UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA ALEXANDRIA DIVISION

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,

Plaintiff,

v.

Civil No. 17-cv-187 (AJT/IDD)

STEVE H. KARROUM a/k/a MUSTAPHA KARROUM, et al.,

Defendants and Relief Defendant.

PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR AN ORDER APPROVING FINAL ACCOUNTING, DISCHARGING DISTRIBUTION AGENT, AND GRANTING RELATED RELIEF, WITH SUPPORTING MEMORANDUM

Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") respectfully moves this Court for an Order approving the final accounting attached as Exhibit A; directing the SEC to transfer all funds remaining in the Fair Fund after payment of the Tax Administrator, and any funds returned to the Fair Fund in the future, to the SEC for remittance to the general fund of the U.S. Treasury, subject to Section 21F(g)(3) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 [15 U.S. Code § 78u-6(g)(3)]; and discharging the Distribution Agent.

SEC counsel has conferred with James T. Bacon, counsel for Relief Defendant and substituted Defendant Sahar Karroum, who has confirmed that his client will not object to this motion.

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

The SEC respectfully submits this memorandum in support of its Motion for an Order Approving Final Accounting, Discharging Distribution Agent, and Granting Related Relief (the "Motion"). This relief, if granted, will complete and close the distribution in this matter.

I. BACKGROUND

A. The SEC Action

On February 16, 2017, the SEC filed a Complaint against Steve H. Karroum, a/k/a Mustapha Karroum ("Karroum") and FX & Beyond Corporation ("FX") (collectively, the "Defendants"), naming Karroum's wife, Sahar Karroum ("Sahar"), as a relief defendant. The SEC alleged that, from at least December 2007 through May 2014, Karroum and FX solicited approximately \$4 million from at least 18 investors in the United States under false pretenses, promising that the funds would be used for forex trading and would be kept safe. Instead, Karroum misappropriated the funds to make Ponzi-like payments to investors, unrelated business expense payments, and for personal use. The SEC charged the Defendants with violations of Sections 5 and 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 [15 U.S.C. §§ 77e(a) and 77q(a)], and Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 [15 U.S.C. § 78j(b)] and Rule 10b-5 [17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5] thereunder. Dkt. No. 1.

On April 13, 2018, upon notice of Karroum's death and motion of the SEC, the Court substituted Sahar, as successor to Karroum, as a defendant in this action. Dkt. Nos. 29, 40. On September 10, 2018, upon the stipulation of Sahar and the default of FX, this Court entered a final judgment finding, in relevant part, FX liable for disgorgement of \$805,960.14, prejudgment interest of \$74,266, and a civil penalty of \$512,430.07, for a total liability of \$1,392,656.21 (the "Final Judgment"). Dkt. No. 62. The Court further ordered Prudential Insurance Company to

transfer \$1,392,656.21 of proceeds from a life insurance policy insuring Karroum's life to the SEC in satisfaction of this liability. Pursuant to the Final Judgment, the SEC must hold these funds pending further Order from the Court and may propose to the Court a plan to distribute the funds pursuant to the Fair Fund provisions of Section 308(a) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, 15 U.S.C. §7246(a) ("Section 308(a)"). Dkt. No. 62.

II. THE DISTRIBUTION

By Order dated April 11, 2019, this Court established a Fair Fund pursuant to Section 308(a) (the "Fair Fund"), approved the SEC's proposed distribution plan (the "Plan"), and appointed Catherine E. Pappas, an SEC employee, as Distribution Agent. Dkt. No. 78. At the time, the Fair Fund held approximately, \$1.4 million, comprised of collections and accrued interest. After offset of a reserve for Administrative Costs¹, \$1,389,812.79 remained available for distribution.

Pursuant to the Plan, beginning in May 2019, the Distribution Agent disbursed \$1,389,812.78 to Eligible Harmed Investors. The Distribution Agent monitored the status of all payments issued, resulting in the distribution of all \$1,389,812.79 to the intended recipients.

