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

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IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING Order No. S-19-2786-23-CO01 Whether there has been a violation of the CONSENT ORDER AS TO

> American Shaman Franchise Systems, LLC, f.k.a. American Shaman Franchise Systems, Inc. and d.b.a. CBD American Shaman

Respondents.

Franchise Investment Protection Act of

and d.b.a. CBD American Shaman, and

Raymond Howard Miley Jr.,

American Shaman Franchise Systems, LLC,

f.k.a. American Shaman Franchise Systems, Inc.

Washington by:

On June 15, 2021, the Securities Administrator of the state of Washington issued Statement of Charges and Notice of Intent to Enter Order to Cease and Desist, order number S-19-2786-21-SC01 against American Shaman Franchise Systems, Inc. d.b.a. CBD American Shaman, and Raymond Howard Miley Jr. Pursuant to the Franchise Investment Protection Act of Washington, RCW 19.100, the Securities Division and Respondent American Shaman Franchise Systems, LLC, f.k.a. American Shaman Franchise Systems, Inc. and d.b.a. CBD American Shaman do hereby enter into this Consent Order in settlement of the matters alleged herein. Respondents neither admit nor deny the Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law as stated below.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

## Respondents

- Respondent American Shaman Franchise Systems, LLC, f.k.a. American Shaman Franchise Systems, Inc. ("ASFS") and d.b.a. CBD American Shaman converted to a limited liability company in the State of Nevada on January 6, 2020. Its principal business address is in Kansas City, Missouri. ASFS is in the business of offering franchises that offer for retail sale "Industrial Hemp" and other plant-based products.
  - 2. Raymond Howard Miley Jr. was the President of ASFS in 2019.

CONSENT ORDER

CONSENT ORDER

#### **Wisconsin Franchise Investment Law Violation**

3. On May 5, 2021, the Administrator of the State of Wisconsin, Department of Financial Institutions, Division of Securities ("Division") entered into a Consent Order with American Shaman Franchise System, LLC in connection with the company's violations of the Wisconsin Franchise Investment Law. In the Consent Order, the Division alleged that American Shaman Franchise System, LLC ("American Shaman") violated the Wisconsin Franchise Investment Law by selling an unregistered franchise and making a false or misleading statement when it failed to disclose the bankruptcy of its Franchise Director Kathi Miley. The Division ordered American Shaman to cease and desist from making or causing to be made to any person or entity in Wisconsin any further offers or sales of franchises unless and until such franchises are registered or are exempted from registration.

## **Nature of Conduct**

## Unregistered Franchise Offer

- 4. In or prior to 2018, CBD American Shaman approached a number of Washington residents, who were working for the Kirby Company selling vacuum cleaners and related products, about the opportunity to open CBD American Shaman stores in the state. Some of the residents opened stores and purchased products from CBD American Shaman on a wholesale basis.
- 5. CBD American Shaman offered at least two of these residents ("Residents") the opportunity to enter into a "franchise agreement" for \$5,000 and subject to the company registering to offer franchises in Washington. In connection with this offer, CBD American Shaman provided the Residents with a CBD American Shaman franchise application, franchise store examples, a brochure entitled "Getting Your American Shaman Franchise in 7 Easy Steps," "In Store Training" instructions, CBD American Shaman

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store signage information, a franchise store location application, and a "Build Out Materials List."

Failure to Disclose Bankruptcy in Franchise Registration Application

6. In 2019, ASFS filed a franchise registration application with the Washington Securities Division, file number 70016510. The application was signed by ASFS President Raymond Howard Miley Jr., who certified that the application's and the attached exhibits' contents were true and correct.

- 7. ASFS filed its Franchise Disclosure Document ("FDD") as part of its Washington franchise registration applications in 2019. The FDD is required to be given to prospective Washington franchise purchasers and provide them with material information about the franchise investment opportunity. ASFS filed an FDD that stated in Item 4, regarding Bankruptcy, that "No bankruptcy information is required to be disclosed in this Item."
- 8. ASFS disclosed in Item 2 of its 2019 FDD that Kathi Miley was its Director of Franchise Development, but failed to disclose in its FDD Item 4, that Kathi Miley had filed for Chapter 13 Bankruptcy in 2012. Her bankruptcy filing was closed in 2016.

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

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The offer of the franchise described above constitute the offer and/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 of a franchise to operate a CBD American Shaman store as described in Paragraph Five above constitutes the offer and/or sale of an unregistered franchise in violation of RCW 19.100.020.
- 3. The misrepresentation or omission of material facts regarding the CBD American Shaman FDD bankruptcy disclosure made in the franchise registration application of ASFS as described in paragraphs six through eight above is a violation of RCW 19.100.170.

CONSENT ORDER

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William Beatty

Securities Administrator

Approved by:	Presented by:	
<u>/s/</u>	<u>/s/</u>	
Brian Guerard	Martin Cordell	_
Chief of Enforcement	Financial Legal Examiner	
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Reviewed by:		
<u>/s/</u>		
Huong Lam		
Financial Legal Examiner Supervisor		
This is a pervisor		