# STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SECURITIES DIVISION

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THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO:

South Beach Capital Management, LLC, CRD 153451

Richard Thomas, CRD 1070461

#### STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Please take notice that the Securities Administrator of the state of Washington has reason to believe that Respondents have violated the Securities Act of Washington. The Securities Administrator believes those violations justify the entry of an order summarily suspending South Beach Capital Management, LLC's investment adviser registration and Richard Thomas's investment adviser representative registration and giving notice of the intent to revoke Respondents' registrations, to impose fines, and to charge costs pursuant to RCW 21.20.110. The Securities Administrator finds that a delay in suspending Respondents' registrations would be hazardous to investors and to the public interest and that this Summary Order should be entered immediately. The Securities Administrator finds as follows:

#### TENTATIVE FINDINGS OF FACT

#### Respondents

- 1. South Beach Capital Management, LLC ("SBCM") has been registered as an investment adviser with the Washington State Securities Division ("Securities Division") since 2010. The investment adviser's Central Registration Depository ("CRD") number is 153451.
- 2. Richard Thomas is an investment adviser representative and the owner of SBCM. Mr. Thomas's CRD number is 1070461.

SUMMARY ORDER TO SUSPEND REGISTRATIONS AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REVOKE REGISTRATIONS, IMPOSE FINES, AND CHARGE COSTS

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COSTS

#### **Nature of the Conduct**

- 3. Each investment adviser registered with the Securities Division must make annual filings with the director after the investment adviser's fiscal year-end.
- 4. An investment adviser must, under WAC 460-24A-060, file with the director a fiscal year-end balance sheet within 120 days following the end of the fiscal year-end. The Securities Division reviews these balance sheets to determine whether the investment adviser meets the minimum financial requirements as set forth in WAC 460-24A-170.
- 5. SBCM has a fiscal year-end of December 31 and its 2019 year-end balance sheet was due by April 29, 2020.
- 6. In addition, an investment adviser must, under WAC 460-24A-205, file an annual updating amendment to its Form ADV within 90 days of its fiscal year-end. This annual amendment must include any changes to Form ADV Parts 1 and 2. The Securities Division reviews the annual updates to Form ADV to determine whether the investment adviser is making necessary disclosure to investors and track where the adviser's books and records are stored. SBCM's updating amendment was due by March 30, 2020.
- 7. The Securities Division sent Respondents reminders by electronic mail, by regular mail, and by telephone to remind Respondents to file a balance sheet and the annual updating amendment.

  Nonetheless, Respondents did not respond to the reminders or otherwise submit a year-end balance sheet or an annual updating amendment.

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

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. Respondent SBCM willfully violated WAC 460-24A-060 by failing to timely file a 2019 year-end balance sheet. Such conduct is grounds for an order to suspend and revoke an investment adviser registration under RCW 21.20.110(1)(b).
- 2. Respondent SBCM willfully violated WAC 460-24A-205 by failing to timely file an updating amendment to its Form ADV. Such conduct is grounds for an order to suspend and revoke an investment adviser registration under RCW 21.20.110(1)(b).

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3. The willful violations of WAC 460-24A-060 and WAC 460-24A-205 each constitute a ground for the entry of an order imposing fines under RCW 21.20.110(1) and for charging costs under RCW 21.20.110(7).

4. Respondent Richard Thomas as the person who owns SBCM is responsible for SBCM's violations of WAC 460-24A-060 and WAC 460-24A-205. Such conduct is grounds for an order to suspend or revoke an investment adviser representative registration under RCW 21.20.110(6), to impose fines under RCW 21.20.110(1), and to charge costs under RCW 21.20.110(7).

#### **EMERGENCY**

The Securities Division has been unable to determine whether SBCM meets the minimum financial requirements for investment advisers or is providing investors with proper disclosure. Therefore, the Securities Administrator finds that an emergency exists, that the continued violations of WAC 460-24A-060 and WAC 460-24A-205 constitute a threat to the investing public, and that a summary order suspending SBCM's investment adviser registration and Richard Thomas's investment adviser representative registration is in the public interest and necessary for the protection of the investing public.

# NOTICE OF INTENT TO REVOKE REGISTRATION

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.110(1), and based upon the Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to enter an order revoking the investment adviser registration of SBCM and the investment adviser representative registration of Richard Thomas.

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPOSE FINES

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.110(1), and based upon the Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that Respondents each shall be liable for and shall pay a fine of at least \$1,000.

#### NOTICE OF INTENT TO CHARGE COSTS

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.110(7), and based upon the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that Respondents each shall be liable for and shall pay costs of at least \$200.

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Based upon the foregoing,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY SUMMARILY ORDERED under the authority of RCW 21.20.110(1) and (3) that the investment adviser registration of South Beach Capital Management, LLC and the investment adviser representative registration of Richard Thomas are suspended pending a final determination in this proceeding.

**SUMMARY ORDER** 

#### **AUTHORITY AND PROCEDURE**

This Order is entered pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 21.20 RCW and is subject to the provisions of Chapter 34.05 RCW. The Respondents may 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 request a hearing in the allowed time, the Securities Administrator intends to adopt the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as final and enter an order revoking the respondent's registration and imposing the fine and charging the costs sought.

WILLFUL VIOLATION OF THIS ORDER IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

SIGNED AND ENTERED THIS \_18th\_\_ day of September, 2020.

William M. Beatty Securities Administrator

Presented by:

Approved by:

Suzanne Sarason Chief of Enforcement

Brook Kellerman Compliance Legal Examiner

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