III. THE DISTRIBUTION IS COMPLETE AND THE FAIR FUND IS ELIGIBLE FOR TERMINATION

As further described in the final accounting attached hereto as Exhibit A, the Fair Fund began with \$1,392,656.21 and earned \$16,056.39 in interest, for a total balance of \$1,408,712.60. *See* Exh. A, p. 1. The Distribution Agent oversaw the distribution of \$1,389,812.79 to Eligible Harmed Investors and the payment of \$10,477.26 in Administrative Costs. The Fair Fund currently resides in an account at the U.S. Treasury and holds \$8,422.55.

¹ Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein are defined in the Plan.

The Distribution Agent anticipates a final invoice from the Tax Administrator of approximately \$4,000, resulting in a residual of approximately \$4,400 in the Fair Fund.²

Upon completion of all distributions under the Plan, the Plan provides that the Distribution Agent shall file a final accounting with the Court and seek an Order directing the SEC to remit any residual to the U.S. Treasury, and discharging the Distribution Agent. Dkt. No. 70-1, ¶ 12. As the distribution is now complete, the SEC respectfully requests that the Court approve the final accounting attached hereto as Exhibit A; direct the SEC to transfer the remainder, after payment of the Tax Administrator's final fees and expenses, to the general fund of the U.S. Treasury subject to Section 21F(g)(3) of the Exchange Act; direct any funds returned to the Fair Fund in the future to the SEC for remittance to the general fund of the U.S. Treasury subject to Section 21F(g)(3) of the Exchange Act; and discharge the Distribution Agent.

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² The Distribution Agent considered and rejected distribution of the residual pursuant to the Plan in view of the additional Administrative Costs that would be incurred in leaving the Fair Fund open another year.

³ Section 21F(g)(3) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78u-6(g)(3), provides, in relevant part, that any monetary sanction of \$200 million or less collected by the SEC in any judicial action brought by the SEC under the securities laws that is not added to a disgorgement fund or fair fund or otherwise distributed to victims, plus investment income, shall be deposited or credited into the SEC Investor Protection Fund.

IV. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

For the reasons set forth above, the SEC respectfully requests that the Court grant the requested relief.

Dated: October 21 2019 /s/ Nicholas C. Margida

Nicholas C. Margida VSB No. 73176 Attorney for Plaintiff

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

100 F Street N.E.

Washington, D.C. 20549 Tel: (202) 551-8504 Fax: (202) 772-9292 Email: margidan@sec.gov

Of Counsel:

Catherine E. Pappas (admitted pro hac vice)

Attachment: Exhibit A (final accounting)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on October 21, 2019, I served the foregoing and all supporting papers electronically using the CM/ECF system on:

James T. Bacon 11350 Random Hills Road Suite 700 Fairfax, VA 22030 Counsel for Sahar Karroum

I further certify that on October 21, 2019, as permitted by the Court's May 31, 2017 Order (Dkt. No. 7), the foregoing and all supporting papers were served by email on Defendant FX & Beyond Corporation at karroums@kartech-inc.com and by UPS to:

John Forest StahlZelloe, P.C. 11350 Random Hills Road Suite 700 Fairfax VA 22030

/s/ Nicholas C. Margida

Nicholas C. Margida
VSB No. 73176
Attorney for Plaintiff
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
100 F Street N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20549

Tel: (202) 551-8504 Fax: (202) 772-9292 Email: margidan@sec.gov

Exhibit A (Final Accounting)

