# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

Federal Trade Commission,	) Case No. ) CV-13-1583-PHX-ROS
Plaintiff,	)
vs.  Money Now Funding, LLC, et. al  Defendants.	PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION ORDER WITH ASSET FREEZE, APPOINTMENT OF A PERMANENT RECEIVER, AND OTHER EQUITABLE RELIEF AS TO DEFENDANTS CORDELL BESS, CLINTON RACKLEY, AND RONALD W. HOBBS.

Plaintiff, the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC" or "Commission"), has filed its Complaint for Permanent Injunction and Other Equitable Relief pursuant to Sections 13(b) and 19 of the Federal Trade Commission Act ("FTC Act"), 15 U.S.C. §§ 53(b) and 57b, and has applied for a temporary restraining order ("TRO"), asset freeze, other equitable relief, and an order to show cause why a preliminary injunction should not issue pursuant to Rule 65 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Fed. R. Civ. P. 65. The Court held a show cause hearing on August 14, 2013 and entered a Preliminary Injunction Order (Doc. 56) on August 19, 2013 against all Corporate Defendants and fifteen individual Defendants. This Preliminary Injunction Order applies to three additional Defendants, Cordell Bess, Clinton Rackley, and Ronald W. Hobbs, who had not yet been served at the time of the original show cause hearing. The FTC served Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs and filed an affidavit of service (Doc. 84).

Defendant Clinton Rackley has stipulated to the entry of this Preliminary Injunction Order. The Court held a show cause hearing on September 13, 2013 as to Defendants Cordell Bess and Ronald W. Hobbs.

Accordingly, having considered all the arguments, evidence, and pleadings filed in this matter, the Court now finds as follows:

# FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this case, jurisdiction over all parties, and venue in this district is proper.
- 2. There is good cause to believe that Defendants Money Now Funding, LLC, Rose Marketing, LLC, DePaola Marketing, LLC, Affiliate Marketing Group, LLC, Legal Doxs, LLC, US Doc Assist, LLC, Affinity Technologies, LLC, Marketing Expert Solutions, LLC, Lukeroy K. Rose, Cordell Bess, Solana DePaola, Jennifer Beckman, William D. Claspell, Richard Frost, Dino Mitchell, Clinton Rackley, Lance Himes, Leary Darling, Donna F. Duckett, Della Frost, Christopher Grimes, Alannah M. Harre, Ronald W. Hobbs, Janine Lilly, Michael McIntyre, Benny Montgomery, Virginia Rios, and Kendrick Thomas have engaged in and are likely to engage in acts and practices that violate Section 5(a) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45(a), the FTC's Trade Regulation Rule entitled "Disclosure Requirements and Prohibitions Concerning Business Opportunities" ("Business Opportunity Rule" or "Rule"), 16 C.F.R. Part 437, as amended, and the FTC's Trade Regulation Rule entitled "Telemarketing Sales Rule" ("TSR" or "Rule"), 16 C.F.R. Part 310, and that the Commission is likely to prevail on the merits of this action.
- 3. There is good cause to believe that immediate and irreparable harm will result from Defendants' ongoing violations of the FTC Act, the Business Opportunity Rule, and the TSR unless Defendants are restrained and enjoined by Order of this Court.
- 4. There is good cause to believe that immediate and irreparable damage to the Court's ability to grant effective final relief for consumers including the refund of monies paid, restitution, or rescission or reformation of contract will occur from the sale, transfer, or other disposition or concealment by Defendants of assets or records, and

that therefore in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b), the interests of justice require that this Order be granted.

- 5. Good cause exists for (a) the appointment of a Permanent Receiver over Corporate Defendants Money Now Funding, LLC; Rose Marketing, LLC; DePaola Marketing, LLC; Affiliate Marketing Group, LLC; Legal Doxs, LLC; US Doc Assist, LLC; Affinity Technologies, LLC; and Marketing Expert Solutions, LLC; (b) freezing of Defendants' assets; and (c) the ancillary relief ordered below.
- 6. Considering Plaintiff's likelihood of ultimate success and weighing the equities, a Preliminary Injunction with asset freeze, the appointment of a Permanent Receiver, and other equitable relief is in the public interest.
- 7. No security is required of any agency of the United States for issuance of a preliminary injunction. Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(c).

To the extent any of Findings of Fact are more properly characterized as Conclusions of Law, they should be so considered; to the extent any Conclusions of Law are more properly characterized as Findings of Fact, they should be so considered.

