

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  
**Before the**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT OF 1940**  
**Release No. 6690 / September 10, 2024**

**ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING**  
**File No. 3-22103**

**In the Matter of**

**JEFFREY WARD,**

**Respondent.**

**ORDER INSTITUTING**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS**  
**PURSUANT TO SECTION 203(f) OF THE**  
**INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT OF 1940,**  
**MAKING FINDINGS, AND IMPOSING**  
**REMEDIAL SANCTIONS**

**I.**

The Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) deems it appropriate and in the public interest that public administrative proceedings be, and hereby are, instituted pursuant to Section 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (“Advisers Act”) against Jeffrey Ward (“Ward” or “Respondent”).

**II.**

In anticipation of the institution of these proceedings, Respondent has submitted an Offer of Settlement (the “Offer”) which the Commission has determined to accept. Solely for the purpose of these proceedings and any other proceedings brought by or on behalf of the Commission, or to which the Commission is a party, and without admitting or denying the findings herein, except as to the Commission’s jurisdiction over him and the subject matter of these proceedings and the findings contained in paragraph III.2 below, which are admitted, Respondent consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Section 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, Making Findings and Imposing Remedial Sanctions (“Order”), as set forth below.

**III.**

On the basis of this Order and Respondent’s Offer, the Commission finds that:

1. From January 2017 to September 2022, Ward was an account executive and senior account executive at Red Rock Secured, LLC (“Red Rock”). At all relevant times, Red Rock and Ward were investment advisers. Ward, 44 years old, is a resident of Stevenson Ranch, California.

2. On April 23, 2024, a final judgment was entered by consent against Ward, permanently enjoining him from future violations of Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 10b-5 thereunder and Sections 206(1) and 206(2) of the Advisers Act, as set forth in the judgment entered in the civil action entitled Securities and Exchange Commission v. Red Rock Secured, LLC, et al., Civil Action Number 2:23-cv-3682-RGK-PVC, in the United States District Court for the Central District of California.

3. The Commission's amended complaint alleged that, while acting as unregistered investment advisers, Red Rock and Ward persuaded hundreds of retirement account investors to sell their existing securities, transfer the proceeds into self-directed individual retirement accounts that Red Rock helped clients establish, and invest the proceeds in gold or silver coins. The Commission's amended complaint alleged that Red Rock and Ward did so by making materially false and misleading statements, including regarding the markups that Red Rock charged on the price of coins, the purported value of "premium" coins, and the performance of the stock market.

#### IV.

In view of the foregoing, the Commission deems it appropriate and in the public interest to impose the sanctions agreed to in Respondent Ward's Offer.

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED, pursuant to Section 203(f) of the Advisers Act, that Respondent Ward be, and hereby is, barred from association with any broker, dealer, investment adviser, municipal securities dealer, municipal advisor, transfer agent, or nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

Any reapplication for association by the Respondent will be subject to the applicable laws and regulations governing the reentry process, and reentry may be conditioned upon a number of factors, including, but not limited to, compliance with the Commission's order and payment of any or all of the following: (a) any disgorgement or civil penalties ordered by a Court against the Respondent in any action brought by the Commission; (b) any disgorgement amounts ordered against the Respondent for which the Commission waived payment; (c) any arbitration award related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order; (d) any self-regulatory organization arbitration award to a customer, whether or not related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order; and (e) any restitution order by a self-regulatory organization, whether or not related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order.

By the Commission.

Vanessa A. Countryman  
Secretary