

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
(ATLANTA DIVISION)**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES
AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,**

Plaintiff,

v.

CHRISTOPHER W. BURNS, *et al.*,

Defendants.

**Civil Action No. 1:20-cv-4620-
WMR**

**FINAL JUDGMENT AGAINST DEFENDANTS CHRISTOPHER W.
BURNS, INVESTUS ADVISERS LLC,
INVESTUS FINANCIAL LLC, AND PEER CONNECT LLC**

The Court, having considered Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission's Motion for Default Judgment Against Defendants Christopher W. Burns, Investus Advisers LLC, Investus Financial LLC, and Peer Connect LLC, the entire record in this case, and having made findings of fact and conclusions of law that the SEC is entitled to the relief it seeks, hereby enters this Final Judgment against Defendants Christopher W. Burns, Investus Advisers LLC, Investus Financial LLC, and Peer Connect LLC (collectively, "Defendants"):

I.

IT IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants and Defendants' agents, employees, attorneys, and all persons in active concert or

participation with them who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment by personal service or otherwise are permanently restrained and enjoined from violating, directly or indirectly, Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange Act”) [[15 U S C § 78j\(b\)](#)] and Exchange Act Rule 10b-5 [[17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5](#)], by using any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce, or of the mails, or of any facility of any national securities exchange, in connection with the purchase or sale of any security:

- (a) to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud;
- (b) to make any untrue statement of a material fact, or to 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; or
- (c) to engage in any act, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon any person

by, directly or indirectly, (i) creating a false appearance or otherwise deceiving any person, or (ii) disseminating false or misleading documents, materials, or information or making, either orally or in writing, any false or misleading statement in any communication with any investor or prospective investor, about:

- (A) any investment strategy or investment in securities,
- (B) the prospects for success of any investment,

- (C) the use of investor funds,
- (D) compensation to any person,
- (E) Defendants' qualifications to advise investors; or
- (F) the misappropriation of investor funds or investment proceeds.

II.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants and Defendants' agents, employees, attorneys, and all persons in active concert or participation with them who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment by personal service or otherwise are permanently restrained and enjoined from violating Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act") [[15 U.S.C. § 77q\(a\)](#)] in the offer or sale of any security by the use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or by use of the mails, directly or indirectly:

- (a) to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud;
- (b) to obtain money or property by means of any untrue statement of a material fact or any omission of a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; or
- (c) to engage in any transaction, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon the purchaser

by, directly or indirectly, (i) creating a false appearance or otherwise deceiving any person, or (ii) disseminating false or misleading documents, materials, or information or making, either orally or in writing, any false or misleading statement in any communication with any investor or prospective investor, about:

- (A) any investment strategy or investment in securities,
- (B) the prospects for success of any investment,
- (C) the use of investor funds,
- (D) compensation to any person,
- (E) Defendants' qualifications to advise investors; or
- (F) the misappropriation of investor funds or investment proceeds.

III.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Defendants and their agents, employees, attorneys, and all persons in active concert or participation with them who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment by personal service or otherwise are permanently restrained and enjoined from violating, while acting as an investment adviser, Sections 206(1) and (2) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (the "Advisers Act") [[15 U.S.C. § 80b-6\(1\)](#) and [\(2\)](#)] by using the mails or any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce, directly or indirectly:

- (a) to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud any client or

prospective client; or

(b) to engage in any transaction, practice, or course of business which operates as a fraud or deceit upon any client or prospective client by, directly or indirectly, (i) creating a false appearance or otherwise deceiving any client or prospective client, or (ii) disseminating false or misleading documents, materials, or information or making, either orally or in writing, any false or misleading statement in any communication with any client or prospective client, about:

- (A) any investment strategy or investment in securities,
- (B) the prospects for success of any product or company,
- (C) the use of client funds,
- (D) compensation to any person,
- (E) Defendants' qualifications to advise clients; or
- (F) the misappropriation of client funds or investment proceeds.

IV.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants are jointly and severally liable for disgorgement of \$11,650,000, representing net profits gained as a result of the conduct alleged in the Complaint, together with prejudgment interest thereon in the amount of \$472,970, and that Defendant Christopher Burns is liable for a civil penalty in the amount of \$652,629

pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 77t(d), 15 U.S.C. § 78u(d), and 15 U.S.C. § 80b-9(e).

Defendants shall satisfy their obligations by paying the above amounts to the Securities and Exchange Commission within 30 days after 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; Christopher Burns or one of the corporate defendants as a defendant in this action; 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. Defendants 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 or it is entitled to, nor shall he or it 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.

V.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that within 3 days after being served with a copy of this Final Judgment, Wells Fargo Bank,

N.A. (“Wells Fargo Bank”) shall transfer the entire balance of the following Wells Fargo Bank account, which was frozen pursuant to an Order of this Court to the Commission:

Account Owner	Acct. Ending in:
Peer Connect LLC	*1717

Wells Fargo Bank 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>. Wells Fargo Bank also may transfer these funds 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.

VI.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that within 3

days after being served with a copy of this Final Judgment, Vinings Bank (“Vinings Bank”) shall transfer the entire balance of the following Vinings Bank accounts, which were frozen pursuant to an Order of this Court to the Commission:

Account Owner	Acct. Ending in:
Investus Financial LLC	*1129
Investus Financial LLC	*1111
Investus Advisers LLC dba Dynamic Money	*1103

Vinings Bank 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>. Vinings Bank also may transfer these funds 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

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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.

VII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that this Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter for the purposes of enforcing the terms of this Final Judgment.



WILLIAM M. RAY, II
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Dated: May 25, 2022