UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Before the SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 Release No. 95821 / September 19, 2022

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING File No. 3-21104

In the Matter of

TED L. ROMEO,

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 Ted L. Romeo ("Romeo" 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, Respondent admits the Commission's jurisdiction over him and the subject matter of these proceedings, and the findings contained in paragraphs III.3 and III.5 below, and 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. Romeo, age 63, is a resident of Pompano Beach, Florida. From 1983 to 1990, Romeo was a registered representative associated with various broker-dealers. In 1992, the NASD revoked Romeo's registration until 1995. From 1995 to 2003, Romeo was registered as an

associated person and member with various introducing brokers registered with the CFTC and the National Futures Association ("NFA"). The NFA temporarily barred Romeo in 2002 from associating with NFA firms for allegedly engaging in fraudulent sales solicitations, and the CFTC obtained orders against Romeo in 2007 and 2016 including permanent injunctions, penalties and permanently barring him from trading in CFTC-regulated markets.

- 2. From October 2018 through March 2020, Romeo acted as an unregistered broker or dealer while selling the securities of MediXall Group, Inc. ("MediXall"). At all relevant times, Romeo was not registered as or associated with a registered broker-dealer. Respondent participated in an offering of MediXall stock, which is a penny stock.
- 3. On September 13, 2022, a final judgment was entered by consent against Romeo, permanently enjoining him from future violations of Section 15(a)(1) of the Exchange Act, in the civil action entitled <u>Securities and Exchange Commission v. Ted L. Romeo</u>, Civil Action Number 0:22-cv-61691-CMA, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida.
- 4. The Commission's complaint alleged, among other things, that from October 2018 through March 2020, Romeo offered and sold MediXall stock to investors. The complaint alleged that Romeo solicited investors to purchase MediXall stock; advised investors about the merits of the investments; and received commissions of approximately \$468,523 that were transaction-based compensation for his sales of MediXall stock.
- 5. On June 1, 2022, in an unrelated matter, Romeo pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud, in violation of Title 18 United States Code, Section 1349 before the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, in <u>United States v. Ted Romeo</u>, Case No. 21-60101-CR-Smith/Valle, and Romeo is awaiting sentencing.
- 6. The count of the indictment to which Romeo pled guilty alleged that Romeo conspired with others to defraud investors in the Florida company Social Voucher.com, Inc. by, among other things, soliciting investor funds under false and fraudulent pretenses and misappropriating and converting investor funds for personal benefit. In connection with that plea, Respondent admitted that he acted as a salesperson on behalf of a boiler room and raised approximately \$450,000 selling Social Voucher stock to investors. Respondent admitted that he told investors their money would be used as capital to develop a mobile gaming application business, while concealing that he and others received large commissions, as well as Respondent's prior civil enforcement action and restitution order for investment fraud.

IV.

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

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED pursuant to Section 15(b)(6) of the Exchange Act, that Romeo be, and hereby is barred from association with any broker, dealer, investment adviser,

municipal securities dealer, municipal advisor, transfer agent, or nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

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, compliance with the Commission's order and payment of any or all of the following: (a) any disgorgement or civil penalties ordered by a Court against the Respondent in any action brought by the Commission; (b) any disgorgement amounts ordered against the Respondent for which the Commission waived payment; (c) any arbitration award related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order; (d) 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 (e) any restitution order by a self-regulatory organization, whether or not related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order.

By the Commission.

Vanessa A. Countryman Secretary