### **DEFINITIONS**

For purpose of this Order, the following definitions shall apply:

1. "Asset" means any legal or equitable interest in, right to, or claim to, any real, personal, or intellectual property of any Corporate Defendant or Individual Defendant, or held for the benefit of any Corporate Defendant or Individual Defendant, wherever located, including, but not limited to, chattel, goods, instruments, equipment, fixtures, general intangibles, effects, leaseholds, contracts, mail or other deliveries, shares of stock, securities, inventory, checks, notes, accounts, credits, receivables (as those terms are defined in the Uniform Commercial Code), cash, trusts, including, but not limited to, any trust held for the benefit of any of the Defendants, and reserve funds or any other accounts associated with payments processed by, or on behalf of, any of the Defendants, including, but not limited to, reserve funds held by payment processors or financial institutions.

- 2. "Business Opportunity Rule" means the FTC Rule entitled "Disclosure Requirements and Prohibitions Concerning Business Opportunities" 16 C.F.R. Part 437, as amended.
- 3. "Corporate Defendants" means Money Now Funding, LLC, Rose Marketing, LLC, DePaola Marketing, LLC, Affiliate Marketing Group, LLC, Legal Doxs, LLC, US Doc Assist, LLC, Affinity Technologies, LLC, Marketing Expert Solutions, LLC and their successors and assigns.
- 4. "**Defendants**" means all of the Individual Defendants and the Corporate Defendants, individually, collectively, or in any combination.
- 5. The term "document" is equal in scope and synonymous in meaning to the usage of the term in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 34(a), and includes writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, audio and video recordings, computer records, and any other data compilations from which information can be obtained and translated, if necessary, through detection devices into reasonably usable form. A draft or non-identical copy is a separate document within the meaning of the term.
- 6. "Individual Defendants" means Lukeroy K. Rose, Cordell Bess, Solana DePaola, Jennifer Beckman, William D. Claspell, Richard Frost, Dino Mitchell, Clinton Rackley, Lance Himes, Leary Darling, Donna F. Duckett, Della Frost, Alannah M. Harre, Ronald W. Hobbs, Janine Lilly, Michael McIntyre, Benny Montgomery, and Kendrick Thomas individually, collectively, or in any combination.
- 7. "**Material**" means likely to affect a person's choice of, or conduct regarding, opportunities, products or services.
- 8. "National Do Not Call Registry" means the registry of telephone numbers maintained by the FTC, pursuant to the Telemarketing Sales Rule, 16 C.F.R. section 310.4(b)(1)(iii)(B), of Persons who do not wish to receive Outbound Telephone Calls to induce the purchase of goods or services.

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- 9. "Outbound Telephone Call" means a telephone call initiated by a telemarketer to induce the purchase of goods or services or to solicit a charitable contribution.
- 10. "**Person**" means a natural person, organization, or other legal entity, including a corporation, partnership, proprietorship, association, cooperative, government or governmental subdivision or agency, or any other group or combination acting as an entity.
  - 11. "**Plaintiff**" means the Federal Trade Commission.
- 12. "**Receiver**" means Peter S. Davis of Simon Consulting, LLC, the permanent receiver appointed in Section XIII of the August 19, 2013 Preliminary Injunction Order (Doc. 56) and any deputy receivers that shall be named by the permanent receiver.
  - 13. "Receivership Defendants" means the Corporate Defendants.
- 14. "**Representatives**" means the Defendants' officers, agents, servants, employees, or attorneys, and any other person in active concert or participation with them who receives actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise.
- 15. "**Telemarketing**" means any plan, program, or campaign which is conducted to induce the purchase of goods or services by use of one or more telephones, and which involves a telephone call, whether or not covered by the TSR.
- 16. "Work-at-home Opportunity" means any good, service, plan, or program that is represented, expressly or by implication, to assist an individual in any manner to earn money while working from home or from locations other than the business premises of the Defendants.

# **ORDER**

I.

#### PROHIBITED BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs and their Representatives, whether acting directly or indirectly, in connection with the

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advertising, marketing, promotion, offering for sale, or sale of any products or services, are **hereby preliminarily restrained and enjoined** from making, in any manner, expressly or by implication, any false or unsubstantiated representations of any material fact including, but not limited to:

- A. That any Defendant or other person offers, sells, or provides loans or cash advances;
- B. The amount of income, earnings, or profits that a person may or is likely to earn, or that other persons have earned;
- C. That any Defendants or other person will provide, locate, or obtain leads containing the names or contact information of persons potentially interested in Defendants products or services;
- D. That any Defendant or other person will contact, sell, or provide services to businesses consumers refer;
  - E. The total cost to purchase, receive, or use any products or services; or
- F. Any material aspect of the performance, efficacy, nature, or central characteristics any product or service.

II.

