UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Before the SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 Release No. 10492 / May 4, 2018

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 Release No. 83171 / May 4, 2018

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING File No. 3-18467

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In the Matter of : ORDER INSTITUTING ADMINISTRATIVE : PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO RULE

Shae Yatta Harper, Esq., : 102(e) OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES OF

: PRACTICE, MAKING FINDINGS, AND

Respondent. : 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 against Shae Yatta Harper ("Respondent" or "Harper") pursuant to Rule 102(e)(3)(i) of the Commission's Rules of Practice.¹

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

The Commission, with due regard to the public interest and without preliminary hearing, may, by order, . . . suspend from appearing or practicing before it any attorney . . . who has been by name (A) [p]ermanently enjoined by any court of competent jurisdiction, by reason of his or her misconduct in an action brought by the Commission, from violating or aiding and abetting the violation of any provision of the Federal securities laws or of the rules and regulations thereunder; or (B) [f]ound by any court of competent jurisdiction in an action brought by the Commission to which he or she is a party ... to have violated (unless the violation was found not to have been willful) or aided and abetted the violation of any provision of the Federal securities laws or of the rules and regulations thereunder.

¹ Rule 102(e)(3)(i) provides, in relevant part, that:

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 her and the subject matter of these proceedings, and the findings contained in Section III.2. below, which are admitted, Respondent consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Rule 102(e) of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 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. Harper, age 44 resides in Monmouth Junction, New Jersey. Harper is a member of the California, New Jersey and District of Columbia Bars. Harper is employed as a transactional attorney, and in that capacity negotiates power and gas purchase agreements, advises on risk related to energy bid strategy, and reviews regulatory filings before the California Public Utilities Commission, among other responsibilities. Harper has never held any securities licenses and is not registered with the Commission in any capacity.
- 2. On March 29, 2018, the Commission filed a complaint against Harper in <u>SEC v. Harper</u> (Civil Action No. 18-cv-00436), in the United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana. On April 24, 2018, the court entered an order permanently enjoining Harper by consent, from future violations of Sections 5(a) and (c) of the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act"), and aiding and abetting violations of Sections 17(a) of the Securities Act and Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 10b-5 thereunder.
- 3. The Commission's complaint alleged, among other things, that at the direction of one of the masterminds of the scheme, Harper drafted participation agreements in pre-revolutionary Chinese bonds that were sent to investors and contained material misstatements and omissions. For example, investors were promised high returns on investment, which was false. Investors were also promised a money back guarantee, which in a number of cases was also false. Harper also controlled the bank account to which most investors sent their funds to invest in this investment opportunity, and distributed investor funds to the masterminds of the scheme at their direction. Harper also failed to respond appropriately to red flags indicating that the bonds had no value.

IV.

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

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED pursuant to Rule 102(e)(3)(i) of the Commission's Rules of Practice, effective immediately, that:

A. Harper is suspended from appearing or practicing before the Commission as an attorney for five years from the date of the Order.

- B. After five years from the date of the Order, Respondent may request that the Commission consider her application to resume appearing and practicing before the Commission as an attorney. The application should be sent to the attention of the Office of the General Counsel.
- C. In support of such an application, Respondent must provide a certificate of good standing from each state bar where Respondent is a member.
- D. In support of such an application, Respondent must also submit an affidavit truthfully stating, under penalty of perjury:
 - that Respondent has complied with the Order, and with any orders in <u>SEC</u>
 <u>v</u>. Harper, including any orders requiring payment of disgorgement or
 penalties;

2. that Respondent:

- a. is not currently suspended or disbarred as an attorney by a court of the United States (or any agency of the United States) or the bar or court of any state, territory, district, commonwealth, or possession; and
- b. since the entry of the Order, has not been suspended as an attorney for an offense involving moral turpitude by a court of the United States (or any agency of the United States) or the bar or court of any state, territory, district, commonwealth, or possession, except for any suspension concerning the conduct that was the basis for the Order;
- 3. that Respondent, since the entry of the Order, has not been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude as set forth in Rule 102(e)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice; and
- 4. that Respondent, since the entry of the Order:
 - a. has not been found by the Commission or a court of the United States to have committed a violation of the federal securities laws, except for any finding concerning the conduct that was the basis for the Order;
 - b. has not been charged by the Commission or the United States with a violation of the federal securities laws, except for any charge concerning the conduct that was the basis for the Order;

- c. has not been found by a court of the United States (or any agency of the United States) or any state, territory, district, commonwealth, or possession, or any bar thereof, to have committed an offense involving moral turpitude, except for any finding concerning the conduct that was the basis for the Order; and
- d. has not been charged by the United States (or any agency of the United States) or any state, territory, district, commonwealth, or possession, or any bar thereof, with having committed an offense involving moral turpitude, except for any charge concerning the conduct that was the basis for the Order.
- E. If Respondent provides the documentation required in Paragraphs C and D, and the Commission determines that he truthfully attested to each of the items required in her affidavit, she shall by Commission order be permitted to resume appearing and practicing before the Commission as an attorney.
- F. If Respondent is not able to truthfully attest to the statements required in Subparagraphs D(2)(b) or D(4), Respondent shall provide an explanation as to the facts and circumstances pertaining to the matter and the Commission may hold a hearing to determine whether there is good cause to permit her to resume appearing and practicing before the Commission as an attorney.

By the Commission.

Brent J. Fields Secretary