Section	Line					
Α	1	CONSOLIDATED FINAL ACCOUNTI DISTRIBUTION FUND	NG REPORT on the SEC V KARROUM			
A	2	SEC Action Number	SEC-HO-12565-C	FAIR F	UND	
	3	Case Number	1:17-cv-00187-AJT	-מחו		
	Ū	Period Covered in this Report:	0. 00.0. 7.0.			
	4	From 10/10/2018				
	5	To 9/30/2019				
В		Increases in Fund Balance				
	1	Contributions/Deposits		\$	1,392,656.21	
	2	Investment/Interest Income			16,056.39	
	3	Other - describe			-	
		Subtotal Funds Received	-			\$ 1,408,712.60
С		Decreases in Fund Balance				
	1	Gross Distributions to Claimants/	Investors			
		Less Returned & Cancelled Chec	cks			
					(1,389,812.79)	
		Distributions to Claimants/Investo	ors, Net			(1,389,812.79)
		Payments to Other than Claimant	ts/Investors:			
	2	Plan Administration Fees and	d Costs		-	
	3	Tax Administrator Fees and	Expenses		(3,483.58)	
	4	Investment/Bank Fees			(20.68)	
		Income Tax Payments, Net of	of Refunds			
	5	Federal			(6,973.00)	
	6	District of Colum	nbia/State		-	
	7	Other - describe			-	
		Subtotal Disbursements	-			(10,477.26)
D		Ending Balance				\$ 8,422.55

Section	Line		by ACCOUNTS by ACCOUNT MANAGERS for ACCOUNTING REPORT on the CASH BASIS for
Α	1	DISTRIBUTION FUND	SEC V KARROUM FAIR FUND
	2	SEC Action Number	SEC-HO-12565-C
	3	Case Number	1:17-cv-00187-AJT-IDD
		Period Covered in this	Report:
	4	From 10/10/2018	
	5	To 9/30/2019	

			OFM	Tax Admin.	Total
В		Increases in Fund Balance			
_	1	Contributions/Deposits	1,392,656.21	-	1,392,656.21
	2	Investment/Interest Income	16,056.39	_	16,056.39
	3	Other - describe	-	-	-
		Subtotal Funds Received	1,408,712.60	- -	1,408,712.60
С		Decreases in Fund Balance			
	1	Distributions to Claimants/Investors, Net	(1,389,812.79)	-	(1,389,812.79)
		Payments to Other than Claimants/Investors:			
	2	Plan Administration Fees and Costs	-	-	-
	3	Tax Administrator Fees and Expenses	(3,483.58)	-	(3,483.58)
	4	Investment/Bank Fees	(20.68)	-	(20.68)
		Income Tax Payments, Net of Refunds			
	5	Federal	-	(6,973.00)	(6,973.00)
	6	District of Columbia/State	-	-	-
	7	Other - describe	-	-	-
		Subtotal Disbursements	(1,393,317.05)	(6,973.00)	(1,400,290.05)
Trf		Transfers			
	1	To Plan Administrator	-	-	-
	2	From Plan Administrator	-	-	-
	3	To Tax Administrator	(6,973.00)		(6,973.00)
	4	From Tax Administrator	-		-
	5	Between Accounts Held by Account Manager	-	-	-
	6	To OFM		-	-
	7	From OFM		6,973.00	6,973.00
		Subtotal Transfers	(6,973.00)	6,973.00	-
D		Ending Balance	8,422.55	<u>-</u>	8,422.55

E Fund Information: Tranches from Inception

See Plan Administrator's exhibit for detail information.

Section	Line	OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT DETAIL by ACCONSOLIDATED FINAL ACCOUNTING RE		ASH BASIS for		
Α	1	DISTRIBUTION FUND	SEC V KARR	OUM FAIR FUND		
	2	SEC Action Number	SEC-HO-1256	5-C		
	3	AP File No. / Case Number	1:17-cv-00187	'-AJT-IDD		
		Period Covered in this Report:				
	4	From	10/10/2018			
	5	То	9/30/2019			
				U.S. District Court Virginia Alexa		
				SEC v. Karroum et al	SEC v. Karroum et al	
				Office of Financial Mannagement "OFM"	Bureau Fiscal Services "BFS"	
				SEC-HO-12565-C	50x65630220	
		DESCRIPTION	DATE	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	TOTAL
В	1	CONTRIBUTIONS/DEPOSITS				
		SETTLEMENT	10/10/2018	1,392,656.21		1,392,656.21
		Total to Line B 1		1,392,656.21	-	1,392,656.21
В	2	INVESTMENT/INTEREST EARNINGS	_			
		Total Earnings Posted to Account Annual Total	2018		7,079.70	7,079.70
		Total Earnings Posted to Account Annual Total	2019		8,976.69	8,976.69
		Total to Line B 2			16,056.39	16,056.39
В	3	OTHER INCREASES IN FUND BALANCE				
		Total to Line B 3		-	-	
•	4	DIODUDOEMENTO TO INVESTORS				
С	1	DISBURSEMENTS TO INVESTORS		(4.000.040.70)		(4.000.040.70)
		Disbursements to Investors	2019	(1,389,812.79)		(1,389,812.79)
		Total to Line C 1		(1,389,812.79)	-	(1,389,812.79)
_						
С	2	PLAN ADMINISTRATION FEES and COSTS	<u>5</u>			
		Total to Line C 2		-		