# PROHIBITIONS RELATED TO THE SALE AND MARKETING OF BUSINESS OR WORK AT HOME OPPORTUNITIES

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs and their Representatives, whether acting directly or indirectly, in connection with the advertising, marketing, promotion, offering for sale, or sale of any business opportunity or Work-at-home opportunity, are hereby preliminarily restrained and enjoined from:

- A. Failing to disclose, or disclose adequately, in writing material information pertaining to the any opportunity at least seven (7) days before the consumer signs a contract or makes a payment in connection with that opportunity including:
  - Basic identifying information of the seller of the opportunity, including the seller's name, business address, and telephone number;

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- 2. Any civil or criminal actions against the seller or affiliates of the seller for misrepresentation, fraud, or unfair or deceptive practices within the 10 years preceding the date that the opportunity is offered;
- Material terms and conditions of any cancellation or refund policy;
   or
- 4. Any claim of actual or potential earnings that purchasers of the opportunity may experience.
- B. Making any earnings claims unless there is (1) a reasonable basis for the claim at the time the claim is made; and (2) written substantiation for the earnings claim in the possession of Defendants' at the time the claim is made;
- C. Violating the Business Opportunity Rule, 16 C.F.R. Part 437, as amended, a copy of which is attached.

#### III.

# PROHIBITIONS AGAINST VIOLATING THE TELEMARKETING SALES RULE

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs and their Representatives, whether acting directly or indirectly, in connection with Telemarketing of any product or service, are hereby preliminarily restrained and enjoined from engaging in violations of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, 16 C.F.R. Part 310, including, but not limited to:

- A. Initiating, or causing others to initiate, an outbound telephone call (1) to a person's telephone number on the National Do Not Call Registry or (2) to a person who previously has stated that he or she does not wish to receive an outbound telephone call made by or on behalf of the seller whose goods or services are being offered;
- B. Causing the telephone to ring or engaging persons in telephone conversation repeatedly or continuously, with intent to annoy, abuse, or harass the person at the called number;
  - C. Threating, intimidating, or the using of profane or obscene language; or

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D. Initiating outbound telephone calls to a telephone number within a given area code on behalf of a seller who has not, either directly or through another person, paid the required annual fee for access to the telephone numbers within that area code that are included in the National Do Not Call Registry.

#### IV.

#### ASSET FREEZE

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs and their Representatives, whether acting directly indirectly, are hereby preliminarily restrained and enjoined from:

- Transferring, liquidating, converting, encumbering, pledging, loaning, A. selling, concealing, dissipating, disbursing, assigning, spending, conveying, gifting, withdrawing, granting a lien or security interest or other interest in, or otherwise disposing of any funds, real or personal property, accounts, contracts, consumer lists, shares of stock, or other assets, or any interest therein, wherever located, whether within the United States or within a jurisdiction outside the United States, that are: (1) owned or controlled by any of the Defendants, in whole or in part; (2) held for the benefit of any of the Defendants; (3) in the actual or constructive possession of any of the Defendants; or (4) owned, controlled by, or in the actual or constructive possession of, or otherwise held for the benefit of any corporation, partnership, or other entity directly or indirectly owned, managed, or controlled by any of the Defendants including, but not limited to, any assets held by or for, or subject to access by any of the Defendants at any bank or savings and loan institution, or with any broker-dealer, escrow agent, title company, commodity trading company, precious metals dealer, or other financial institution or depository institution of any kind;
- B. Opening or causing to be opened any safe deposit boxes titled in the name of, or subject to access by, any of the Defendants;
- C. Incurring charges or cash advances on any credit card issued in the name, singly or jointly, of any of the Corporate Defendants;

- D. Obtaining a personal or secured loan encumbering the assets of any of the Defendants, or any corporation, partnership, or other entity directly or indirectly owned, managed, or controlled by any of the Defendants; or
- E. Incurring liens or other encumbrances on real property, personal property or other assets titled in the name, singly or jointly, of any of the Defendants or any corporation, partnership, or other entity directly or indirectly owned, managed, or controlled by any of the Defendants.

*Provided*, that the assets affected by this Section IV shall include: (1) all assets of any of the Defendants as of the time of issuance of this Order; and (2) assets obtained after the time of issuance of this Order if the assets are derived from the conduct alleged in the Commission's Complaint.

*Provided further*, that this Section IV shall not prevent the Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs from paying bills or making purchases of necessaries with funds obtained by them subsequent to imposition of the asset freeze from any legitimate source, such as funds borrowed from family, friends, or others; income from lawful employment; or charges made to those individual defendants' credit cards.

V.

