideration of	f the foregoing, Respondent Nutrishop, Inc.	waives
its right to a hearing and to judicial review of this matter.		
Signed this day of September	, 2019	
Signed by: Nutrishop, Inc. By Bryon McLendon President		
SIGNED and ENTERED this <u>25th</u> day of	September , 2	2019
	William M. Beatty Securities Administrator	
Approved by:	Presented by:	

CONSENT ORDER

Suzanne Sarason

Chief of Enforcement

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Robert Kondrat Financial Legal Examiner

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