

#### **DECLARATION OF KAREN MATTESON**

- I, Karen Matteson, declare pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 as follows:
- 1. I am one of the attorneys representing the Division of Enforcement in this proceeding. I have personal knowledge of the following facts and, if called as a witness, would testify competently thereto.
- 2. I am one of the attorneys representing the Commission in the injunctive action SEC v. Pedras, CV 13-07932 GAF (MRWx), filed in the Central District of California. During the pendency of that case and subsequently, this proceeding, I have had a number of communications with the United States Attorney's Office for the Central District ("USAO"). At the time the Commission filed its injunctive action, Pedras was residing in New Zealand. Subsequently, the USAO informed me that Pedras had left New Zealand, and relocated to the nation of Tonga. The USAO further informed me that it had filed a petition to remove Pedras from Tonga. Subsequently, during or about the week of December 1, 2014, the USAO informed me that the petition for the Department of Justice to remove Pedras from Tonga had been denied by Tonga, and that the Department of Justice was therefore proceeding to attempt to extradite him.
- 3. Because, to the Division's knowledge, Pedras has not been in the United States during the pendency of this proceeding, the Office of the Secretary was unsuccessful in serving him with the Order Instituting Proceedings ("OIP") by certified mail, and the Division has been unable to learn his actual physical address, I served Pedras on September 3, 2014, with the OIP by emailing it to the three email addresses to which the Commission had transmitted documents in SEC v. Pedras pursuant to the District Court's orders that the Commission was permitted to serve Pedras by email. I received messages that delivery to two of those email boxes had failed;

I received no such message with regard to the third email box. True and correct copies of my email and the attachment thereto (the OIP, Service List and letter from the Office of the Secretary) and the messages regarding failed delivery to two of the email boxes are attached as Exhibit 1.

- 4. Attached as Exhibit 2 is a true and correct copy of a court certified copy of the Final Judgment by Default Against Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited, filed by the Court on June 9, 2014, and entered into the docket by the Clerk on June 10, 2014, in SEC v. Pedras.
- 5. Attached as Exhibit 3 is a true and correct copy of a court certified copy of the Memorandum & Order Regarding Motion for Default Judgment, issued by the Court on April 16, 2014 in SEC v. Pedras.
- 6. Attached as Exhibit 4 is a true and correct copy of Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission's Memorandum of Points and Authorities in Support of Ex Parte Application for a Temporary Restraining Order and an Order to Show Cause why a Preliminary Injunction Should not be Granted, which the Commission filed under seal on October 28, 2013, in SEC v. Pedras.
- 7. Attached as Exhibit 5 is a true and correct copy of the Temporary Restraining Order and Order to Show Cause why a Preliminary Injunction Should not be Granted, issued and filed under seal by the Court in SEC v. Pedras on October 28, 2013. The filings under seal were unsealed shortly after this TRO was issued.
  - 8. Attached as Exhibit 6 is a true and correct copy of the Amended Temporary

Restraining Order and Order to Show Cause why a Preliminary Injunction Should not be Granted, issued by the Court in SEC v. Pedras on November 6, 2013.

- 9. Attached as Exhibit 7 is a true and correct copy of the Order of Preliminary Injunction issued and filed by the Court in SEC v. Pedras on November 6, 2013.
- 10. I have neither knowledge of, nor expertise in, the law of New Zealand or the law of Tonga, including with regard to service of documents filed in administrative proceedings pending before United States Government agencies. I did however, do some basic internet research to determine whether New Zealand and/or Tonga are parties to the Hague Service Convention. Based on my review of the website of the United States Department of State, it appears that neither country is a party to the Hague Service Convention. Attached as Exhibit 8 are true and correct copies of relevant pages I reviewed from the Department of State website.
- 11. I also attempted to locate New Zealand and Tonga law regarding whether service by email is prohibited in either country. I did locate a government website for New Zealand: <a href="http://legislation.govt.nz">http://legislation.govt.nz</a>. I searched that website using the terms "service by email," and "email service," and received the message that "your search did not find any documents" in response to both searches. I was unable to locate a governmental website for Tonga setting forth its statutes or legislation.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on December 11, 2014, at Los Angeles, California.

