IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,

Plaintiff,

vs.

CIVIL NO. 04-1105 (JP)

CARLOS H. SOTO, et al.,

Defendants

FINAL JUDGMENT

Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") commenced this action by filing its Complaint against, among others, Carlos Soto ("Defendant"). In its Complaint, the Commission sought a temporary restraining order, and preliminary and permanent injunctions to prohibit violations by the Defendant of Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act"), and Sections 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"), and Rule 10b-5 thereunder. The Commission also sought other relief against the Defendant in the form of an accounting, disgorgement, records preservation, expedited discovery, an order temporarily freezing assets and an order imposing civil penalties against Defendant pursuant to Section 20(d) of the Securities Act and Section 21(d) (3) of the Exchange Act.

Defendant, by the Consent affixed hereto, without admitting or denying any of the allegations in the Commission's Complaint or any other paper filed herein, except as to personal and subject matter

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jurisdiction, has agreed to the entry of this Final Judgment ("Judgment"), waived findings of fact and conclusions of law, and waived any right to appeal from this Judgment. This Court having accepted such Consent and this Court having jurisdiction over the Defendant, and the subject matter hereof, and the Court being fully advised in the premises,

I.

VIOLATION OF SECTION 17(a) OF THE SECURITIES ACT

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Defendant, his officers, agents, servants, employees, representatives, and all persons in active concert or participation with him, and each of them, directly or indirectly, who receive actual notice of this Judgment, by personal service or otherwise, be and they hereby are, permanently restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly, singly or in concert, as aiders and abettors or otherwise, in the offer or sale of any security, by the use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or by use of the mails:

- (a) employing any device, scheme or artifice to defraud;
- (b) obtaining money or property by means of any untrue statement of material fact or omission to state any material fact necessary in order to make the statement made, in light of the circumstances under which it was made, not misleading; or

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(c) engaging in any transaction, practice or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon purchasers or prospective purchasers of any such security, in violation of Sections 17(a)(1), 17(a)(2), and 17(a)(3) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 77q(a)(1), 77q(a)(2) and 77q(a)(3).

II.

VIOLATION OF SECTION 10(b) OF THE EXCHANGE ACT AND RULE 10b-5 THEREUNDER

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Defendant, his officers, agents, servants, employees, representatives, and all persons in active concert or participation with him, and each of them, directly or indirectly, who receive actual notice of this Judgment, by personal service or otherwise, be and they hereby are, permanently restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly, singly or in concert, as aiders and abettors or otherwise, in connection with the purchase or sale of any security, by the use of any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce or of the mails, or of any facility of any national securities exchange:

- (a) employing any device, scheme or artifice to defraud;
- (b) making any untrue statements of material fact or omitting to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; or
- (c) engaging in any act, practice or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon any person,

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in violation of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. \$ 78j(b), and Rule 10b-5, 17 C.F.R. \$ 240.10b-5, thereunder.

III.

DISGORGEMENT AND PENALTIES

not ordering Defendant to disgorge his profits or proceeds that he received, directly or indirectly, as a result of the acts or courses of conduct described in the Complaint based upon (1) his sworn representations in his Statement of Financial Condition and other documents submitted to the Commission, and (2) Defendant's agreement to forfeit \$51 million, real estate and all assets with a value of more than \$1,000 as provided in his Plea and Forfeiture Agreement ("Plea Agreement") in *United States v. Soto*, Criminal Case No. 04-127 (CCC), United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico.

The determination not to impose disgorgement or a civil penalty is contingent upon the accuracy and completeness of Defendant's Statement of Financial Condition as well as his payments of the assets set forth in his Plea Agreement. If at any time following the entry of this Judgment the Commission obtains information indicating that Defendant's representations to the Commission concerning his assets, income, liabilities, or net worth were fraudulent, misleading, inaccurate, or incomplete in any material respect as of the time such representations were made, the Commission

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may, at its sole discretion and without prior notice to Defendant, petition the Court for an order requiring him to pay disgorgement and the maximum civil penalty allowed by law. In connection with any such petition, the only issue shall be whether the information provided by Defendant was fraudulent, misleading, inaccurate, or any material respect of time as the such incomplete in representations were made. In its petition, the Commission may move this Court to consider all available remedies, including, but not limited to, ordering Defendant to pay funds or assets, directing the forfeiture of any assets, or sanctions for contempt of this Judgment. The Commission may also request additional discovery. Defendant may not, by way of defense to such petition: (1) challenge the validity of the Consent or Judgment; (2) contest the allegations in the Complaint filed by the Commission; (3) assert that payment of disgorgement or a civil penalty should not be ordered; (4) contest the imposition of the maximum civil penalty allowable under law; or (5) assert any defense to liability or remedy, including, but not limited to, any statute of limitations defense.

IV.

INCORPORATION OF CONSENT

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Defendant shall comply with the provisions of the Consent attached hereto, and that such Consent is incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth herein.

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V.

RETENTION OF JURISDICTION

will retain jurisdiction over this matter and the Defendant in order to implement and carry out the terms of all Orders and Decrees that may be entered and/or to entertain any suitable application or motion for additional relief within the jurisdiction of this Court, and will order other relief that this Court deems appropriate under the circumstances.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 29th day of March, 2006.

s/Jaime Pieras, Jr.

JAIME PIERAS, JR.

U.S. SENIOR DISTRICT JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO



SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,

٧.

Plaintiff,

Civil Case No. 04-1105(JP)

CARLOS SOTO,

Defendant.

