

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
CORPORATIONS, SECURITIES & COMMERCIAL LICENSING BUREAU

In the Matter of:

Complaint No. 341634

STEPHEN BISHOP
Unregistered

Respondent.

Issued and entered

This 2nd day of April, 2020

NOTICE AND ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST

The Corporations, Securities & Commercial Licensing Bureau (“Administrator”), pursuant to its statutory authority and responsibility to administer and enforce the Michigan Uniform Securities Act (2002), 2008 PA 551, as amended, MCL 451.2101 *et seq* (“Securities Act”), hereby orders Stephen Bishop (“Respondent”) to cease and desist from acting as an unregistered agent for Heartland Production and Recovery LLC (“Heartland”), contrary to the Securities Act. Respondent is also notified of the opportunity to request a hearing in this matter.

I. BACKGROUND

A. The Respondent

1. Stephen Bishop is a resident of the state of Georgia. Respondent is not registered in any capacity under the Securities Act in Michigan.

B. Findings of Fact

1. The Administrator’s staff investigated Respondent’s activities under the Securities Act.
2. In or around January of 2020, the Administrator issued an order against Heartland Production and Recovery, LLC for violations of section 402(4) of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2402(4).

3. The investigation developed evidence that Respondent offered and sold Heartland Production and Recovery Services, LLC securities to Michigan investors and that he received commission payments in connection with the sales. Respondent is not registered or exempt from registration as an agent pursuant to the Securities Act in Michigan.

II. RELEVANT STATUTORY PROVISIONS

1. Section 402(1) of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2402(1), states:

An individual shall not transact business in this state as an agent unless the individual is registered under this act as an agent or is exempt from registration as an agent under subsection (2).

2. Section 503(1) of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2503(1), states:

In a civil action or administrative proceeding under this act, a person claiming an exemption, exception, preemption, or exclusion has the burden to prove the applicability of the exemption, exception, preemption, or exclusion.

III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent Stephen Bishop acted as an agent for Heartland Production and Recovery, LLC in the offer and sale of its securities to Michigan investors without the benefit of registration or a properly-claimed exemption, in violation of section 402(1) of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2402(1).

IV. ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, pursuant to section 604 of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2604, that:

- A. Respondent shall immediately CEASE AND DESIST from acting as an unregistered agent, contrary to the Securities Act.
- B. Pursuant to section 604(2) of the Securities Act, this Notice and Order to Cease and Desist is IMMEDIATELY EFFECTIVE.
- C. In a Final Order, the Administrator, under section 604(4) of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2604(4), intends to impose a civil fine of \$10,000.00 against Respondent. This Notice and Order to Cease and Desist may become final pursuant to Section VI, below.

- D. Pursuant to section 508 of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2508, a person that willfully violates the Securities Act, or an order issued under the Securities Act, is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 10 years or a fine of not more than \$500,000.00 for each violation, or both. An individual convicted of violating a rule or order under this act may be fined, but shall not be imprisoned, if the individual did not have knowledge of the rule or order.

V. NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

Section 604 of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2604, provides that Respondent has 30 days beginning with the first day after the date of service of this Notice and Order to Cease and Desist to submit a written request to the Administrator asking that this matter be scheduled for a hearing. If the Administrator receives a written request in a timely manner, the Administrator shall schedule a hearing within 15 days after receipt of the request. The written request for a hearing must be addressed to:

Corporations, Securities & Commercial Licensing Bureau
Regulatory Compliance Division
P.O. Box 30018
Lansing, MI 48909

VI. ORDER FINAL ABSENT HEARING REQUEST

- A. Under section 604 of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2604, the Respondent's failure to submit a written request for a hearing to the Administrator within 30 days after the service date of this **NOTICE AND ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST** shall result in this order becoming a **FINAL ORDER** by operation of law. The **FINAL ORDER** includes the imposition of the fines cited described in section IV.C., and the fine amounts set forth below will become due and payable to the Administrator within sixty (60) days after the date this order becomes final:

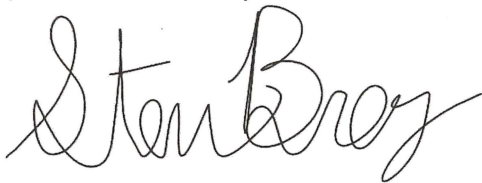
\$10,000.00 – Stephen Bishop, under section 604 of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2604.

- B. CIVIL FINE payments should be payable to the STATE OF MICHIGAN and contain identifying information (e.g., names and complaint numbers) and mailed to the following address:

Corporations, Securities & Commercial Licensing Bureau
Final Order Monitoring
P.O. Box 30018
Lansing, MI 48909

- C. Failure to comply with the terms of this Order within the time frames specified may result in additional administrative penalties, including the summary suspension or continued suspension of all registrations held by Respondent under the Securities Act, the denial of any registration renewal, and/or the denial of any future applications for registration, until full compliance is made. Respondent may voluntarily surrender or withdraw a registration under the Securities Act; however, the surrender or withdrawal will not negate the summary suspension or continued suspension of the relevant registrations or any additional administrative proceedings if a violation of this Order or the Securities Act occurred.
- D. Failure to pay the civil fines within six (6) months after this Order becomes final may result in the referral of the civil fines to the Michigan Department of Treasury for collection action against Respondents.

DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING & REGULATORY AFFAIRS
CORPORATIONS, SECURITIES & COMMERCIAL LICENSING BUREAU



Stephen Brey, Administrative Law Specialist
On behalf of the Corporations, Securities
& Commercial Licensing Bureau

4/2/2020
Date