Karen Matteson

## EXHIBIT 1

#### Matteson, Karen L.

From: Matteson, Karen L.

Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2014 7:30 PM

To:

Cc: Longo, Amy

Subject: In the Matter of Christopher A. T. Pedras -- a proceeding has been instituted against

you by the SEC

Attachments: Doc 1 OIP (6-18-14).pdf

#### Dear Mr. Pedras:

On June 18, 2014, the Securities and Exchange Commission instituted an administrative proceeding against you, as set forth in the attached Order Instituting Proceedings.

As set forth on page 3 of the Order, you must file an Answer within twenty days of service of the Order, or you may be deemed in default and the proceeding may be determined against you. Twenty days from today's date is September 23, 2014.

Please reply to this email to let me know you have received it. You also may contact me if you have any questions.

#### Karen Matteson

Senior Trial Counsel Los Angeles Regional Office Securities and Exchange Commission 5670 Wilshire Boulevard, 11th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90036 (323) 965-3840 (telephone) (323) 965-3908 (facsimile)

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

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 Release No. 72423 / June 18, 2014

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING File No. 3-15936

In the Matter of

CHRISTOPHER A.T. PEDRAS (aka CHRIS PEDRAS aka ANTONE THOMAS PEDRAS),

Respondent.

ORDER INSTITUTING ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(b) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 AND NOTICE OF HEARING

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 Christopher A.T. Pedras (aka Chris Pedras aka Antone Thomas Pedras) ("Respondent" or "Pedras").

II.

After an investigation, the Division of Enforcement alleges that:

#### A. RESPONDENT

1. Respondent was the sole owner and director of Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, which he incorporated in New Zealand on July 23, 2010, and FMP Medical Services LLC, which he formed in Nevada on September 7, 2012; the sole director of affiliate Maxum Bnk PCPT Limited; one of three officers of Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings, LLC, which he formed in Nevada on February 22, 2012; the sole director and shareholder of FMP Medical Services Limited, which he incorporated in New Zealand on July 17, 2013; and the sole owner and director of Comptroller 2013, which he incorporated in New Zealand on March 19, 2013. Pedras was either an exclusive signatory or one of two signatories on numerous bank accounts in the United States and New Zealand opened in the names of these entities. Pedras is not registered with the SEC in any

capacity, and acted as an unregistered broker. Pedras, age 62, is a United States citizen and he resides in Turlock, California and Auckland, New Zealand.

#### B. ENTRY OF THE INJUNCTION

- 2. On June 10, 2014, a final judgment by default was entered against Pedras, permanently enjoining him from future violations of Sections 5(a), 5(c), and 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act"), and Sections 10(b) and 15(a) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, in the civil action entitled Securities and Exchange Commission v. Christopher A.T. Pedras (aka Chris Pedras aka Antone Thomas Pedras), et al., Civil Action Number 13-07932 GAF, in the United States District Court for the Central District of California.
- The Commission's complaint alleged that, from at least July 2010 until the Commission filed its action on October 28, 2013, Pedras, through five different U.S. and New Zealand-based entities of which he was an owner, officer and/or director, offered and sold securities in unregistered offerings based on materially false representations and omissions without being registered as a broker, in furtherance of a Ponzi scheme by which more than \$5.6 million was raised from over fifty United States investors. Among other false representations, Pedras told investors that the Maxum Gold Trade Program was a "low risk" investment with returns ranging between 4-8% per month and claimed investor funds would be placed in escrow to facilitate a bank trade program. When Pedras was unable to pay the promised returns, he began promoting the FMP Renal Program to Maxum Gold Trade Program investors, falsely claiming, among other things, that the new program would instantaneously increase the value of Maxum Gold investors' investments by approximately 80%. In fact, neither investment program was real; instead, they were a Ponzi scheme. Pursuant to the Ponzi scheme. Pedras paid out more than \$2.4 million in investor "returns" directly out of investor funds, misappropriated nearly \$2 million in cash, cars, retail purchases and transfers to and from his related companies, and caused \$1.2 million to be paid in sales commissions to a network of sales agents.

III.

