

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA
INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE
COMMISSION,

Plaintiff,

V.

ALAN H. NEW, et al.

Defendants.

No. 1:18-cv-03975-SEB-MJD

FINAL JUDGMENT

The Court ENTERS judgment in favor of the Plaintiff, the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), and against Defendants, Alan H. New, David K. Knuth, and Synergy Investment Services, LLC, as follows.

I.

Permanent Injunctive Relief

A. Section 5 of the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act")

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants are permanently restrained and enjoined from violating Section 5 of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. § 77e] by, directly or indirectly, in the absence of any applicable exemption:

(a) Unless a registration statement is in effect as to a security, making use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or of the mails to sell such security through the use or medium of any prospectus or otherwise;

(b) Unless a registration statement is in effect as to a security, carrying or causing to be carried through the mails or in interstate commerce, by any means or instruments of transportation, any such security for the purpose of sale or for delivery after sale;

or

(c) Making use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or of the mails to offer to sell or offer to buy through the use or medium of any prospectus or otherwise any security, unless a registration statement has been filed with the Commission as to such security, or while the registration statement is the subject of a refusal order or stop order or (prior to the effective date of the registration statement) any public proceeding or examination under Section 8 of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. § 77h].

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(2), the foregoing paragraph also binds the following who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment by personal service or otherwise: (a) Defendants' officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (b) other persons in active concert or participation with Defendants or with anyone described in (a).

B. Section 15(a)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act")

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants are permanently restrained and enjoined from violating, directly or indirectly, Section 15(a)(1) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78o(a)(1)] by making use of any means or

instrumentality of interstate commerce or of the mails and engaging in the business of effecting transactions in securities for the accounts of others, or inducing or effecting the purchase and sale of securities, while not registered with the Commission in accordance with the provisions of Section 15(b) of the Exchange Act, or while not associated with a broker dealer that was so registered.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(2), the foregoing paragraph also binds the following who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment by personal service or otherwise: (a) Defendants' officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (b) other persons in active concert or participation with Defendants or with anyone described in (a).

II.

Disgorgement, Civil Penalties, and Prejudgment Interest

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendant Alan H. New shall pay financial remedies to the SEC in the amount of \$348,815.85. This sum includes: (1) \$250,518.50 as disgorgement damages; (2) \$48,297.35 as prejudgment interest; and (3) \$50,000 as a civil penalty. Defendant David K. Knuth shall pay financial remedies to the SEC in the amount of \$324,861.20. This sum includes: (1) \$230,435.60 as disgorgement damages; (2) \$44,425.60 as prejudgment interest; and (3) \$50,000 as a civil penalty. Defendant Synergy Investment Services, LLC shall pay financial remedies to the SEC in the amount of \$1,324,414.87. This sum

includes: (1) \$1,026,513.70 as disgorgement damages; (2) \$197,901.17 as prejudgment interest; and (3) \$100,000 as a civil penalty.

Defendants shall satisfy their obligations by paying their financial remedies to the Securities and Exchange Commission within 30 days following the entry of this Final Judgment. Defendants may transmit payment electronically to the Commission, which will provide detailed ACH transfer/Fedwire instructions upon request. Payment may also be made directly from a bank account via Pay.gov through the SEC website at <http://www.sec.gov/about/offices/ofm.htm>. Defendants may also pay by certified check, bank cashier's check, or United States postal money order payable to the Securities and Exchange Commission, which shall be delivered or mailed to

Enterprise Services Center
Accounts Receivable Branch
6500 South MacArthur Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73169

and shall be accompanied by a letter identifying the case title, civil action number, and name of this Court and specifying that payment is made pursuant to this Final Judgment.

Defendants shall simultaneously transmit photocopies of evidence of payment and case identifying information to the Commission's counsel in this action. By making this payment, Defendants relinquish all legal and equitable right, title, and interest in such funds and no part of the funds shall be returned to Defendants.

The Commission may enforce the Court's judgment for disgorgement and prejudgment interest by using all collection procedures authorized by law, including, but

not limited to, moving for civil contempt at any time after 30 days following entry of this Final Judgment.