#### **DUTIES OF ASSET HOLDERS**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any financial or brokerage institution, credit card processing company, payment processor, merchant bank, acquiring bank, independent sales organization, business entity, or person served with a copy of this Order, or who otherwise has actual knowledge of this Order, that (a) holds, controls or maintains custody of any account, safe deposit box, or other asset of Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs, (b) holds, controls, or maintains custody of any asset associated with credits, debits, or charges made on behalf of Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs, including, but not limited to, reserve funds held by payment processors or other entities, or (c) has held, controlled, or maintained any such account, safe deposit box, or other asset at any time since August 1, 2010 shall:

- A. Hold and retain within its control and prohibit the withdrawal, removal, assignment, transfer, pledge, encumbrance, disbursement, dissipation, conversion, sale, or other disposal of any such asset, except by further order of the Court;
- B. Deny any person, except the Receiver acting pursuant to Section XIV of this Order, access to any safe deposit box that is titled in the name of, individually or jointly, or otherwise subject to access by, Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs;
- C. Provide the Commission's counsel and to the Receiver, within five (5) business days of receiving a copy of this Order, a sworn statement setting forth:
  - The identification number of each such account or asset titled in the name, individually or jointly, of Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs, or held on behalf of or for the benefit of Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs;
  - 2. The balance of each such account, or a description of the nature and value of such asset as of the close of business on the day on which this Order is served, and, if the account or other asset has been closed or removed, the date closed or removed, the total funds removed in order to close the account, and the name of the person or entity to whom such account or other asset was remitted; and
  - 3. The identification of any safe deposit box that is titled in the name of, individually or jointly, or otherwise subject to access by any of the Defendants; and
- D. Upon request by the Commission, promptly provide the Commission with copies of all records or other documentation pertaining to each such account or asset, including, but not limited to, originals or copies of account applications, account statements, signature cards, checks, drafts, deposit tickets, transfers to and from the accounts, all other debit and credit instruments or slips, currency transaction reports, 1099 forms, and safe deposit box logs.

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#### VI.

#### FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that within three (3) calendar days of service of this Order, Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs shall prepare and deliver the following forms to counsel for the Commission and to the Receiver:

A. Completed financial statements on the forms attached to this Order as Attachment A (Financial Statement of Individual Defendant) for themselves individually and Attachment B (Financial Statement of Corporate Defendant) for each business entity under which they conduct business or of which they are an officer, and for each trust for which any Defendant is a trustee. The financial statements shall be accurate as of the date of entry of this Order. Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs shall include in the financial statements a full accounting of all funds and assets, whether located inside or outside of the United States, that are: (1) titled in the name of such Defendant, jointly, severally, or individually; (2) held by any person or entity for the benefit of such Defendant; or (3) under the direct or indirect control of such Defendant. Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs shall attach to these completed financial statements copies of all local, state, provincial, and federal income and property tax returns, with attachments and schedules, as called for by the instructions to the financial statements; and

B. Attachment C (Consent to Release and Request for Copy of Tax Return).

### VII.

#### REPATRIATION OF ASSETS AND DOCUMENTS

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that within five (5) days following the service of this Order, Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs shall:

A. Provide the Commission and the Receiver with a full accounting of all funds, documents, and assets outside of the United States which are: (1) titled in the name, individually or jointly, of any of the Defendants; or (2) held by any person or entity for the benefit of any of the Defendants; or (3) under the direct or indirect control, whether jointly or singly, of any of the Defendants;

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- B. Transfer to the territory of the United States and deliver to the Receiver all funds, documents, and assets located in foreign countries which are: (1) titled in the name individually or jointly of any of the Defendants; or (2) held by any person or entity, for the benefit of any of the Defendants; or (3) under the direct or indirect control of any of the Defendants, whether jointly or singly;
- C. Provide the Commission access to all records of accounts or assets of any of the Defendants held by financial institutions located outside the territorial United States by signing the Consent to Release of Financial Records appended to this Order as Attachment C.

### VIII.

#### NON-INTERFERENCE WITH REPATRIATION

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs and their Representatives are hereby preliminarily restrained and enjoined from taking any action, directly or indirectly, which may result in the encumbrance or dissipation of foreign assets, or in the hindrance of the repatriation required by Section VII of this Order, including, but not limited to:

- A. Sending any statement, letter, fax, e-mail or wire transmission, telephoning or engaging in any other act, directly or indirectly, that results in a determination by a foreign trustee or other entity that a "duress" event has occurred under the terms of a foreign trust agreement until such time that all assets have been fully repatriated pursuant to Section VII of this Order;
- B. Notifying any trustee, protector or other agent of any foreign trust or other related entities of either the existence of this Order, or of the fact that repatriation is required pursuant to a court order, until such time that all assets have been fully repatriated pursuant to Section VII of this Order.

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IX.

#### **CONSUMER CREDIT REPORTS**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to Section 604(a)(1) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1681b(a)(1), any consumer reporting agency served with this Order shall promptly furnish consumer reports as requested concerning Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs to the Commission.

X.

