UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Before the SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 Release No. 98218 / August 24, 2023

ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING ENFORCEMENT Release No. 4449 / August 24, 2023

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING File No. 3-21579

In the Matter of

MAC WAYNE BILLINGS, CPA, :

Respondent.

ORDER OF SUSPENSION PURSUANT TO RULE 102(e)(2) OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES OF PRACTICE

I.

The Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") deems it appropriate to issue an order of forthwith suspension of Mac Wayne Billings ("Billings") pursuant to Rule 102(e)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice [17 C.F.R. § 201.102(e)(2)].¹

II.

The Commission finds that:

1. Billings was a licensed certified public accountant in the state of North Carolina.

2. On June 21, 2022, an indictment was filed against Billings in a criminal action titled *United States v. Mac Wayne Billings*, No. 5:22-cr-000035 (W.D.N.C.).

¹ Rule 102(e)(2) provides in pertinent part: "[A]ny person whose license to practice as an accountant . . . has been revoked or suspended in any State; or any person who has been convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude shall be forthwith suspended from appearing or practicing before the Commission." *See* 17 C.F.R. 201.102(e)(2).

3. On September 15, 2022, the court accepted Billings guilty plea to one count of securities fraud and aiding and abetting the same in violation of 15 U.S.C. Sections 78j(b) and 78ff(a). He was subsequently sentenced to 41 months in prison, three years of supervised release, restitution of \$3,556,986.00 and a \$100.00 assessment.

4. On December 19, 2022, the North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners (the "North Carolina CPA Board") entered a consent order that permanently revoked Billings' certified public accountant certificate based on his criminal conviction.

III.

In view of the foregoing, the Commission finds that Billings has been (1) convicted of a felony and (2) had his license to practice as a certified public accountant revoked by the North Carolina CPA Board, both within the meaning of Rule 102(e)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

Accordingly, it is ORDERED, that Mac Wayne Billings is forthwith suspended from appearing or practicing before the Commission pursuant to Rule 102(e)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

By the Commission.

Vanessa A. Countryman Secretary