

## STATE OF TENNESSEE BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE

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)	OI No. 2016-0002
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#### ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST

This Order issues as the result of a Petition, and its Exhibits attached thereto, filed by the Tennessee Securities Division ("TSD") of the Department of Commerce and Insurance ("Department"). This Order is based upon the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Tennessee Securities Act of 1980, TENN. CODE ANN. §§ 48-1-101 to 48-1-201 (2012) ("Act"), places the responsibility for the administration of the Act on the Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance ("Commissioner"). The TSD is the lawful agent through which the Commissioner discharges this responsibility. TENN. CODE ANN. § 48-1-115 (2012).

2. The TSD is authorized to bring this action based on a finding by the

Commissioner that the action is in the public interest, necessary for the protection of investors,

and consistent with the purposes fairly intended by the policy and provisions of the Act. TENN.

CODE ANN. § 48-1-116 (2012).

3. Respondent InvestingCI, LLC ("InvestingCI") is a Florida based limited liability

company with a registered agent for service of process of Paracorp, Inc., 155 Office Plaza Drive,

1st Floor, Tallahassee, FL 32301. There is no indication that InvestingCI is or was authorized to

do business in the State of Tennessee by the Tennessee Secretary of State. InvestingCI is not,

and has not been, registered with the TSD as a broker-dealer, broker-dealer agent, investment

adviser, or investment adviser representative.

4. Respondents Stephen and Elizabeth Blundell are, upon information and belief,

citizens and residents of the United Kingdom, each with a last known business and residential

address of 1 Cranshaw Fold Bam, Common End Adlington, Chorley, Lancashire PR7 4DW

United Kingdom. Stephen Blundell is, upon information and belief, a Director of InvestingCI.

Elizabeth Blundell is, upon information and belief, the Secretary for InvestingCI. At all relevant

times, Stephen and Elizabeth Blundell were not registered with the TSD as broker-dealers,

broker-dealer agents, investment advisers, or investment adviser representatives.

5. Respondent Tomas Goldmark ("Goldmark") is, upon information and belief, a

citizen of the United Kingdom with last known business addresses of c/o The Financial Services

Center, Stoney Ground, PO Box 1823, Kingstown VC0100, St. Vincent & The Grendines; 530

Lytton Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301; 47461 York House Green Lane West; Preston, England

PR3 1PR; and 530 Lytton Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301. At all relevant times, Goldmark was

not registered with the TSD in any capacity.

TSD v. InvestingCI.com Order to Cease and Desist Submitted: August 22, 2017 6. Respondent Ben Daniels ("Daniels") is, upon information and belief, a citizen and

resident of the United Kingdom, with last known business addresses of c/o The Financial

Services Center, Stoney Ground, PO Box 1823, Kingstown VC0100, St. Vincent & The

Grendines; 47461 York House Green Lane West Preston, England PR3 1PR; and 530 Lytton

Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301. At all relevant times, Daniels was not registered with the TSD in

any capacity.

7. At all relevant times, Respondents conducted a securities related business through

Respondent InvestingCI, which acted as a broker-dealer of securities by effecting transactions in

securities on behalf of at least two Tennessee investors.

8. Between September 2008 and January 2015, Goldmark and Daniels, acting as

broker-dealer agents, offered to sell or sold unregistered securities from, in, or into Tennessee in

the cumulative amount of at least sixteen thousand, nine hundred dollars (\$16,900) to at least two

(2) Tennessee investors.

9. Each of the sales of the binary options contracts by the Respondents meet the

definition of "Investment Contract" as defined by the Tennessee Supreme Court in King v.

Pope, 91 S.W.3d 314 (Tenn. 2002), wherein the Court defines an investment contract and

establishes that an investment contract is a "security" within the meaning of the Act. 1

10. The first security purchased in the transactions referred to in paragraph 8.was an

investment contract between investor CLB and InvestingCI, through their agent, Goldmark, in

the amount of seven thousand, nine hundred dollars (\$7,900).

<sup>1</sup> The elements of an investment contract are: (1) An offeree furnishes initial value to an offeror, and (2) a portion of this initial value is subjected to the risks of the enterprise, and (3) the furnishing of the initial value is induced by the offeror's promises or representations which give rise to a reasonable understanding that a valuable benefit of some kind, over and above the initial value, will accrue to the offeree as a result of the operation of the enterprise, and (4)

the offeree does not receive the right to exercise practical and actual control over the managerial decisions of the

enterprise. King at 321.

