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

In the Matter of:

Complaint No. 334902

FLINT 500, LLC Unregistered

Respondent.

_____/

Issued and entered This <u>1377</u> day of August, 2018

<u>CONSENT ORDER RESOLVING</u> NOTICE AND ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST

A. Relevant information and statutory provisions, under the Michigan Uniform Securities Act (2002) (the Act), 2008 PA 551, MCL 451.2101 *et seq.:*

- 1. On February 16, 2018, the State of Michigan, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Corporations, Securities & Commercial Licensing Bureau (the "Bureau") and the Director of the Bureau, who serves as the Administrator of the Act (the "Administrator"), issued a Notice and Order to Cease and Desist to Flint 500, LLC ("Flint 500").
- 2. Flint 500 is not registered in any capacity, nor has it registered any securities products under the Act.

B. STIPULATION

Flint 500 and the Administrator (collectively, "the Parties") agree that the February 16, 2018 Notice and Order to Cease and Desist is resolved with the following conditions:

- 1. Flint 500 admits to the factual and legal allegations contained in the February 16, 2018 Notice and Order to Cease and Desist.
- 2. Flint 500 will not conduct any business in Michigan regulated under the Act and will cease all offers and sales of securities.
- 3. The Parties agree that the Administrator is permitted to use any of the facts set out in the February 16, 2018 Notice and Order to Cease and Desist if and when considering future applications for registration by Flint 500, and Flint 500 agrees to waive any assertion or claim under MCL 451.2412(9), which

would otherwise bar the Administrator from consideration of such facts in making her determination.

- 4. The Administrator will not impose a fine in connection with this Consent Order.
- 5. The Parties acknowledge and agree that the Administrator retains the right to pursue any action or proceeding permitted by law to enforce compliance with the provisions of this Consent Order, and that failure to comply with this Consent Order may result in the reinstitution of the February 16, 2018 Notice and Order to Cease and Desist, pending any other action the Administrator chooses to take as a result of Flint 500's failure to comply.
- 6. The Parties agree that this Consent Order is a public record required to be published and made available to the public, consistent with section 11 of the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, MCL 15.241. The Bureau currently publishes copies of orders issued under the Act to its website and includes a summary of order content in monthly disciplinary action reports separately published on its website.
- 7. Flint 500 agrees to comply with any reasonable investigative demands made by the Bureau in the future for purposes of ensuring compliance with this Consent Order or the Act.
- 8. The Parties understand and intend that by signing this Consent Order, they are waiving the right, pursuant to the Act, the rules promulgated under that Act and the Uniform Securities Act (Predecessor Act), 1964 PA 265, MCL 451.501 *et seq.*, and the Administrative Procedures Act, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 *et seq.*, to prior notice and a hearing before an administrative law judge, at which the Bureau would be required to defend any disciplinary action taken under Section 604 (6) of the Act, MCL 451.2604, by presentation of evidence and legal authority and at which Flint 500 would be entitled to appear with or without an attorney to cross-examine all witnesses presented by the Bureau and to present such testimony or other evidence or legal authority deemed appropriate.

Flint 500, LLC Consent Order Complaint No. 334902 Page 3 of 4

Through their signatures, the Parties agree to the above terms and conditions.

Dated:

Signed:

Flint 500, L By: Joshua Trouser

Acknowledged by:

Dated: _____

Signed:

Timothy L. Teague Securities & Audit Division Director Corporations, Securities & Commercial Licensing Bureau Flint 500, LLC Consent Order Complaint No. 334902 Page 3 of 4

Through their signatures, the Parties agree to the above terms and conditions.

Dated: _____ Signed:

Flint 500, LLC

By: Joshua Trouser

Acknowledged by:

Dated: <u>8718</u>

Signed:

imply Lee League

Timothy L. Teague Securities & Audit Division Director Corporations, Securities & Commercial Licensing Bureau Flint 500, LLC Consent Order Complaint No. 334902 Page 4 of 4

C. ORDER

The Administrator NOW, THEREFORE, ORDERS:

THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS IN THIS CONSENT ORDER ARE BINDING AND EFFECTIVE, IN ACCORD WITH THE FULLY EXECUTED STIPULATION CONTAINED HEREIN.

Julia Dale, Administrator and Corporations, Securities & Commercial Licensing Bureau Director

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

In the Matter of:

Complaint No. 334902

FLINT 500, LLC Unregistered

Respondent.

Issued and entered This day of February, 2018

NOTICE AND ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST

Julia Dale, the Director of the Corporations, Securities & Commercial Licensing Bureau (the "Administrator"), pursuant to her 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 Flint 500, LLC ("Respondent") to cease and desist from offering and selling unregistered securities, and to cease and desist from continuing to directly or indirectly make any untrue statements of material fact, or omit to state material facts necessary in order to make statements made, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, contrary to the Securities Act. Respondent is notified of the opportunity to request a hearing in this matter.