In view of the allegations made by the Division of Enforcement, the Commission deems it necessary and appropriate in the public interest that public administrative proceedings be instituted to determine:

- A. Whether the allegations set forth in Section II hereof are true and, in connection therewith, to afford Respondent an opportunity to establish any defenses to such allegations;
- B. What, if any, remedial action is appropriate in the public interest against Respondent pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Exchange Act.

IV.

IT IS ORDERED that a public hearing for the purpose of taking evidence on the questions set forth in Section III hereof shall be convened at a time and place to be fixed, and before an

Administrative Law Judge to be designated by further order as provided by Rule 110 of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 17 C.F.R. § 201.110.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent shall file an Answer to the allegations contained in this Order within twenty (20) days after service of this Order, as provided by Rule 220 of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 17 C.F.R. § 201.220.

If Respondent fails to file the directed answer, or fails to appear at a hearing after being duly notified, the Respondent may be deemed in default and the proceedings may be determined against him upon consideration of this Order, the allegations of which may be deemed to be true as provided by Rules 155(a), 220(f), 221(f) and 310 of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 17 C.F.R. §§ 201.155(a), 201.220(f), 201.221(f) and 201.310.

This Order shall be served forthwith upon Respondent personally or by certified mail.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Administrative Law Judge shall issue an initial decision no later than 210 days from the date of service of this Order, pursuant to Rule 360(a)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

In the absence of an appropriate waiver, no officer or employee of the Commission engaged in the performance of investigative or prosecuting functions in this or any factually related proceeding will be permitted to participate or advise in the decision of this matter, except as witness or counsel in proceedings held pursuant to notice. Since this proceeding is not "rule making" within the meaning of Section 551 of the Administrative Procedure Act, it is not deemed subject to the provisions of Section 553 delaying the effective date of any final Commission action.

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

#### 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 Pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Notice of Hearing ("Order"), on the Respondent.

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

Karen Matteson, Esq.
Amy Jane Longo, Esq.
Los Angeles Regional Office
Securities and Exchange Commission
5670 Wilshire Boulevard, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90036

Mr. Christopher A.T. Pedras



### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

100 F Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20549

JUN 18 2014

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Christopher A.T. Pedras

Re: In the Matter of Christopher A.T. Pedras (aka Chris Pedras aka Antone Thomas Pedras)

Dear Mr. Pedras:

Please find enclosed the Order Instituting Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Notice of Hearing (the "Order") in the above-referenced matter.

Your attention is directed to Section IV of the Order, which requires you to file an answer pursuant to Rule 220 of the Commission's Rules of Practice. The Commission's Rules of Practice can be found at <a href="http://www.sec.gov/about/rulesofpractice.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/about/rulesofpractice.shtml</a>. Rules 220 and 310 of the Commission's Rules of Practice provide that if you fail to file the required answer or fail to appear at a hearing after being duly notified, you may be deemed in default and the proceedings may be determined against you upon consideration of the order for proceedings, the allegations of which may be determined as true.

Please file an original and three copies of your answer or other pleadings as required by Rule 152(d) of the Commission's Rules of Practice. Please also file a notice of appearance as required by Rule 102(d) of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of the proceedings, you may communicate with Karen Matteson, Esq., or Amy Jane Longo, Esq., Los Angeles Regional Office, Securities and Exchange Commission, 5670 Wilshire Boulevard, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, CA at (Ms. Matteson) or (Ms. Longo).

Sincerely,

ym ivi. i cterson Assistant Secretary

**Enclosure** 

#### Matteson, Karen L.

From: Mail Delivery System <MAILER-DAEMON@OPC-STAMP01.SEC.GOV>

To:

Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2014 7:30 PM

Subject: Undeliverable: In the Matter of Christopher A. T. Pedras -- a proceeding has been

instituted against you by the SEC

#### Delivery has failed to these recipients or groups:

A problem occurred during the delivery of this message to this e-mail address. Try sending this message again. If the problem continues, please contact your helpdesk.

The following organization rejected your message: [64.15.141.66].