#### PRESERVATION OF RECORDS

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs and their Representatives, whether acting directly or through any entity, corporation, subsidiary, division, director, manager, member, affiliate, independent contractor, accountant, financial advisor, or other device, are hereby preliminarily restrained and enjoined from:

- A. Destroying, erasing, falsifying, writing over, mutilating, concealing, altering, transferring, or otherwise disposing of, in any manner, directly or indirectly, Documents that relate to: (1) the business, business practices, Assets, or business or personal finances of any of the Defendants, (2) the business practices or finances of entities directly or indirectly under the control of any of the Defendants, or (3) the business practices or finances of entities directly or indirectly under common control with any other Defendant, including: any and all marketing materials, World Wide Web pages, consumer complaints, rate decks, call detail records, telephone logs, telephone scripts, contracts, correspondence, email, corporate books and records, accounting data, financial statements, receipt books, ledgers, personal and business canceled checks and check registers, bank statements, calendars, appointment books, and tax returns; and
- B. Failing to create and maintain Documents that, in reasonable detail, accurately, fairly, and completely reflect their incomes, disbursements, transactions, and use of their Assets.

XI.

#### NOTIFICATION OF NEW BUSINESS ACTIVITY

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs and their Representatives, whether acting directly or through any entity, corporation, subsidiary, division, director, manager, member, affiliate, independent contractor, accountant, financial advisor, or other device, are hereby preliminarily restrained and enjoined from creating, operating, or exercising any control over any new business entity, whether newly formed or previously inactive, including any partnership, limited partnership, joint venture, sole proprietorship, or corporation, without first providing counsel for the FTC with a written statement disclosing: (1) the name of the business entity; (2) the address and telephone number of the business entity; (3) the names of the business entity's officers, directors, principals, managers, members, and employees; and (4) a detailed description of the business entity's intended activities.

XII.

#### PROHIBITION ON RELEASE OF CONSUMER INFORMATION

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs and their Representatives, whether acting directly or indirectly, are hereby preliminarily restrained and enjoined from selling, renting, leasing, transferring, using, disclosing, or otherwise benefitting from the name, address, telephone number, credit card number, bank account number, email address, or other identifying information of any Person who: (1) paid money to the Defendants, (2) was previously contacted by the Defendants in connection with the sale of business opportunities, Work-at-home opportunities, or any service to assist in the creation, advertising, marketing, promotion, or operation of a business opportunity or work-at-home opportunity, including, but not limited to website development, advertising, marketing, lead generation, social media promotion, search engine optimization, training, and business establishment services, (3) who was on a list to be contacted by the Defendants; provided, however, that Defendants may disclose such

regulation, or court order.

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### XIII.

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### APPOINTMENT OF PERMANENT RECEIVER

identifying information to a law enforcement agency or as required by any law,

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The Court appointed Peter S. Davis of Simon Consulting, LLC in the Preliminary Injunction Order (Doc. 56) issued on August 19, 2013 as permanent receiver for the Receivership Defendants, as well as for any affiliates, subsidiaries, divisions, or telephone sales or customer service operations, wherever located, with the full power of an equity receiver. The Receiver shall be the agent of this Court, and solely the agent of this Court, in acting as Receiver under this Order. The Receiver shall be accountable directly to this Court.

### XIV.

#### **RECEIVER'S DUTIES**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Receiver is authorized and directed to accomplish the following:

- Α. Assume full control of the Receivership Defendants by removing, as the Receiver deems necessary or advisable, any director, officer, independent contractor, employee, or agent of any of the Receivership Defendants, including any Defendant, from control of, management of, or participation in, the affairs of the Receivership Defendants:
- B. Take exclusive custody, control, and possession of all assets and documents of, or in the possession, custody, or under the control of, the Receivership Defendants, wherever situated. The Receiver shall have full power to divert mail and to sue for, collect, receive, take in possession, hold, and manage all assets and documents of the Receivership Defendants and other persons or entities whose interests are now under the direction, possession, custody, or control of, the Receivership Defendants. The Receiver shall assume control over the income and profits therefrom and all sums of money now or hereafter due or owing to the Receivership Defendants. Provided, however, that the

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Receiver shall not attempt to collect any amount from a consumer if the Receiver believes the consumer was a victim of the unfair or deceptive acts or practices or other violations of law alleged in the Complaint in this matter, without prior Court approval;

