UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS SHERMAN DIVISION

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,

Plaintiff.

٧.

BRUCE KEITH JENSEN,

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

4:04cv320

Plaintiff, the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, files this Complaint against Bruce Keith Jensen ("Jensen" or "Defendant") and would respectfully show the Court as follows:

SUMMARY

- 1. This case concerns Defendant's involvement in an illicit income recognition scheme perpetrated by Fleming Companies, Inc. ("Fleming").
- 2. Starting in late 2001, Fleming implemented a plan to improperly recognize material amounts of income to compensate for forecasted earnings shortfalls. Jensen, an employee of Frito Lay, Inc. ("Frito Lay"), a Fleming vendor, aided Fleming's scheme by providing a side letter that falsely described a \$400,000 payment to Fleming.
- 3. Based on the conduct alleged herein, Jensen aided and abetted Fleming's violations of Sections 17(a)(2) and 17(a)(3) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. §§ 77q(a)(2) and 77q(a)(3)] and Sections 13(a) and 13(b)(2)(A) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. §§ 78m(a) and 78m(b)(2)(A)], and Rules 12b-20, 13a-1, and 13b2-1, thereunder, [17 C.F.R. §§ 240.12b-20, 240.13a-1 and 240.13b2-1].

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 4. The Commission brings this action pursuant to the authority conferred upon it by Section 20(d) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. § 77t(d)], and Sections 21(d)(3) and 27 of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. §§ 78u(d)(3) and 78aa].
- 5. This Court has jurisdiction over this action, and venue is proper, pursuant to Sections 20(d) and 22(a) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. §§ 77t(d) and 77v(a)], and Sections 21(d)(3) and 27 of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. §§ 78u(d) and 78aa].
- 6. Defendant, directly or indirectly, made use of the means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce, or of the mails, or of the facilities of a national exchange in connection with the acts, practices, and courses of action alleged herein.
- 7. Venue is proper because Fleming is headquartered in Lewisville, Texas, and certain of the acts and transactions described herein took place in the Eastern District of Texas.

DEFENDANTS

8. **Jensen**, of Valrico, Florida, was the Director of National Accounts at Frito Lay during the relevant periods. Fleming was one of Frito Lay's largest customers and Jensen was principally responsible for the Fleming account.

OTHER RELEVANT ENTITY

9. **Fleming** is an Oklahoma corporation headquartered in Lewisville, Texas. Fleming's stock is registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act and, prior to filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in April 2003, its stock traded on the New York Stock Exchange. Before bankruptcy, Fleming was the nation's largest grocery wholesaler and a retail grocery operator with approximately 50 distribution centers nationwide and more

than 100 retail stores throughout the Midwestern and Western United States. In 2001, Fleming reported approximately \$15.6 billion in revenues and \$23.3 million in profits. In 2002, the company reported \$15.5 billion in revenues and a net loss of \$84 million.

FACTS

Fleming's improper initiatives to meet earnings expectations

- 10. During 2001 and the first half of 2002, and following a period of poor financial performance, Fleming improperly executed a series of transactions, called "initiatives," to fabricate earnings and "bridge the gap" between actual operating results and Wall Street expectations. In these initiatives, Fleming improperly structured otherwise ordinary transactions in forms that, on paper, would justify and maximize an immediate increase in earnings.
- 11. One of Fleming's frequently used initiatives was accelerating recognition of up-front payments received under forward-looking vendor agreements. Specifically, Fleming persuaded vendors to provide side letters that described up-front payments—that Fleming and the vendors plainly intended to secure future rights and services—as compensating some form of past performance, such as rebates or expenses. Fleming then used these letters to immediately book the entire up-front payment as an offset to expenses, rather than over time as generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") required.
- 12. As designed, the illicit reduction in expenses by Fleming significantly inflated the company's earnings in the fourth quarter of 2001 and the first two quarters of 2002 and allowed Fleming to meet securities analysts' earnings expectations.

