# STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SECURITIES DIVISION

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Order No. S-20-2915-20-FO01

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

Respondents

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO:

IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING

Whether there has been a violation of the

Securities Act of Washington by:

Alan Bernard Slotnikow,

Beverly Hills Jewelry & Loans, Inc.,

Beverly Hills Jewelry & Loans, Inc. Alan Bernard Slotnikow

On June 17, 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 Impose a Fine, and to Charge Costs, Order No. S-20-2915-20-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 Respondent Beverly Hills Jewelry & Loans, Inc. on August 3, 2020 and on Respondent Alan Bernard Slotnikow on June 25, 2020. The Notice advised Respondents Beverly Hills Jewelry & Loans, Inc. and Alan Bernard Slotnikow that the Application must be received within twenty days from the date of service. Respondents Beverly Hills Jewelry & Loans, Inc. and Alan Bernard Slotnikow each failed to request an administrative hearing within twenty days of service.

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 Beverly Hills Jewelry & Loans, Inc. and Alan Bernard Slotnikow to cease and desist from violations of the Securities Act, and to impose the fine and the costs sought in the Statement of Charges.

FINAL ORDER

### FINDINGS OF FACT

# Respondents

- 1. Beverly Hills Jewelry & Loans, Inc. ("Beverly Hills Jewelry") was a Nevada corporation that was incorporated on April 26, 2019, and dissolved on November 18, 2019, with its principal place of business in Las Vegas, Nevada. Beverly Hills Jewelry held itself out as being in the business of creating an Internet auction website for pawnbrokers.
- 2. Alan Bernard Slotnikow ("Slotnikow") resided in Las Vegas, Nevada. Slotnikow was the President and the Chief Executive Officer of Beverly Hills Jewelry.

## **Nature of the Conduct**

- 3. During July and August 2019, Beverly Hills Jewelry offered and sold Beverly Hills Jewelry stock totaling \$30,000 to a Washington senior citizen. Beverly Hills Jewelry's initial contact with the Washington investor was through a "cold call" solicitation. The caller represented that Beverly Hills Jewelry was creating a website "like e-Bay" for pawnbrokers. The caller also represented that Beverly Hills Jewelry would soon be having an initial public stock offering and that investments "did not get any better this."
- 4. Following phone call solicitations to invest, the Washington investor made three investments of \$10,000 each. Each time, the investor wire transferred funds to Beverly Hills, California. The investor never received any investment offering materials, but the investor did receive stock certificates. Along with the stock certificates, the investor also received payments that were characterized as "interest" payments. The payments totaled approximately \$3,960. The investor has not received any other return on the investments.

## **Omissions of Material Information**

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5. When offering and selling the Beverly Hills Jewelry stock investments to the Washington investor, the Respondents each failed to disclose material information about the investments. The Respondents failed to disclose any background information about the management of Beverly Hills Jewelry. The Respondents failed to disclose the financial condition and the operating history of Beverly Hills Jewelry and they failed to provide any financial statements for the company. The Respondents failed to disclose that Beverly Hills Jewelry could use all of the Washington investor's funds for paying sales commissions. They failed to disclose that the Beverly Hills Jewelry stock offering did not have a required minimum amount of money that had to be raised in order to develop an Internet auction website for pawnbrokers. They also failed to disclose that the public solicitation of the Washington investor disqualified Beverly Hills Jewelry from claiming a Regulation D, Rule 506(b) exemption from securities registration for the offer and sale of its stock.

# **Registration Status**

- 6. On May 31, 2019, Beverly Hills Jewelry filed a Regulation D, Rule 506(b) claim of exemption with the U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission.
- 7. On July 24, 2019, Beverly Hills Jewelry filed a Regulation D, Rule 506(b) notice of exemption with the Washington Securities Division
- 8. To qualify for an exemption under Regulation D, Rule 506(b), the offers and sales of securities by the issuer and its agents must comply with certain terms and conditions. Regulation D, Rule 506(b) prohibits an issuer and any person acting on its behalf from offering or selling securities by any form of general solicitation. Beverly Hills Jewelry and its agents violated the general solicitation provision of Regulation D, Rule 506(b) when they initially contacted the Washington investor through a "cold call" solicitation.

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

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The offer and/or sale of the stock described above constitutes the offer and/or sale of a security as defined in RCW 21.20.005(14) and (17).
- 2. Beverly Hills Jewelry and Slotnikow each violated RCW 21.20.140 by offering and/or selling securities for which no registration is on file with the Securities Administrator.
- 3. Beverly Hills Jewelry and Slotnikow each violated RCW 21.20.010 by making untrue statements of material fact or omitting to state material facts necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances in which they were made, not misleading.

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

### FINAL ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondents Beverly Hills Jewelry & Loans, Inc. and Alan Bernard Slotnikow, and their agents and employees, shall each cease and desist from offering and/or selling securities in any manner in violation of RCW 21.20.140, the securities registration section of the Securities Act of Washington.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondents Beverly Hills Jewelry & Loans, Inc. and Alan Bernard Slotnikow and their agents and employees, shall each cease and desist from violating RCW 21.20.010, the anti-fraud section of the Securities Act of Washington.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent Alan Bernard Slotnikow shall be liable for and pay a fine in the amount of \$20,000.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent Alan Bernard Slotnikow shall be liable for and pay costs in the amount of \$5,000.

### AUTHORITY AND PROCEDURE

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This FINAL ORDER is entered pursuant to the provisions of RCW 21.20.390, and is subject to the provisions of 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.

# WILLFUL VIOLATION OF THIS ORDER IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

SIGNED and ENTERED this <u>2nd</u> day of September, 2020

Approved by:

An Elm

Suzanne E. Sarason Chief of Enforcement

Reviewed by:

Brian J. Guerard

Financial Legal Examiner Supervisor

William M. Beatty
Securities Administrator

Presented by:

Janet So

Financial Legal Examiner

FINAL ORDER