#### Diagnostic information for administrators:

Generating server: OPC-STAMP01.SEC.GOV

[64.15.141.66] #<[64.15.141.66] #5.0.0 smtp; 5.1.0 - Unknown address error 553-"sorry, that domain isn't in my list of allowed rcpthosts; no valid cert for gatewaying (#5.7.1)" (delivery attempts: 0)> #SMTP#

#### Original message headers:

X-IronPort-AV: E=Sophos;i="5.04,462,1406606400";

d="pdf"?scan'208,217";a="45091272"

Received: from unknown (HELO D2-DLPMail-01.sec.gov) ([172.28.16.30]) by D2-IronPort01-DLP.sec.gov with ESMTP/TLS/DHE-RSA-AES256-SHA; 03 Sep 2014

22:29:34 -0400

Received: from D2-IronPort01-DLP.sec.gov ([172.28.16.30]) by

D2-DLPMail-01.sec.gov (8.13.8/8.13.8) with ESMTP id s842TXF1015603; Wed, 3

Sep 2014 22:29:33 -0400

X-IronPort-AV: E=Sophos;i="5.04,462,1406606400";

d="pdf?scan'208,217";a="45091270"

Received: from opc-ad-excas01.ad.sec.gov (HELO sec.gov) ([172.28.17.11]) by OPC-IPORTPRIVATE.SEC.GOV with ESMTP/TLS/AES128-SHA; 03 Sep 2014 22:29:33

Received: from OPC-AD-EXMBX01.AD.SEC.GOV ([fe80::3c43:c03d:e39b:ebae]) by OPC-AD-EXCAS01.AD.SEC.GOV ([::1]) with mapi id 14.03.0195.001; Wed, 3 Sep 2014 22:29:33 -0400

CC: "Longo, Amy" < LongoA@SEC.GOV >

Subject: In the Matter of Christopher A. T. Pedras -- a proceeding has been

instituted against you by the SEC

Thread-Topic: In the Matter of Christopher A. T. Pedras -- a proceeding has

been instituted against you by the SEC

Thread-Index: Ac/H50eRSKe+0D6STP2a/BUBOM7BoQ==

Disposition-Notification-To: "Matteson, Karen L." < MattesonK@sec.gov >

Date: Thu, 4 Sep 2014 02:29:31 +0000

Message-ID: <958F48F66D344D4F87CAC296731169A9563B9BE2@OPC-AD-FXMBX01.AD.SEC.GOV>

Accept-Language: en-US Content-Language: en-US X-MS-Has-Attach: yes X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:

x-originating-ip: [172.30.100.145]

Content-Type: text/plain MIME-Version: 1.0 X-RCIS-Action: ALLOW

#### Matteson, Karen L.

From: Mail Delivery System <MAILER-DAEMON@OPC-IRONPORT01.SEC.GOV>

To:

Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2014 7:30 PM

Subject: Undeliverable: In the Matter of Christopher A. T. Pedras -- a proceeding has been

instituted against you by the SEC

#### Delivery has failed to these recipients or groups:

A problem occurred during the delivery of this message to this e-mail address. Try sending this message again. If the problem continues, please contact your helpdesk.

#### Diagnostic information for administrators:

Generating server: OPC-IRONPORT01.SEC.GOV

#< #5.0.0 smtp; 5.1.2 - Bad destination host 'DNS Hard Error looking up fmpmed.co.nz (MX): NXDomain' (delivery attempts: 0)> #SMTP#

#### Original message headers:

X-IronPort-AV: E=Sophos;i="5.04,462,1406606400";

d="pdf?scan'208,217";a="45091272"

Received: from unknown (HELO D2-DLPMail-01.sec.gov) ([172.28.16.30]) by D2-IronPort01-DLP.sec.gov with ESMTP/TLS/DHE-RSA-AES256-SHA; 03 Sep 2014

22:29:34 -0400

Received: from D2-IronPort01-DLP.sec.gov ([172.28.16.30]) by

D2-DLPMail-01.sec.gov (8.13.8/8.13.8) with ESMTP id s842TXF1015603; Wed, 3

Sep 2014 22:29:33 -0400

X-IronPort-AV: E=Sophos;i="5.04,462,1406606400";

d="pdf?scan'208,217";a="45091270"

Received: from opc-ad-excas01.ad.sec.gov (HELO sec.gov) ([172.28.17.11]) by OPC-IPORTPRIVATE.SEC.GOV with ESMTP/TLS/AES128-SHA; 03 Sep 2014 22:29:33

