

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

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS RULINGS  
Release No. 3726/March 22, 2016

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING  
File No. 3-17131

In the Matter of

MARK A. LOPEZ

ORDER FOLLOWING PREHEARING  
CONFERENCE

On February 24, 2016, the Securities and Exchange Commission issued an order instituting proceedings (OIP) against Respondent pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Thereafter, I postponed the hearing in this matter and held a telephonic prehearing conference on March 21, 2016, at which Respondent and counsel for the Division of Enforcement appeared.

During the conference, the parties indicated that they had discussed settlement. If the parties reach an agreement in principle to a settlement on all major terms, they may file a joint motion to stay the proceeding pursuant to Commission Rule of Practice 161(c)(2), 17 C.F.R. § 201.161(c)(2). If no such motion is filed by April 20, 2016, I will set a procedural schedule to resolve this matter by summary disposition. *See* 17 C.F.R. § 201.250.

Also during the conference, I determined that although information available from the Office of the Secretary indicates that the OIP was delivered to Respondent's correctional institution on February 29, Respondent was not served with the OIP until March 14, 2016. Respondent's answer is therefore due by April 4, 2016, if the proceeding has not been stayed or resolved by then. *See* OIP at 4; 17 C.F.R. §§ 201.160(a), .220(b). If Respondent fails to timely file an answer, he may be deemed in default and the proceeding determined against him. OIP at 4; 17 C.F.R. §§ 201.155(a), .220(f).

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Brenda P. Murray  
Chief Administrative Law Judge