Section		OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT DETAIL by ACCONSOLIDATED FINAL ACCOUNTING RE	EPORT on the C			
Α	1	DISTRIBUTION FUND	SEC V KARRO	DUM FAIR FUND		
	2	SEC Action Number	SEC-HO-1256	5-C		
	3	AP File No. / Case Number	1:17-cv-00187	-AJT-IDD		
		Period Covered in this Report:				
	4	From	10/10/2018			
	5	То	9/30/2019			
				U.S. District Court I Virginia Alexar		
				SEC v. Karroum et al	SEC v. Karroum et al	
				Office of Financial Mannagement "OFM"	Bureau Fiscal Services "BFS"	
				SEC-HO-12565-C	50x65630220	
		DECORIDATION	5.475	4440UNIT	44401 INIT	TOTAL
		DESCRIPTION	DATE	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	TOTAL
С	3	TAX ADMINISTRATOR FEES & BONDS				
		Bonds:	_			
		Total Bond Fees Paid			-	<u>-</u>
		Tax Administrator Fees:				
		MKA Fees	3/19/2019	(1,907.38)		(1,907.38)
		MKA Fees	8/2/2019	(1,576.20)		(1,576.20)
		Total Tax Administrator Fees Paid		(3,483.58)		(3,483.58)
		Total to Line C 3		(3,483.58)		(3,483.58)
		Total to Line 0 0		(0,100.00)	=	(0,400.00)
С	4	INVESTMENT EXPENSES including BUREAU OF PUBLIC DEBT (BPD) FEES OF COURT REGISTRY INVESTMENT SYSTEM				
		BPD Fees	2018	(9.04)		(9.04)
		BPD Fees	2019	(11.64)		(11.64)
						-
		Total to Line C 4		(20.68)	- =	(20.68)
С	5	FEDERAL TAX (PAYMENTS) / REFUNDS				
		Total to Line C 5				
					=	
С	6	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (DC) & STATE T	AX PAYMENTS			
		=				
		Total to Line C 6		<u>-</u>		-
С	7	OTHER DECREASES IN FUND BALANCE				
		Total to Line C 7				<u> </u>
		Total to Line o /		-	- =	

		CONSOLIDATED FINAL ACCOUNTING R				
Α	1	DISTRIBUTION FUND		OUM FAIR FUND		
	2	SEC Action Number	SEC-HO-1256			
	3	AP File No. / Case Number	1:17-cv-00187	-AJ I -IDD		
		Period Covered in this Report:	40/40/0040			
	4	From	10/10/2018			
	5	То	9/30/2019			
				U.S. District Court Virginia Alexar		
				SEC v. Karroum et al	SEC v. Karroum et al	
				Office of Financial Mannagement "OFM"	Bureau Fiscal Services "BFS"	
				SEC-HO-12565-C	50x65630220	
		DESCRIPTION	DATE	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	TOTAL
TRF		TRANSFERS BETWEEN ACCOUNTS				
	1	To Plan Administrator:				
		Total Transfers to Plan Administrator				<u>-</u> -
	2	From Plan Administrator:				_
		Total Transfers from Plan Administrator				-
	3	To Tax Administrator: Transfer re: Income Tax Payments Transfer re: Income Tax Payments	3/26/2019 4/9/2019	(2,454.00) (4,519.00)		(2,454.00) (4,519.00)
		Total Transfers to Tax Administrator		(6,973.00)		(6,973.00)
	4	From Tax Administrator:				
		Total Transfers from Tax Administrator		<u> </u>		<u>-</u>
	5	Between Accounts Held by this Account Manager: Transfer to BFS account Transfer from BFS account Transfer from BFS account Transfer from BFS account	10/12/2018 3/11/2019 3/26/2019 4/5/2019	(1,390,427.96) 1,500.00 6,200.00 1,398,784.35	1,390,427.96 (1,500.00) (6,200.00) (1,398,784.35)	- - - -
		Total Transfers Between Accounts Herein		16,056.39	(16,056.39)	<u>-</u>

