

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

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS RULINGS
Release No. 1797/September 11, 2014

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING
File No. 3-15937

In the Matter of

ALICIA BRYAN

ORDER

The Securities and Exchange Commission (Commission) issued an Order Instituting Proceedings (OIP) on June 18, 2014, pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Exchange Act).

Alicia Bryan (Bryan) was personally served with the OIP on July 11, 2014, in accordance with Rule 141(a)(2)(i) of the Commission's Rules of Practice. *See* 17 C.F.R. § 201.141(a)(2)(i). On August 15, 2014, I found Bryan in default for failure to file an Answer, respond to the Order to Show Cause, or otherwise defend this proceeding. *Alicia Bryan*, Admin. Proc. Rulings Release No. 1703, 2014 SEC LEXIS 2947.

On August 26, 2014, Bryan filed a letter explaining that she did not intend to defend herself in this proceeding because she "lack[s] the wherewithal to retain defense counsel to prove [she is] innocent of these unsubstantiated allegations." In view of her *pro se* status, on August 28, 2014, I construed Bryan's letter very liberally as a motion to set aside default and ordered a prehearing conference for September 5, 2014. *Alicia Bryan*, Admin. Proc. Rulings Release No. 1730, 2014 SEC LEXIS 3076. Bryan did not attend the prehearing conference and on September 8, 2014, I once again found Bryan to be in default. *Alicia Bryan*, Admin. Proc. Rulings Release No. 1774, 2014 SEC LEXIS 3244.

On September 9, 2014, this Office received an email from Bryan stating that she did not attend the prehearing conference "not only because Bryan has no legal representation, but also because Bryan was picking up her daughter from school at the scheduled time." In view of her *pro se* status, I construed Bryan's letter very liberally as a renewed motion to set aside default, and found that she had not established good cause to do so. *Alicia Bryan*, Admin. Proc. Rulings Release No. 1782, 2014 SEC LEXIS 3266.

On September 10, 2014, this Office received an email from Bryan stating, among other things, that "these contrived legal proceedings" are a "travesty of justice," that she is an "innocent, unemployed single mother," and that "God will one day . . . punish the wicked."

In sum, Bryan has responded to three Orders in this proceeding, on three separate occasions, and in two of her responses she asserted that the allegations of the OIP are meritless. Despite her protestations to the contrary, Bryan apparently desires to participate in this proceeding. Emails are not a proper method for filing papers, however, and any further filings from Bryan must comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice.

It is ORDERED that Bryan may file a motion to set aside the default pursuant to Rule 155(b) of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 17 C.F.R. § 201.155(b). Any such motion shall (1) be made within a reasonable time, (2) state the reasons for the failure to appear or defend, and (3) specify the nature of the proposed defense in the proceeding. *See* 17 C.F.R. § 201.155(b). In stating the reasons for failure to appear or defend, Bryan shall provide reasons both for failing to file an Answer and for failing to request a continuance of the September 5, 2014, prehearing conference.

It is further ORDERED that all filings must be made pursuant to, and in accordance with, Rules 151 and 152 of the Commission's Rules of Practice. *See* 17 C.F.R. §§ 201.151, .152. In particular, filings must be made in hard copy with the Commission's Office of the Secretary, although courtesy copies may be sent electronically.

Cameron Elliot
Administrative Law Judge