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

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 Release No. 96072 / October 13, 2022

<b>ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING</b>
File No. 3-21210

In the Matter of

CHARLES PARRINO,

Respondent.

ORDER INSTITUTING
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS
PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(b) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934,
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 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") against Charles Parrino ("Parrino" 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, Respondent admits the Commission's jurisdiction over him and the subject matter of these proceedings, and the findings contained in paragraphs 2 and 4 below, and consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 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. Parrino, age 56, is a resident of Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. From 2011 through 2019, Parrino was employed by T3 Trading Group, LLC, a registered broker-dealer.

- 2. On September 28, 2022, a judgment was entered by consent against Parrino, permanently enjoining him from future violations of Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act"), and Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, in the civil action entitled Securities and Exchange Commission v. Charles Parrino, Civil Action Number 22-CV-3888, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia
- 3. The Commission's complaint against Parrino alleged that Parrino participated in a fraudulent scheme to manipulate the price of securities of publicly-traded companies and that Parrino generated \$982,690 in illicit profits from trading while the prices of those securities were being manipulated.
- 4. Also on September 27, 2022, Parrino pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud (18 U.S.C. §1343) and securities fraud (15 U.S.C. §78j(b) and 17 C.F.R. §240.10b-5), all in violation of 18 U.S.C. §371, before the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, in *United States v. Charles Parrino*, Crim. Information No. 1:22-CR-53.
- 5. In connection with that plea, Parrino admitted that from in or about October 2017 through in or about January 2020, he participated in a market manipulation scheme involving trading securities around the dissemination of false rumors about publicly traded companies. This Order shall remain in full force and effect regardless of the existence or outcome of any further proceedings in *United States v. Charles Parrino*.

## IV.

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

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED pursuant to Section 15(b)(6) of the Exchange Act, that Respondent Parrino 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; and

Pursuant to Section 15(b)(6) of the Exchange Act Respondent Parrino be, and hereby is barred from participating in any offering of a penny stock, including: acting as a promoter, finder, consultant, agent or other person who engages in activities with a broker, dealer or issuer for purposes of the issuance or trading in any penny stock, or inducing or attempting to induce the purchase or sale of any penny stock.

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