11. The second security purchased was an investment contract between investor MB

and InvestingCI, through their agent, Goldmark, in the amount of eight thousand dollars

(\$8,000).

12. The investment contracts offered and sold by the Respondents were not registered

with the TSD for sale in Tennessee, were not the subjects of any exemption filings made with the

TSD, were not exempted from the registration requirements of the Act, and do not qualify as

covered securities pursuant to the Act.

13. At all relevant times, InvestingCI was not registered in Tennessee as an

investment adviser, investment adviser representative, broker-dealer, or broker-dealer agent.

14. At all relevant times, Goldmark, Daniels, Stephen Blundell, and Elizabeth

Blundell were not registered in Tennessee as broker-dealers or broker-dealer agents, investment

advisers, or investment adviser representatives.

15. At no time did Respondents disclose to investors that the securities offered and

sold were not registered with the TSD.

16. At no time did the Respondents establish that the Tennessee investors were

"accredited investors" within the meaning of the law when they solicited and received investment

funds.

17. In two (2) known instances, the capital accounts of investors were falsely

represented by Respondents and/or their agents to be "insured" against loss and that only small

portions of the capital accounts would be exposed to any one risk.

18. Respondents have, upon information and belief, as recently as July of 2016,

continued to offer to sell or to sell securities without the sellers or the securities being registered

with the TSD.

TSD v. InvestingCI.com Order to Cease and Desist **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW** 

Respondents Sold Unregistered Securities in Tennessee

The facts as stated demonstrate that Respondents sold securities in Tennessee that

were not registered with the TSD to be sold in Tennessee. It is unlawful for any person to sell

any security in this state unless it is registered under the Act, the security or transaction is

exempted under the Act, or the security is a covered security. TENN. CODE ANN. §§ 48-1-

102(17)(A) and 48-1-104(a) (2012).

19.

20. Respondents' sales of unregistered securities provide grounds under TENN. CODE

ANN. § 48-1-116(a) (2012) for the entry of an Order to Cease and Desist all securities activities.

Respondents Offered to Sell or Sold Securities Without Being Registered to Offer or Sell

Securities from, in, or into Tennessee

21. The facts as stated demonstrate that Respondents InvestingCI, Stephen Blundell

and Elizabeth Blundell affected the sale of securities from, in, or into Tennessee as broker-

dealers, investment advisers, or investment adviser representatives through their agents,

Goldmark and Daniels. The transactions that affected the sale of securities were executed on

behalf of InvestingCI, Stephen Blundell, and Elizabeth Blundell and were made by Goldmark

and Daniels. The Respondents sold these securities from, in, or into Tennessee without being

registered under the Act to offer to sell or to sell securities from, in, or into Tennessee. By

affecting the sale of securities from, in, or into Tennessee for the accounts of at least two (2)

Tennesseans, the Respondents acted as a broker-dealer and/or as broker-dealer agents in

violation of TENN. CODE ANN. § 48-1-109(a) (2012).

22. The Respondents' offers to sell or sales of securities without being registered with

the TSD to engage in the offering/selling of securities from, in, or into Tennessee provides

adequate grounds under TENN. CODE ANN. § 48-1-116(a) (2012) for the entry of an Order to

Cease and Desist all securities activities.

Respondents Engaged in Securities Fraud

23. The facts as stated demonstrate that the Respondents made false representations to

Tennessee investors regarding limits to the exposure of their investments to any particular

transaction.

24. The facts as stated demonstrate that Respondents failed to disclose to Tennessee

investors that they and their company, InvestingCI, were not registered to sell securities.

25. Pursuant to TENN. CODE ANN. § 48-1-121(a)(2) (2012):

(a) It is unlawful for any person, in connection with the offer, sale or purchase of

any security in this state, directly or indirectly, to:

. . .

(2) Make any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary in order to make the

statements made, in the light of the circumstances under

which they are made, not misleading...[.]

26. The failure of the Respondents to disclose these material facts provides grounds

under TENN. CODE ANN. § 48-1-116(a) (2012) for the entry of an Order to Cease and Desist all

securities activities.

27. The facts as stated demonstrate that Respondents made material

misrepresentations to Tennessee investors regarding the risks associated with investing in the

products that they and their company, InvestingCI, offered and sold in Tennessee.