- C. Take all steps necessary to secure each location from which the Receivership Defendants operate or have operated their businesses. Such steps may include, but are not limited to, any of the following, as the Receiver deems necessary or advisable: (1) serving this Order; (2) completing a written inventory of all Receivership assets; (3) obtaining pertinent information from all employees and other agents of the Receivership Defendants, including, but not limited to, the name, home address, Social Security Number, job description, passwords or access codes, method of compensation, and all accrued and unpaid commissions and compensation of each such employee or agent; (4) photographing and videotaping any or all portions of the location; (5) securing the location by changing the locks and disconnecting any computer modems or other means of access to the computer or other records maintained at that location; and (6) requiring any persons present on the premises at the time this Order is served to leave the premises, to provide the Receiver with proof of identification, or to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Receiver that such persons are not removing from the premises documents or assets of the Receivership Defendants. Law enforcement personnel, including, but not limited to, police or sheriffs, may assist the Receiver in implementing these provisions in order to keep the peace and maintain security. If requested by the Receiver, the United States Marshals Service will provide appropriate and necessary assistance to the Receiver to implement this Order and is authorized to use any necessary and reasonable force to do so;
- D. Suspend business operations of the Receivership Defendants if in the judgment of the Receiver such operations cannot be continued legally and profitably;
- E. Conserve, hold, and manage all assets of the Receivership Defendants, and perform all acts necessary or advisable to preserve the value of those assets in order to prevent any irreparable loss, damage, or injury to consumers or creditors of the

Receivership Defendants, including, but not limited to, obtaining an accounting of the assets and preventing the unauthorized transfer, withdrawal, or misapplication of assets;

- F. Enter into contracts and purchase insurance as advisable or necessary;
- G. Prevent the inequitable distribution of assets and determine, adjust, and protect the interests of consumers and creditors who have transacted business with the Receivership Defendants;
- H. Manage and administer the business of the Receivership Defendants until further order of this Court by performing all incidental acts that the Receiver deems to be advisable or necessary, which includes but is not limited to retaining, hiring, or dismissing any employees, independent contractors, or agents;
- I. Choose, engage, and employ attorneys, accountants, appraisers, and other independent contractors and technical specialists, as the Receiver deems advisable or necessary in the performance of duties and responsibilities under the authority granted by this Order;
- J. Make payments and disbursements from the receivership estate that are necessary or advisable for carrying out the directions of, or exercising the authority granted by, this Order. The Receiver shall apply to the Court for prior approval of any payment of any debt or obligation incurred by the Receivership Defendants prior to the date of entry of this Order, except payments that the Receiver deems necessary or advisable to secure assets of the Receivership Defendants, such as rental payments;
- K. Institute, compromise, adjust, appear in, intervene in, or become party to such actions or proceedings in state, federal or foreign courts or arbitration proceedings as the Receiver deems necessary and advisable to preserve or recover the assets of the Receivership Defendants, or that the Receiver deems necessary and advisable to carry out the Receiver's mandate under this Order, including, but not limited to, actions challenging fraudulent or voidable transfers;
- L. Defend, compromise, adjust, or otherwise dispose of any or all actions or proceedings instituted in the past or in the future against the Receiver in his role as

Receiver, or against the Receivership Defendants, as the Receiver deems necessary and advisable to preserve the assets of the Receivership Defendants, or as the Receiver deems necessary and advisable to carry out the Receiver's mandate under this Order;

- M. Issue subpoenas to obtain documents and records pertaining to the Receivership, and conduct discovery in this action on behalf of the Receivership estate;
- N. Open one or more bank accounts as designated depositories for funds of the Receivership Defendants. The Receiver shall deposit all funds of the Receivership Defendants in such a designated account and shall make all payments and disbursements from the Receivership estate from such an account. The Receiver shall serve copies of monthly account statements on all parties;
- O. Maintain accurate records of all receipts and expenditures incurred as Receiver;
- P. Cooperate with reasonable requests for information or assistance from any state or federal law enforcement agency;
- Q. File reports with the Court on a timely basis and at regular intervals or as otherwise directed by the Court.

#### XV.

# TRANSFER OF RECEIVERSHIP PROPERTY TO RECEIVER IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

- A. Immediately upon service of this Order upon them, or within a period permitted by the Receiver, Defendants Bess, Rackley, Hobbs, their Representatives, and any other person or entity with possession, custody or control of assets or documents relating to the Receivership Defendants shall transfer or deliver possession, custody, and control of the following to the Receiver:
  - 1. All assets of the Receivership Defendants;
  - All documents of the Receivership Defendants, including, but not limited to, books and records of accounts, all financial and accounting records, balance sheets, income statements, bank records

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(including monthly statements, canceled checks, records of wire transfers, and check registers), client lists, title documents and other papers;

- All assets belonging to other persons or entities whose interests are now under the direction, possession, custody, or control of the Receivership Defendants;
- 4. All computers and data in whatever form used to conduct the business of the Receivership Defendants; and
- 5. All keys, codes, and passwords necessary to gain or to secure access to any assets or documents of the Receivership Defendants, including, but not limited to, access to their business premises, means of communication, accounts, computer systems, or other property.
- B. In the event any person or entity fails to deliver or transfer any asset or otherwise fails to comply with any provision of this Section, the Receiver may file *ex parte* an Affidavit of Non-Compliance regarding the failure. Upon filing of the affidavit, the Court may authorize, without additional process or demand, Writs of Possession or Sequestration or other equitable writs requested by the Receiver. The writs shall authorize and direct the United States Marshals Service or any sheriff or deputy sheriff of any county to seize the asset, document, or other item and to deliver it to the Receiver.