9,083.39

(16,056.39)

(6,973.00)

Total Transfers, Net

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Section	Line	OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT CONSOLIDATED FINAL ACC	DETAIL by ACC	COUNT for	1 0 U D 1 0 I 0 C		
Α	1	DISTRIBUTION FUND	JOUNTING REP		OUM FAIR FUND		
	2	SEC Action Number		SEC-HO-1256			
	3	AP File No. / Case Number		1:17-cv-00187			
		Period Covered in this Repo	ort:				
	4	From		10/10/2018			
	5	То		9/30/2019			
						t Eastern District of andria Division	
					SEC v. Karroum et al	SEC v. Karroum et al	
					Office of Financial Mannagement "OFM"	Bureau Fiscal Services "BFS"	
					SEC-HO-12565-C	50 x65630220	
		DESCRIPTION		DATE	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	TOTAL
SUM		SUMMARY and RECONCILIA	TION to ENDIN	G ACCOUNT E	BALANCES		
		Total Increases Less: Total Decreases		Section B Section C	1,392,656.21 (1,393,317.05)	16,056.39	1,408,712.60 (1,393,317.05)
		Total Transfers Between Accounts		TRF	9,083.39	(16,056.39)	(6,973.00)
		Ending Balance			8,422.55	(0.00)	8,422.55
Е		Fund Information: Tranches	from Inception				
		The Reserve State of	Distributions				
			# Issued	<u>Date</u>	Gross Payments	Returned/Cancelled	Net Distributed
			13	5/16/2019	(1,389,812.79)		(1,389,812.79)
			Total		(1,389,812.79)	-	(1,389,812.79)
Н		Prepared by:					
	1	Office of Financial Management, Enfor	rcement Treasury O	perations Branch	-		
	2	Lewis, Warren	Digitally signed by Lo Date: 2019.10.10 15:			Varren A. Lewis	
		(signature)			(printed name)	
	3	Chief, Enforcement Treasury Operatio	ns Branch			October 10, 2019	
		(title)			(date)	

Section	Line	TAX ADMINISTRATOR'S DETAIL by ACCOUNT for CONSOLIDATED FINAL ACCOUNTING REPORT on the CASH BASIS for						
Α	1	DISTRIBUTION FUND	SEC V KARROUM FAIR FUND					
	2	SEC Action Number	SEC-HO-12565-	С				
	3	AP File No. / Case Number	1:17-cv-00187-A	JT-IDD				
		Period Covered in this Report:						
	4	From	10/10/2018					
	5	То	8/31/2019					
				Damasco & Associates LLP SEC Client Trust Account				
		DESCRIPTION	DATE	AMOUNT	TOTAL			
В	1	CONTRIBUTIONS/DEPOSITS	_					
		Total to Line B 1		-				
В	2	INVESTMENT/INTEREST EARNINGS	_					
		Total to Line B 2		-	-			
В	3	OTHER INCREASES IN FUND BALANCE	_					
		Total to Line B 3			-			
С	1	DISBURSEMENTS TO INVESTORS	_					
		Total to Line C 1		-	-			
С	2	PLAN ADMINISTRATION FEES and COST	S					
		Total to Line C 2						