I. <u>BACKGROUND</u>

A. <u>The Respondent</u>

1. Flint 500, LLC is a Michigan limited liability company. Flint 500, LLC is not registered in any capacity pursuant to the Securities Act in Michigan, nor has it registered any securities offerings pursuant to the Securities Act in Michigan.

B. <u>Findings of Fact</u>

- 1. The Bureau conducted an investigation of Respondent's activities.
- 2. The investigation developed evidence that Respondent is offering to sell limited liability company interests which are "investment contract" securities as that term is defined by the Securities Act.
- 3. The investment contracts are not registered pursuant to the Securities Act, nor has Respondent identified any applicable¹ exemption, exception, preemption, or exclusion from the Securities Act.
- 4. Respondent represents in its Confidential Offering Memorandum that if its managing member, Joshua Trouser, resigns, dies, becomes incapacitated, or is adjudicated incompetent, then the investors will be notified of that event and will be permitted to elect a new managing member. (Exhibit 1 Offering Memorandum). Respondent fails to disclose that Joshua Trouser is currently the subject of one or more arrest warrants issued by counties in Maryland (Exhibit 2 Mlive Article), which arrest warrants have the potential to interfere with Trouser's ability to manage Respondent's operations and thereby cause harm to investors.

II. <u>RELEVANT STATUTORY PROVISIONS</u>

1. Section 102c(c) of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2102c(c), defines "Security", in part, as:

a note; stock; treasury stock; security future; bond; debenture; evidence of indebtedness; certificate of interest or participation in a profit-sharing agreement; collateral trust certificate; preorganization certificate or subscription; transferable share; investment contract; voting trust certificate; certificate of deposit for a security; fractional undivided interest in oil, gas, or other mineral rights; put, call, straddle, option, or privilege on a security, certificate of deposit, or group or index of securities, including an interest in or based on the value of that put, call, straddle, option, or privilege on that security, certificate of deposit, or group or index of securities, put, call, straddle, option, or privilege entered into on a national securities exchange relating to foreign currency, an investment in a viatical or life settlement agreement; or, in general, an interest or participation in, temporary or interim certificate for, receipt for,

¹ Respondent has submitted a filing for exemption from registration pursuant to section 202a of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2202a; however the submission was deficient in multiple respects, rendering the exemption inapplicable. Respondent was notified that the filing was deficient.

guarantee of, or warrant or right to subscribe to or purchase, any of the foregoing...

(v) The term includes an investment in a common enterprise with the expectation of profits to be derived primarily from the efforts of a person other than the investor. As used in this subparagraph, a "common enterprise" means an enterprise in which the fortunes of the investor are interwoven with those of either the person offering the investment, a third party, or other investors...

2. Section 301 of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2301, states:

A person shall not offer or sell a security in this state unless 1 or more of the following are met:

- (a) The security is a federal covered security.
- (b) The security, transaction, or offer is exempted from registration under sections 201 to 203.
- (c) The security is registered under this act.
- 3. 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 exclusions.

4. Section 501 of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2501, states:

It is unlawful for a person, in connection with the offer, sale, or purchase of a security or the organization or operation of a Michigan investment market under article 4A, to directly or indirectly do any of the following:...

(b) Make an 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 were made, not misleading...

III. <u>CONCLUSIONS OF LAW</u>

- 1. Respondent, Flint 500, LLC, is offering to sell investment contract securities in Michigan, and has not identified a relevant exemption, exception, preemption, or exclusion from Securities Act registration requirements, contrary to section 301 of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2301.
- 2. Respondent, Flint 500, LLC, in connection with the offer or sale of securities, omitted to state material facts necessary to make other statements made not misleading in light of the circumstances under which they were made. Respondent stated in its Offering memorandum that managing member, Joshua Trouser, may become unable to perform certain duties for Respondent, but failed to identify the risk that he could become unable to perform those duties as a result of an arrest pursuant to one or more outstanding arrest warrants. The statement regarding the risk of Joshua Trouser's arrest due to outstanding warrants was material, and was omitted in the Offering Memorandum, contrary to section 501(b) of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2501(b).

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 continuing to offer or sell unregistered securities, and from directly or indirectly making any untrue statements of material fact or omitting to state material facts necessary in order to make other statement made, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, 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 her Final Order, the Administrator, under section 604(4) of the Securities Act, MCL 451.2604(4), intends to impose civil fines of \$20,000.00 against Respondent.
- 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.

E. The Administrator retains the right to pursue further administrative action against Respondent under the Securities Act if the Administrator determines that such action is necessary and appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors and is authorized by the Securities Act.

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:

\$20,000.00 - Flint 500 LLC, 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

Cease & Desist Order Flint 500, LLC Complaint No. 334902 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 Respondent.

CORPORATIONS, SECURITIES & COMMERCIAL LICENSING BUREAU

Allo 18 Date

Julia Dale Director, Corporations, Securities & Commercial Licensing Bureau