#### XVI.

#### PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO RECEIVER

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs shall provide to the Receiver, immediately upon request, the following:

A. A list of all assets and property, including accounts, of the Receivership Defendants that are held in any name other than the name of a Receivership Defendant, or by any person or entity other than a Receivership Defendant; and

B. A list of all agents, employees, officers, servants or those persons in active concert and participation with the Individual Defendants and Receivership Defendants who have been associated with or done business with the Receivership Defendants.

#### XVII.

### **COOPERATION WITH THE RECEIVER**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs, their Representatives, and all other persons or entities served with a copy of this Order shall fully cooperate with and assist the Receiver in taking and maintaining possession, custody, or control of the assets of the Receivership Defendants. This cooperation and assistance shall include, but not be limited to: providing information to the Receiver that the Receiver deems necessary in order to exercise the authority and discharge the responsibilities of the Receiver under this Order; providing any password required to access any computer, electronic file, or telephonic data in any medium; advising all persons who owe money to the Receivership Defendants that all debts should be paid directly to the Receiver; and transferring funds at the Receiver's direction and producing records related to the assets and sales of the Receivership Defendants. The entities obligated to cooperate with the Receiver under this provision include, but are not limited to, banks, broker-dealers, savings and loans, escrow agents, title companies, commodity trading companies, precious metals dealers and other financial institutions and depositories of any kind, payment processors, payment gateways, insurance companies, as well as all third-party billing agents, common carriers, and other telecommunications companies.

#### XVIII.

#### INTERFERENCE WITH THE RECEIVER

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs, their Representatives, corporations, subsidiaries, divisions, or affiliates are hereby restrained and enjoined from directly or indirectly:

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- A. Interfering with the Receiver managing, or taking custody, control, or possession of the assets or documents subject to this Receivership;
- B. Transacting any of the business of the Receivership Defendants or any substantially similar name;
- C. Transferring, receiving, altering, selling, encumbering, pledging, assigning, liquidating, or otherwise disposing of any assets owned, controlled, or in the possession or custody of, or in which an interest is held or claimed by, the Receivership Defendants, or the Receiver;
- D. Destroying, secreting, defacing, transferring, or otherwise altering or disposing of any documents of the Receivership Defendants, including, but not limited to, books, records, accounts, or any other papers;
  - E. Excusing debts owed to the Receivership Defendants;
- F. Refusing to cooperate with the Receiver or the Receiver's duly authorized agents in the exercise of their duties or authority under any order of this Court; and
  - G. Harassing or interfering with the Receiver in any way.

#### XIX.

# STAY OF ACTIONS AGAINST RECEIVERSHIP DEFENDANTS IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

- A. Except by leave of this Court, during pendency of the Receivership ordered herein, Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs, their Representatives, and all investors, creditors, stockholders, lessors, customers and other persons seeking to establish or enforce any claim, right, or interest against or on behalf of Defendants, and all others acting for or on behalf of such persons, are hereby enjoined from taking action that would interfere with the exclusive jurisdiction of this Court over the assets or documents of the Receivership Defendants, including, but not limited to:
  - 1. Petitioning, or assisting in the filing of a petition, that would cause any Receivership Defendant to be placed in bankruptcy;

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- 2. Commencing, prosecuting, or continuing a judicial, administrative, or other action or proceeding against the Receivership Defendants, including the issuance or employment of process against the Receivership Defendants, *except* that such actions may be commenced if necessary to toll any applicable statute of limitations;
- 3. Filing or enforcing any lien on any asset of the Receivership

  Defendants; taking or attempting to take possession, custody, or
  control of any asset of the Receivership Defendants; accelerating the
  due date of any obligation; or attempting to foreclose, forfeit, alter,
  or terminate any interest in any asset of the Receivership

  Defendants, whether such acts are part of a judicial proceeding, are
  acts of self-help, or otherwise;
- 4. Initiating any other process or proceeding that would interfere with the Receiver managing or taking custody, control, or possession of, the assets or documents subject to this receivership.

Provided that, this Order does not stay (1) The commencement or continuation of a criminal action or proceeding; (2) The commencement or continuation of an action or proceeding by a governmental unit to enforce such governmental unit's police or regulatory power; or (3) The enforcement of a judgment, other than a money judgment, obtained in an action or proceeding by a governmental unit to enforce such governmental unit's police or regulatory power.

