

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
Before the  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS RULINGS  
Release No. 3924/June 16, 2016

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING  
File No. 3-17251

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In the Matter of

JOHN STEVEN BLOUNT

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ORDER

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The Securities and Exchange Commission instituted this proceeding with an Order Instituting Proceedings (OIP) on May 12, 2016, pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Section 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. Blount was served with the OIP, in accordance with 17 C.F.R. § 201.141(a)(2)(i), by personal service on June 2, 2016.<sup>1</sup>

As the parties request, a prehearing conference will be held by telephone on June 28, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. EDT (9:00 a.m. CDT).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

/s/ Carol Fox Foelak  
Carol Fox Foelak  
Administrative Law Judge

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<sup>1</sup> Blount's Answer is due within twenty days of service on him. *See* OIP at 3; 17 C.F.R. § 201.220(b). If he fails to file an Answer within the time provided, he may be deemed to be in default, and the proceeding determined against him. *See* OIP at 3; 17 C.F.R. §§ 201.155(a)(2), .220(f).