The Commission may enforce the Court's judgment for penalties by the use of all collection procedures authorized by law, including the Federal Debt Collection Procedures Act, 28 U.S.C. § 3001 *et seq.*, and moving for civil contempt for the violation of any Court orders issued in this action. Defendant shall pay post judgment interest on any amounts due after 30 days of the entry of this Final Judgment pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1961. The Commission shall hold the funds, together with any interest and income earned thereon (collectively, the "Fund"), pending further order of the Court.

The Commission may propose a plan to distribute the Fund subject to the Court's approval. Such a plan may provide that the Fund shall be distributed pursuant to the Fair Fund provisions of Section 308(a) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. The Court shall retain jurisdiction over the administration of any distribution of the Fund and the Fund may only be disbursed pursuant to an Order of the Court.

Regardless of whether any such Fair Fund distribution is made, amounts ordered to be paid as civil penalties pursuant to this Final Judgment shall be treated as penalties paid to the government for all purposes, including all tax purposes. To preserve the deterrent effect of the civil penalty, Defendants shall not, after offset or reduction of any award of compensatory damages in any Related Investor Action based on Defendants' payment of disgorgement in this action, argue that he is entitled to, nor shall he further benefit by, offset or reduction of such compensatory damages award by the amount of any part of Defendants' payment of a civil penalty in this action ("Penalty Offset"). If the

court in any Related Investor Action grants such a Penalty Offset, Defendants shall, within 30 days after entry of a final order granting the Penalty Offset, notify the Commission's counsel in this action and pay the amount of the Penalty Offset to the United States Treasury or to a Fair Fund, as the Commission directs. Such a payment shall not be deemed an additional civil penalty and shall not be deemed to change the amount of the civil penalty imposed in this Final Judgment. For purposes of this paragraph, a "Related Investor Action" means a private damages action brought against Defendants by or on behalf of one or more investors based on substantially the same facts as alleged in the Complaint in this action.

III.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that the Final Judgment resolves only the claims asserted against Defendants in this civil proceeding, and that in any disciplinary proceeding before the Commission based on the entry of the injunction in this action, Defendants shall not be permitted to contest the factual allegations of the complaint in this action.

IV.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants shall comply with the terms of 17 C.F.R. § 202.5(e), which provides in part that it is the Commission's policy "not to permit a defendant or respondent to consent to a judgment or order that imposes a sanction while denying the allegations in the complaint or order for proceedings," and "a refusal to admit the allegations is equivalent to a denial, unless the defendant or respondent states that he neither admits nor denies the allegations." In

particular, Defendants: (i) will not take any action or make or permit to be made any public statement denying, directly or indirectly, any allegation in the complaint or creating the impression that the complaint is without factual basis; and (ii) will not make or permit to be made any public statement to the effect that Defendant does not admit the allegations of the complaint, or that the Consent contains no admission of the allegations, without also stating that Defendants do not deny the allegations. If Defendants violate the provisions of this Paragraph IV, the Commission may petition the Court to vacate the Final Judgment and restore this action to its active docket. Nothing in this paragraph affects Defendants': (i) testimonial obligations; or (ii) right to take legal or factual positions in litigation or other legal proceedings in which the Commission is not a party.

V.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that the Defendants hereby may not, under the Equal Access to Justice Act, the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, or any other provision of law, seek from the United States, or any agency, or any official of the United States acting in his or her official capacity, directly or indirectly, reimbursement of attorney's fees or other fees, expenses, or costs expended by Defendants to defend against this action. For these purposes, Defendants are not the prevailing party in this action.

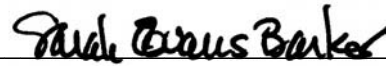
VI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, solely for purposes of exceptions to discharge set forth in Section 523 of the Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. § 523, the allegations in the complaint are true and admitted by Defendants, and

further, any debt for disgorgement, prejudgment interest, civil penalty or other amounts due by Defendants under this Final Judgment or any other judgment, order, consent order, decree or settlement agreement entered in connection with this proceeding, is a debt for the violation by Defendants of the federal securities laws or any regulation or order issued under such laws, as set forth in Section 523(a)(19) of the Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(19).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Date: 4/26/2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Evans Barker", written over a horizontal line.

SARAH EVANS BARKER, JUDGE
United States District Court
Southern District of Indiana

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