#### XX.

#### **COMPENSATION OF RECEIVER**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Receiver and all personnel hired by the Receiver as herein authorized, including counsel to the Receiver and accountants, are entitled to reasonable compensation for the performance of duties pursuant to this Order and for the cost of actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred by them, from the assets now held by or in the possession or control of or which may be received by the Receivership

Defendants. The Receiver shall file with the Court and serve on the parties periodic requests for the payment of such reasonable compensation, with the first such request filed no more than sixty (60) days after the date of entry of this Order. The Receiver shall not increase the hourly rates used as the bases for such fee applications without prior approval of the Court.

#### XXI.

#### **RECEIVER'S BOND**

In the Preliminary Injunction Order (Doc. 56) issued on August 19, 2013, the Court ordered that the Receiver maintain with the Clerk of this Court a bond in the sum of \$10,000, with sureties to be approved by the Court, conditioned that the Receiver will well and truly perform the duties of the office and abide by and perform all acts the Court directs. 28 U.S.C. § 754.

#### XXII.

#### **EXPEDITED DISCOVERY**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(d)(1), discovery may commence at any time after the entry of this order. In aid of the asset freeze in this matter, the Commission and the Receiver are further authorized to conduct expedited discovery concerning Defendant Bess's, Hobbs's, and Rackley's assets and the location of business records ("expedited asset discovery") in accordance with the following:

A. The Commission and the Receiver may take the depositions of parties and non-parties. Ninety-six hours (96) notice shall be sufficient notice for such depositions. Deposition transcripts that have not been signed by the witness may be used the preliminary injunction hearing in this matter. The limitations set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 30(a)(2) and 31(a)(2) regarding subsequent depositions of an individual shall not apply to depositions taken pursuant to this Section, and those depositions shall not count toward the deposition limit set forth in said rules;

1	B. The Commission and the Receiver may serve upon parties requests for
2	production of documents or inspection that require production or inspection within five
3	(5) business days of service, and may serve subpoenas upon non-parties that direct
4	production or inspection within five (5) business days of service;
5	C. The Commission and the Receiver may serve deposition notices and other
6	discovery requests upon the parties to this action by facsimile, overnight courier, or e-
7	mail, and depositions may be taken by telephone or other remote electronic means; and
8	D. Any discovery taken pursuant to this Order is in addition to, and is not
9	subject to, the presumptive limits on discovery set forth in the Federal Rules of Civil
10	Procedure and Local Rules of this Court.
11	XXIII.
12	SERVICE OF THIS ORDER
13	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that copies of this Order may be served by any
14	means, including facsimile transmission and e-mail, upon any Defendant, financial
15	institution, or other entity or Person that may have possession, custody, or control of any
16	documents or assets of any of the Defendants, or that may otherwise be subject to any
17	provision of this Order. Service upon any branch or office of any financial institution
18	shall effect service upon the entire financial institution.
19	XXIV.
20	SERVICE UPON PLAINTIFF
21	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all correspondence and service of pleadings or
22	other documents related to this Order or Plaintiff's motion for a preliminary injunction
23	shall be addressed to
24	Rhonda Perkins
25	Janet Ammerman James Evans Fodorel Trade Commission
26	Federal Trade Commission 600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Room H-286
27	Washington, DC 20580 Fax: 202-326-3395 Email: morting @fig.gov.ionmormon1 @ftg.gov.iovang1 @ftg.gov.
28	Email: rperkins@ftc.gov; jammerman1@ftc.gov; jevans1@ftc.gov

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#### XXV.

#### **DEFENDANTS' DUTY TO DISTRIBUTE ORDER**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs shall immediately provide a copy of this Order to each of their affiliates, subsidiaries, divisions, sales entities, successors, assigns, officers, directors, employees, independent contractors, client companies, agents, attorneys, spouses, and representatives, and shall, within five (5) days from the date of entry of this Order, provide the Commission with a sworn statement that: (1) confirms that they have provided copies of the Order as required by this paragraph; and (2) lists the names and addresses of each entity or person to whom they provided a copy of the Order. Furthermore, Defendants Bess, Rackley, and Hobbs shall not take any action that would encourage officers, agents, directors, employees, salespersons, independent contractors, attorneys, subsidiaries, affiliates, successors, assigns or other persons or entities in active concert or participation with them to disregard this Order or believe that they are not bound by its provisions.

#### XXVI.

#### **DURATION OF PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION ORDER**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this Preliminary Injunction Order shall remain in full force and effect pending trial on the merits unless sooner modified or dissolved.

#### XXVII.

### **RETENTION OF JURISDICTION**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter for all purposes.

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# IT IS SO ORDERED: DATED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2013. Roslyn O. Silver Senior United States District Judge