-0400

Received: from OPC-AD-EXMBX01.AD.SEC.GOV ([fe80::3c43:c03d:e39b:ebae]) by OPC-AD-EXCAS01.AD.SEC.GOV ([::1]) with mapi id 14.03.0195.001; Wed, 3 Sep 2014 22:29:33 -0400

instituted against you by the SEC

Thread-Topic: In the Matter of Christopher A. T. Pedras -- a proceeding has

been instituted against you by the SEC

Thread-Index: Ac/H50eRSKe+0D6STP2a/BUBOM7BoQ==

Disposition-Notification-To: "Matteson, Karen L." < MattesonK@sec.gov >

Date: Thu, 4 Sep 2014 02:29:31 +0000

Message-ID: <958F48F66D344D4F87CAC296731169A9563B9BE2@OPC-AD-EXMBX01.AD.SEC.GOV>

Accept-Language: en-US Content-Language: en-US X-MS-Has-Attach: yes X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:

x-originating-ip: [172.30.100.145]

Content-Type: text/plain MIME-Version: 1.0 X-RCIS-Action: ALLOW

# EXHIBIT 2

**z.**. Case 2:13-cv-07932-GAF-MRW Document 78 Filed 06/09/14 Page 1 of 11 Page ID #:1375 1 2 **JS-6** 3 5 6 7 8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 9 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 10 **WESTERN DIVISION** 11 Case No. CV 13-07932-GAF (MRWx) 12 SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION. FINAL JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT 13 AGAINST DEFENDANTS Plaintiff. CHRISTOPHER A.T. PEDRAS, ALICIA BRYAN, MAXUM GOLD BNK HOLDINGS LIMITED, MAXUM 14 VS. 15 GOLD BNK HOLDINGS LLC, FMP CHRISTOPHER A.T. PEDRAS (aka MEDICAL SERVICES LIMITED, 16 CHRIS PEDRAS aka ANTONE AND FMP MEDICAL SERVICES THOMAS PEDRAS); SYLVESTER M. GRAY II; ALICIA BRYAN; LLC, AND RELIEF DEFENDANT 17 **COMPTROLLER 2013 LIMITED** MAXUM GOLD BNK HOLDINGS LIMITED; MAXUM GOLD BNK 18 HOLDINGS LLC; FMP MEDICAL SERVICES LIMITED; and FMP MEDICAL SERVICES LLC, 19 20 Defendants, and 21 COMPTROLLER 2013 LIMITED, 22 Relief Defendant. 23 24 25 26 27 28 Case No. CV 13-07932-GAF (MRWx)

On April 16, 2014, the Court granted the motion of Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") for entry of a default judgment against Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 55(b)(2) and Local Rule 55-1. Accordingly:

T.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and affiliates, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are permanently restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly:

- A. unless a registration statement is in effect as to a security, making use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or of the mails to sell such security through the use or medium of any prospectus or otherwise;
- B. unless a registration statement is in effect as to a security, carrying or causing to be carried through the mails or in interstate commerce, by any means or instruments of transportation, any such security for the purpose of sale or for delivery after sale; or
- C. making use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or of the mails to offer to sell or offer to buy through the use or medium of any prospectus or otherwise any security, unless a registration statement has been filed with the SEC as to such security, or while the registration statement is the subject of a

refusal order or stop order or (prior to the effective date of the registration statement) any public proceeding or examination under Section 8 of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77h;

II.

in violation of Sections 5(a) and 5(c) of the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act"),

5 15 U.S.C. §§ 77e(a) & 77e(c).

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and affiliates, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are permanently restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly, in the offer or sale of any securities, by the use of any means or instruments of

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employing any device, scheme or artifice to defraud; A.

transportation or communication in interstate commerce or by use of the mails:

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В. obtaining money or property by means of any untrue statement of a material fact or any omission to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which

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they were made, not misleading; or

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C. engaging in any transaction, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon the purchaser;

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in violation of Section 17(a) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77q(a).

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III.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Defendant Alicia Bryan, and her agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby

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are permanently restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly, in the offer or sale of any securities, by the use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or by use of the mails, obtaining money or property by means of any untrue statement of a material fact or any omission to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, in violation of Section 17(a)(2) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77q(a)(2).