Respondents' Ongoing Unlawful Conduct Warrants the Issuance of an Order to Cease and

Desist

28. The Commissioner finds this action is in the public interest, necessary for the

protection of investors and consistent with the purposes fairly intended by the policy and

provisions of the Act pursuant to TENN. CODE ANN. §§ 48-1-116(a) and (b) (2012). In addition,

the Commissioner has determined that prior notice of this Cease and Desist Order is not in the

public interest and would be detrimental to the protection of investors. TENN. CODE ANN. § 48-1-

116(e)(2)(A) (2012). Respondents' ongoing unlawful conduct necessitates an Order to Cease and

Desist all such unlawful activity to prevent the Respondents from continuing to sell unregistered

securities while not being registered to offer to sell or to sell securities in Tennessee by simply

changing the name or form of the offerings being made in order to hide the unlawful nature of

their conduct.

29. The facts as stated demonstrate that Respondents, who are not registered with the

TSD to offer to sell or to sell securities from, in or into Tennessee, are continuing to offer to sell

or to sell securities from, in, or into Tennessee that are not registered with the TSD for sale in

Tennessee.

30. Respondents' continuing unlawful conduct provides grounds under TENN. CODE

ANN. §§ 48-1-116(a) and 48-1-116(e)(2)(A) (2012) for the entry of an Order to Cease and Desist

all securities activities.

**ORDER** 

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, it is ORDERED that:

Respondents SHALL COMPLY with the Act and all rules promulgated 1.

thereunder.

2. The Respondents SHALL CEASE AND DESIST any further conduct as a

broker-dealer, broker-dealer agent, investment adviser, or investment adviser representative

from, in or into the state of Tennessee until such time as he or she is effectively registered with

the TSD to engage in such activity.

3. The Respondents, and any successor entities, SHALL IMMEDIATELY CEASE

TSD v. InvestingCI.com Order to Cease and Desist AND DESIST from the issuance, offer to sell, or sale of any security, including but not limited

to, investment contracts, loan agreements, stock or any other investment interest or security in

InvestingCI, LLC, or any product or offering of InvestingCI, LLC, including any successor

entities or individuals, to any "person," as that term is defined under the Act, until such time as

any such security is: 1) deemed by the TSD to be registered with the TSD for sale in Tennessee;

2) deemed by the TSD to be exempted from the registration provisions of the Act; or 3) deemed

by the TSD to be a covered security, as that term is defined in the Act.

4. Respondents SHALL CEASE AND DESIST any further conduct in violation of

the Act's prohibition against engaging in securities fraud, including but not limited to, by failing

to disclose material information to investors or by making any untrue statement of a material fact

or omitting to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the

circumstances under which they are made, not misleading.

5. All entities or persons in any way assisting, aiding, or helping the aforementioned

Respondents in any of the aforementioned violations of the Act, SHALL CEASE AND

**DESIST** all such activities in violation of the Act.

This Order to Cease and Desist is not intended to prohibit any lawful conduct in 6.

which Respondents might be engaged.

7. Entry of this Order to Cease and Desist shall not in any way restrict the TSD or

the Commissioner of the Department from taking further action with respect to these or other

possible violations of the Act, or any of the rules promulgated thereunder, by Respondents.

8. You are advised that you have the right to a hearing as to all matters raised in this

Order to Cease and Desist. If you wish to exercise your right to a hearing, please notify:

TSD v. InvestingCI.com Order to Cease and Desist Submitted: August 22, 2017

# FRANK BORGER-GILLIGAN ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR SECURITIES STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE DAVY CROCKETT TOWER, 8<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR 500 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243

9. Such request must be received within thirty (30) days from the date of entry of this Order to Cease and Desist. This Order to Cease and Desist shall become a Final Order thirty (30) days from the date of its entry, unless written notification requesting a hearing is made within that thirty (30) day period.

ENTERED this 22 day of September, 2017.

Julie Mix McPeak, Commissioner

APPROVED FOR ENTRY:

Frank Borger-Gilligan

Assistant Commissioner for Securities Department of Commerce and Insurance

### ISSUANCE REQUESTED BY:

Charles S. Herrell (BPR# 018035)
Assistant General Counsel
Department of Commerce and Insurance
Davy Crockett Tower
500 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243