## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Before the SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

# SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 Release No. 63379 / November 26, 2010

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING File No. 3-14142

In the Matter of

NILDO VERDEJA,

**Respondent.** 

# ORDER INSTITUTING ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(b) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, MAKING FINDINGS AND IMPOSING REMEDIAL SANCTIONS

I.

The Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") deems it appropriate and in the public interest that public administrative proceedings be, and hereby are, instituted pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") against Nildo Verdeja ("Verdeja" or "Respondent").

#### II.

In anticipation of the institution of these proceedings, Respondent has submitted an Offer of Settlement (the "Offer") which the Commission has determined to accept. Solely for the purpose of these proceedings and any other proceedings brought by or on behalf of the Commission, or to which the Commission is a party, and without admitting or denying the findings herein, except as to the Commission's jurisdiction over him and the subject matter of these proceedings, and the findings contained in Section III.2 below, which are admitted, Respondent consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Making Findings, and Imposing Remedial Sanctions ("Order"), as set forth below.

## III.

On the basis of this Order and Respondent's Offer, the Commission finds that:

1. Respondent is a principal and owner of U.S. Pension Trust ("USPT") and U.S. College Trust ("USCT"), which are Florida corporations that have operated as sales and marketing companies since 1995. USPT and USCT have never been registered as or with a licensed broker-dealer.

2. On September 30, 2010, a final judgment was entered against Verdeja, permanently enjoining him from future violations of Sections 15(a)(1) and 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, and Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, in the civil action entitled <u>Securities and Exchange Commission v. U.S. Pension Trust Corp., et al.</u>, Civil Action Number 07-CV-22570, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida. The Court ordered Verdeja to pay \$993,515 in disgorgement, plus prejudgment interest, and a \$200,000 civil penalty.

3. The Commission's complaint alleged that since their inception, USPT and USCT have acted as broker-dealers by actively soliciting investors to purchase mutual funds, regularly participating in securities transactions, advising as to the merits of mutual fund investments, and receiving commissions and transaction-based compensation, and that Verdeja aided and abetted USPT and USCT's conduct as unregistered broker-dealers.

## IV.

In view of the foregoing, the Commission deems it appropriate and in the public interest to impose the sanctions agreed to in Respondent Verdeja's Offer.

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED:

Pursuant to Section 15(b)(6) of the Exchange Act, that Respondent Verdeja be, and hereby is barred from association with any broker or dealer.

Any reapplication for association by the Respondent will be subject to the applicable laws and regulations governing the reentry process, and reentry may be conditioned upon a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the satisfaction of any or all of the following: (a) any disgorgement ordered against the Respondent, whether or not the Commission has fully or partially waived payment of such disgorgement; (b) any arbitration award related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order; (c) any self-regulatory organization arbitration award to a customer, whether or not related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order; and (d) any restitution order by a self-regulatory organization, whether or not related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order.

For the Commission, by its Secretary, pursuant to delegated authority.

Elizabeth M. Murphy Secretary

### Service List

Rule 141 of the Commission's Rules of Practice provides that the Secretary, or another duly authorized officer of the Commission, shall serve a copy of the Order Instituting Administrative Proceedings, Making Findings and Imposing Remedial Sanctions Pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Order"), on the Respondent and his legal agent.

The attached Order has been sent to the following parties and other persons entitled to notice:

Honorable Brenda P. Murray Chief Administrative Law Judge Securities and Exchange Commission 100 F Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20549-2557

Amie Riggle Berlin, Esq. Miami Regional Office Securities and Exchange Commission 801 Brickell Avenue, Suite 1800 Miami, FL 33131

Mr. Nildo Verdeja c/o Brian Miller, Esq. Akerman Senterfitt One Southeast Third Avenue, 25<sup>th</sup> Floor Miami, FL 33131

Brian Miller, Esq. Akerman Senterfitt One Southeast Third Avenue, 25<sup>th</sup> Floor Miami, FL 33131 (Counsel for Respondent)