IV.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and affiliates, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are permanently restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly, in connection with the purchase or sale of any security, by the use of any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce, or of the mails, or of any facility of any national securities exchange:

- A. employing any device, scheme or artifice to defraud;
- B. making any untrue statement of a material fact or omitting 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
- engaging in any act, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon any person;

in violation of Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"), 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b), and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5.

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V.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Defendant Alicia Bryan, and her agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are permanently restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly, in connection with the purchase or sale of any security, by the use of any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce, or of the mails, or of any facility of any national securities exchange, making any untrue statement of a material fact or omitting 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, in violation of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b), and Rule 10b-5(b) thereunder, 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5(b).

#### VI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras and Alicia Bryan, and their agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Final Judgment, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are permanently restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly, unless they are registered with the SEC in accordance with Section 15(b) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 780(b), making use of the mails, or any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce to effect any transactions in, or to induce or attempt to induce the purchase or sale of, any security (other than an exempted security or commercial paper, bankers' acceptances, or commercial bills), in violation of Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 780(a).

#### VII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk

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Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, are jointly and severally liable for disgorgement of \$3,185,152, which represents profits gained in connection with the Defendants' offering of securities as alleged in the Complaint, and prejudgment interest thereon in the amount of \$31,492.64, for a total of \$3,216,644.64. Of this total of \$3,216,644.64, Defendant Alicia Bryan is liable to pay disgorgement of her ill-gotten gains totaling \$226,676, which represents her profits gained in connection with her offering of securities as alleged in the Complaint, and prejudgment interest thereon of \$2,241.22, for a total of \$228,917.22. Additionally, of the total of \$3,216,644.64, Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited is liable to pay disgorgement of its ill-gotten gains totaling \$553,403.70, and prejudgment interest thereon of \$5,471.68, for a total of \$558,875.38. Defendants shall satisfy this obligation by paying \$3,216,644.64 (\$228,917.22 in the case of Alicia Bryan and \$558,875.38 in the case of Comptroller 2013 Limited) within 14 days after entry of this Final Judgment by certified check, bank cashier's check, or United States postal money order payable to the Clerk of this Court, together with a cover letter identifying the Defendant as a defendant in this action; setting forth the title and civil action number of this action and the name of this Court; and specifying that payment is made pursuant to this Final Judgment. Defendant shall simultaneously transmit photocopies of such payment and letter to the SEC's counsel in this action. By making payments pursuant to this Final Judgment, the Defendants relinquish all legal and equitable right, title, and interest in such funds, and no part of the funds shall be returned to the Defendants. Pursuant to Local Rule 67-1, the Clerk shall deposit the funds into an interest bearing account. These funds, together with any funds paid by any financial institution or brokerage firm pursuant to paragraph VIII of this Final Judgment in partial satisfaction of this Final Judgment, and any interest and income earned thereon (collectively, the "Fund"), shall be held in the interest bearing account until further order of the Court. In accordance with Local Rule 67-2, the Clerk is authorized and directed, without further order of this Court, to

deduct from the income earned on the money in the Fund a fee not to exceed the amount prescribed by the Judicial Conference of the United States. The SEC may propose a plan to distribute the Fund subject to the Court's approval. Defendants shall pay post-judgment interest on any delinquent amounts pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1961.

VIII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that, except as otherwise ordered by this Court, the previously ordered freeze placed on all monies and assets (with an allowance for necessary and reasonable living expenses to be granted only upon good cause shown by application to the Court with notice to and an opportunity for the Commission to be heard) in all accounts at any bank, financial institution or brokerage firm, all certificates of deposit, and other funds or assets, held in the name of, for the benefit of, and/or over which account authority is held by any of Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited or any entity affiliated with any of Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited, remains in full force and effect, except to the extent that all funds and assets held in any such accounts shall be disgorged by the financial institution or brokerage firm holding the account in partial satisfaction of this Final Judgment, such accounts including but not limited to, the accounts set forth below:

Bank Name	Account Name	Account Number
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	

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Bank Name	Account Name	Account Number
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	FMP Medical Services LLC	
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	FMP Medical Services LLC	
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	FMP Medical Services LLC	
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	FMP Medical Services LLC	
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	FMP Medical Services LLC	
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	FMP Medical Services LLC	
ANZ (Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited	