Jensen's participation in Fleming's inflated earnings

- 13. In December 2001, Fleming and Frito Lay negotiated an agreement that would pay Fleming for achieving certain sales targets during 2002. Jensen was principally responsible for negotiating the agreement for Frito Lay. The agreement included a \$400,000 incentive for Fleming to set up certain new product store displays by February 2002.
- 14. As the 2001 fiscal year was ending, Fleming sought ways to meet an impending earnings shortfall. Fleming wanted to recognize the \$400,000 incentive immediately to help meet its numbers. Fleming therefore asked Jensen to execute a side letter mischaracterizing the \$400,000 payment as "non-refundable" compensation. Jensen knew that Fleming had not earned the \$400,000 during 2001 and, in fact, never earned it.
- 15. Jensen nevertheless signed the Fleming-prepared letter, which Fleming used to justify recording the entire \$400,000 million as an offset to expenses in the fourth quarter of 2001. This overstated Fleming's earnings for the quarter by approximately 3%. Fleming included these misstated earnings in its 2001 Form 10-K, and in publicly disseminated press releases. Fleming further incorporated the misstated Form 10-K into registration statements on Forms S-3, S-8 and S-4 filed during the summer of 2002.

FIRST CLAIM

Aiding and Abetting Fleming's Violations of Sections 17(a)(2) and 17(a)(3) of the Securities Act

16. Paragraphs 1 through 15 are realleged and incorporated by reference.

- 17. Based on the conduct alleged herein, Fleming violated Sections 17(a)(2) and 17(a)(3) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. §§ 77q(a)(2) and 77q(a)(3)].
- 18. Defendant Jensen, acting alone or in concert with others, in the manner set forth above, knowingly provided substantial assistance to Fleming in connection with its violations of Sections 17(a)(2) and 17(a)(3) as alleged herein.
- 19. By reason of the foregoing, Jensen aided and abetted Fleming's violations of Sections 17(a)(2) and 17(a)(3) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. §§ 77q(a)(2) and 77q(a)(3)].

SECOND CLAIM

Aiding and Abetting Fleming's Violations of Sections 13(a) and 13(b)(2)(A)of the Exchange Act and Rules 12b-20, 13a-1 and 13b2-1 Thereunder

- 20. Paragraphs 1 through 15 are realleged and incorporated by reference.
- 21. Based on the conduct alleged herein, Fleming violated Sections 13(a) and 13(b)(2)(A) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. §§ 78m(a) and 78m(b)(2)(A)] and Rules 12b-20, 13a-1 and 13b2-1 thereunder [17 C.F.R. §§ 240.12b-20, 240.13a-1 and 240.13b2-1].
- 22. Defendant Jensen, acting alone or in concert with others, in the manner set forth above, aided and abetted Fleming, as an issuer of a security registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act, in its failing to file with the Commission, in accordance with rules and regulations the Commission has prescribed, information and documents required by the Commission to keep reasonably current the information and documents required to be included in or filed with an application or registration statement filed pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act and annual reports and quarterly reports as the Commission has prescribed.

23. Defendant Jensen, acting alone or in concert with others, in the manner set forth above, provided substantial assistance to Fleming, who, directly or indirectly, failed to make and keep books, records, and accounts, which, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflected Fleming's transactions and dispositions of its assets.

24. By reason of the foregoing, Jensen aided and abetted Fleming's violations of Sections 13(a) and 13(b)(2)(A) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. §§ 78m(a) and 78m(b)(2)(A)] and Rules 12b-20, 13a-1 and 13b2-1 thereunder [17 C.F.R. §§ 240.12b-20, 240.13a-1 and 240.13b2-1].

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

The Commission respectfully requests that the Court:

I.

Enter an order directing Jensen to pay a \$25,000 civil money penalty pursuant to Section 21(d)(3) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78u(d)(3)] and Section 20(d) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. § 77t(d)].

II.

Grant such further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

TIMOTHY P. DAVIS (Attorney in charge)

Texas Bar No. 00798134

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Of Counsel:

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(c) ATTORNEY (FIRM NAME, Timothy P. Davis, Esc SECURITIES & EXCH Burnett Plaza, Suite 1 801 Cherry Street, Ur Fort Worth, TX 76102 817/978-6438	7. IANGE COMMISSI 1900 nit #18	1 361		4 2004 31. OF TE	ATTORNEYS (IF K	•	
II. BASIS OF JURISDICT	F	III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (For Diversity Cases Only) PTF PTF (PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX FOR PLAINTIFF AND ONE					
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IV. NATURE OF SUIT (P	LACE AN "X" IN ONE	BOX ONLY)				Poreign Nation	
CONTRACT 110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act	PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Produc Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal	☐ 362 Personal Injury - uct Med. Malpractice ☐ 365 Personal Injury -		☐ 610 Agri ☐ 620 Oth ☐ 625 Dru	er Food & Drug g Related Seizure of erty 21 USC 881 oor Laws	BANKRUPTCY 422 Appeal 28 USC 156 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS	OTHER STATUTES 400 State Reapprotionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce/ICC Rates/etc. 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced
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☐ 153 Recovery OF Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits ☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits ☐ 190 Other Contract ☐ 195 Contract Product Liability	☐ 350 Motor Vehicle ☐ 355 Motor Vehicle ☐ Product Llability ☐ 360 Other Personal	☐ 380 Other Personal Property Damage ☐ 385 Property Damage Product Liability	,	LABOR ☐ 710 Fair Labor Standards Act ☐ 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations		SOCIAL SECURITY 861 HIA (1395FF) 862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	□ 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 892 Economic Stabilization Act
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITION	VS	☐ 730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act		☐ 864 SSID Title XVI ☐ 865 RSI (405(g))	☐ 893 Environmental Matters ☐ 894 Energy Allocation Act
☐ 210 Land Condemnation ☐ 220 Foreclosure ☐ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment ☐ 240 Torts to Land ☐ 245 Tort Product Liability ☐ 290 All Other Real Property	☐ 441 Voting ☐ 442 Employment ☐ 443 Housing/ Accommodations ☐ 444 Welfare ☐ 440 Other Civil Rights	□ 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence Habeas Corpus: □ 530 General □ 535 Death Penalty □ 540 Mandamus & Other □ 550 Civil Rights		☐ 790 Othe	vay Labor Act r Labor Litigation . Ret. Inc. rity Act	FEDERAL TAX SUITS 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS - Third Party 26 USC 7609	☐ 895 Freedom of Information Act ☐ 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice ☐ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes ☐ 890 Other Statutory Actions
V. ORIGIN		(PLACE AN "X" IN ON	E BO	OX ONLY)			
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CAUSE OF ACTION (CITE DIVERSITY.) Sections 17(a)(2) Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act 240.13b2-1].	& (3) of the Securities	Act of 1933 ("Securities	s Act	") [15 U.S.(C. §§ 77q(a)(2) & (3	3)]; Sections 13(a) & 13(b)(2)(A) of the Securities
VII. REQUESTED IN CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT: UNDER F.R.C.P. 23				DEMAND \$ CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND □ YES ☒ NO			
VIII. RELATED CASE(S)	(See Instructions): 4	other related cases	simı	ultaneousl	y filed: see attac	hed listing.	
IF ANY		UDGE		34.00	DOCKET NUME	BER	
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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY Receipt #AMC	DUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGI	Ξ	MAG. JUDGE	

I.(c). - COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANTS

P. Michael Armstrong, Esq. 3037 Howard Road Waxahachie, TX 75168-0400 972/938-2424 Counsel for Defendant Bruce K. Jensen

VIII. - RELATED CASES:

SEC v. John K. Adams

SEC v. Kemps LLC, f/k/a Marigold Foods LLC, James Green and Christopher Thorpe

SEC v. Digital Exchange Systems, Inc., Rosario Coniglio & Steven Schmidt

SEC v. Dean Foods Company and John D. Robinson

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT					
Eastern	District of	Texas			
SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMIS	SION				
PLAINTIFF, V.	SUMMONS IN A CIVIL CASE				
BRUCE KEITH JENSEN, DEFENDANT.	CASE NUMBER:	4:04 cv 320			
TO: (Name and address of Defendant) ruce Keith Jensen, c/o P. Michael Armstro:	ng, Esq.				
(axahachie, TX 75168-0400 (2/938-2424					
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and mothy P. Davis, Esq. ECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSIC urnett Plaza, Suite 1900 Theory Street ort Worth, TX 76102 7/978-6438		F'S ATTORNEY (name and address)			
answer to the complaint which is served on you this summons on you, exclusive of the day of ser the relief demanded in the complaint. Any an erk of this Court within a reasonable period of t	rvice. If you fail to do so, judgr swer that you serve on the par				