Section		CONSOLIDATED FINAL ACCOUNTING REPORT on the CASH BASIS for					
A	1	DISTRIBUTION FUND					
	2	SEC Action Number AP File No. / Case Number	SEC-HO-12565- 1:17-cv-00187-				
	3	Period Covered in this Report:	1.17-04-00107-7	13 1-100			
	4	From	10/10/2018				
	5	To	8/31/2019				
				Damasco & Associates LLP SEC Client Trust Account			
		DESCRIPTION	DATE	AMOUNT	TOTAL		
С	3	TAX ADMINISTRATOR FEES & BONDS					
		Bonds:					
		Total Bond Fees Paid		-	-		
		Tax Administrator Fees:					
		Total Tax Administrator Fees Paid			-		
		Total to Line C 3		•			
С	4	INVESTMENT EXPENSES including					
		BUREAU OF PUBLIC DEBT (BPD) FEES of	or				
		COURT REGISTRY INVESTMENT SYSTE	M (CRIS) FEES				
		Total to Line C 4		•	-		
С	5	FEDERAL TAX (PAYMENTS) / REFUNDS					
		2018 Federal Income Tax 2019 1st Quarter Estimated Federal Income Tax	3/27/2019 4/12/2019	(2,454.00) (4,519.00)	(2,454.00) (4,519.00)		
		Total to Line C 5		(6,973.00)	(6,973.00)		
С	6	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (DC) & STATE 1	TAX PAYMENTS	4			
		Total to Line C 6			-		
С	7	OTHER DECREASES IN FUND BALANCE			100/00/00		
		Total to Line C 7			-		

Section A	1 2 3 4 5	TAX ADMINISTRATOR'S DETAIL by ACC CONSOLIDATED FINAL ACCOUNTING RI DISTRIBUTION FUND SEC Action Number AP File No. / Case Number Period Covered in this Report: From	OUNT for EPORT on the CAS SEC V KARROU SEC-HO-12565-(1:17-cv-00187-A 10/10/2018 8/31/2019		
				Damasco & Associates LLP SEC Client Trust Account	
		DESCRIPTION	DATE	AMOUNT	TOTAL
TRF		TRANSFERS BETWEEN ACCOUNTS			
IKF	1	To Plan Administrator:	_		
		Total Transfers to Plan Administrator			-
	2	From Plan Administrator:			
		Total Transfers from Plan Administrator		-	<u>-</u>
	5	Between Accounts Held by this Account Manager:			_
		Total Transfers Between Accounts Herein			-
	6	To OFM:			
		Total Transfers to OFM			
	7	From OFM: Transfer re: Income Tax Payments Transfer re: Income Tax Payments	3/26/2019 4/12/2019	2,454.00 4,519.00	2,454.00 4,519.00
		Total Transfers from OFM		6,973.00	6,973.00
		Total Transfers, Net		6,973.00	6,973.00

Section Line TAX ADMINISTRATOR'S DETAIL by ACCOUNT for CONSOLIDATED FINAL ACCOUNTING REPORT on the CASH BASIS for DISTRIBUTION FUND **SEC V KARROUM FAIR FUND** SEC-HO-12565-C 2 **SEC Action Number** 1:17-cv-00187-AJT-IDD 3 AP File No. / Case Number Period Covered in this Report: 4 10/10/2018 5 To 8/31/2019 Damasco & Associates LLP SEC Client Trust Account DESCRIPTION DATE **AMOUNT** TOTAL SUM SUMMARY and RECONCILIATION to ENDING ACCOUNT BALANCES Total Increases Section B (6,973.00)(6,973.00)Less: Total Decreases Section C TRF 6,973.00 6,973.00 **Total Transfers Between Accounts Ending Balance** Н Prepared by: Miller Kaplan Arase LLP tax administrator) Jude P. Damasco (printed name) Tax Administrator 10/15/19 (title) (date)