CONSENT OF DEFENDANT CARLOS SOTO TO ENTRY OF FINAL JUDGMENT OF PERMANENT INJUNCTION AND OTHER RELIEF

- 1. Defendant Carlos Soto ("Defendant") acknowledges having been served with the Complaint in this action, enters a general appearance, and admits the Court's jurisdiction over Defendant and over the subject matter of this action.
- 2. Without admitting or denying the allegations of the complaint (except as to personal and subject matter jurisdiction, which Defendant admits), Defendant hereby consents to the entry of the final Judgment in the form attached hereto (the "Final Judgment") and incorporated by reference herein.
- 3. Defendant agrees that he shall not seek or accept, directly or indirectly, reimbursement or indemnification from any source, including but not limited to payment made pursuant to any insurance policy, with regard to any civil penalty amounts that Defendant pays pursuant to the Final Judgment, regardless of whether such penalty amounts or any part thereof are added to a distribution fund or otherwise used for the benefit of investors. Defendant further agrees that he shall not claim, assert, or apply for a tax deduction or tax credit with regard to any federal, state, or local tax for any penalty amounts that Defendant pays pursuant to the Final

Judgment, regardless of whether such penalty amounts or any part thereof are added to a distribution fund or otherwise used for the benefit of investors.

Defendant acknowledges that the Court is not imposing a civil penalty or 4. requiring payment of \$ 54,600,000 of disgorgement and pre-judgment interest thereon based on the forfeiture required by the Plea and Forfeiture Agreement entered in United States v. Carlos Soto, Criminal Case No. 04-127 (CCC), United District Court Puerto Rico, and other documents and information submitted to the Commission. Defendant further consents that if at any time following the entry of the Final Judgment the Commission obtains information indicating that Defendant's representations to the Commission concerning Defendant's assets, income, liabilities, or net worth were fraudulent, misleading, inaccurate, or incomplete in any material respect as of the time such representations were made, the Commission may, at its sole discretion and without prior notice to Defendant, petition the Court for an order requiring Defendant to pay the unpaid portion of the disgorgement, pre-judgment and post-judgment interest thereon, and the maximum civil penalty allowable under the law. In connection with any such petition, the only issue shall be whether the financial information provided by Defendant was fraudulent, misleading, inaccurate, or incomplete in any material respect as of the time such representations were made. In any such petition, the Commission may move the Court to consider all available remedies, including but not limited to ordering Defendant to pay funds or assets, directing the forfeiture of any assets, or sanctions for contempt of the Court's Final Judgment. The Commission may also request additional discovery. Defendant may not, by way of defense to such petition: (i) challenge the validity of this Consent or the Final Judgment; (ii) contest the allegations in the complaint; (iii) assert that payment of disgorgement, pre-judgment or postjudgment interest, or a civil penalty should not be ordered; (iv) contest the amount of disgorgement or pre-judgment or post-judgment interest; (v) contest the imposition of the maximum civil penalty allowable under the law; or (vi) assert any defense to liability or remedy, including but not limited to any statute of limitations defense.

- 5. Defendant waives the entry of findings of fact and conclusions of law pursuant to Rule 52 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
 - 6. Defendant waives the right, if any, to appeal from the entry of the Final Judgment.
- 7. Defendant enters into this Consent voluntarily and represents that no threats, offers, promises, or inducements of any kind have been made by the Commission or any member, officer, employee, agent, or representative of the Commission to induce Defendant to enter into this Consent.
- 8. Defendant agrees that this Consent shall be incorporated into the Final Judgment with the same force and effect as if fully set forth therein.
- 9. Defendant will not oppose the enforcement of the Final Judgment on the ground, if any exists, that it fails to comply with Rule 65(d) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and hereby waives any objection based thereon.
- Judgment by the Court and filing with the Clerk of the Court will constitute notice to Defendant of its terms and conditions. Defendant further agrees to provide counsel for the Commission, within thirty days after the Final Judgment is filed with the Clerk of the Court, with an affidavit or declaration stating that Defendant has received and read a copy of the Final Judgment.
- 11. Consistent with 17 C.F.R. 202.5(f), this Consent resolves only the claims asserted against Defendant in this civil proceeding. Defendant acknowledges that no promise or representation has been made by the Commission or any member, officer, employee, agent, or

representative of the Commission with regard to any criminal liability that may have arisen or may arise from the facts underlying this action or immunity from any such criminal liability. Defendant waives any claim of Double Jeopardy based upon the settlement of this proceeding, including the imposition of any remedy or civil penalty herein. Defendant further acknowledges that the Court's entry of a permanent injunction may have collateral consequences under federal or state law and the rules and regulations of self-regulatory organizations, licensing boards, and other regulatory organizations. Such collateral consequences include, but are not limited to, a statutory disqualification with respect to membership or participation in, or association with a member of, a self-regulatory organization. This statutory disqualification has consequences that are separate from any sanction imposed in an administrative proceeding. In addition, in any disciplinary proceeding before the Commission based on the entry of the injunction in this action, Defendant understands that he shall not be permitted to contest the factual allegations of the complaint in this action.

12. Defendant understands and agrees to comply with the Commission's policy "not to permit a defendant or respondent to consent to a judgment or order that imposes a sanction while denying the allegation in the complaint or order for proceedings." 17 C.F.R. § 202.5. In compliance with this policy, Defendant agrees: (i) not to take any action or to make or permit to be made any public statement denying, directly or indirectly, any allegation in the complaint or creating the impression that the complaint is without factual basis; and (ii) that upon the filing of this Consent, Defendant hereby withdraws any papers filed in this action to the extent that they deny any allegation in the complaint. If Defendant breaches this agreement, the Commission may petition the Court to vacate the Final Judgment and restore this action to its active docket. Nothing in this paragraph affects Defendant's: (i) testimonial obligations; or (ii) right to take