### Case 2:13-cv-07932-GAF-MRW Document 78 Filed 06/09/14 Page 9 of 11 Page ID #:1383

Bank Name	Account Name	Account Number
Limited)		
ANZ (Australia and	Maxum Gold Bnk PCPT Limited	
New Zealand Banking Group Limited)		
ANZ	Antone Thomas Pedras	
(Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited)		
Bank of New Zealand	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited	
Bank of New Zealand	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited	
Bank of New Zealand	Maxum Gold Bnk Limited	
Bank of New Zealand	Mr. A T Pedras Associated Business Advisors	
Bank of New Zealand	Mr. A T Pedras Associated Business Advisors	
Westpac New Zealand Limited	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited	
Westpac New Zealand Limited	Comptroller 2013 Limited	

Pedras  Pedras	
Pedras	
dical Services Limited	
lical Services Limited – Trust	

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Defendant Pedras shall pay a third tier civil penalty in the amount of \$1,985,152 and Defendant Bryan shall pay a third tier civil penalty in the amount of \$150,000 pursuant to Section 20(d) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77t(d), and Section 21(d)(3) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78u(d)(3). Defendants Pedras and Bryan shall each make their required payment within 14 days after entry of this Final Judgment by certified check, bank cashier's check, or United States postal money order payable to the Securities and Exchange Commission. The payment shall be delivered or mailed to the Office of Financial Management, Securities and Exchange Commission, Operations Center, 6432 General Green Way, Mail Stop 0-3, Alexandria, Virginia 22312, and shall be accompanied by a letter identifying the respective defendant making the payment and identifying him or her as a defendant in this action; setting forth the title and civil action number of this action and the name of this Court; and specifying that payment is made pursuant to this Final Judgment. A copy of the letter and payment shall be simultaneously served on counsel for the Commission in this action. Defendants shall pay post-judgment interest on any delinquent amounts

Ca	e 2:13-cv-07932-GAF-MRW Document 78 Filed 06/09/14 Page 11 of 11 Page ID #:13
1	pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1961. The Commission shall remit the funds paid pursuant to
2	this paragraph to the United States Treasury.
3	X.
4	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that this Court
5	shall retain jurisdiction of this matter for the purposes of enforcing the terms of this
6	Final Judgment, and for purposes of determining any additional relief in this action.
7	XI.
8	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that, there
9	being no just reason for delay, the Clerk of the Court is hereby directed, pursuant to
10	Rule 54(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, to enter this Final Judgment
11	forthwith. Ham Lees
12	fair tees
13	Dated: June 9, 2014 HONORABLE GARY FEESS
14	UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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I hereby attest and certify on 22:14 that the foregoing document is a full, true and correct copy of the original on file in my office, and in my legal custody.

CLERK U.A. DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA



## EXHIBIT 3

against Defendants Christopher A. T. Pedras ("Pedras"), Alicia Bryan ("Bryan"), Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited ("Maxum Ltd."), Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC ("Maxum LLC"), FMP Medical Services Limited ("FMP Ltd."), and FMP Medical Services LLC ("FMP LLC"), and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited ("Comptroller Ltd.") (collectively, "Defaulting Defendants"). (Docket No. 62 [Not. of Motion ("Not.")].) Sylvester M. Gray II ("Gray"), also named as a Defendant, has responded to the complaint and is therefore not included in Plaintiff's motion.

The SEC alleges that all Defaulting Defendants, other than Comptroller Ltd., have violated: (1) the security registration provisions of Sections 5(a) and 5(c) of the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act"); (2) the antifraud provisions of Section 17(a) of the same Act; and (3) Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"), and the corresponding Rule 10b-5, 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5. (Docket No. 63 [Mem. in Support of Default ("Mem.")] at 1; Docket No. 1 [Complaint ("Compl.")] ¶ 81-92.) Additionally, Plaintiff alleges that Defendants Pedras and Bryan have violated Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act by using interstate commerce to effect transactions in securities without being registered with the SEC. (Mem. at 1; Compl. ¶ 93-95.)

Plaintiff seeks entry of a judgment: (1) enjoining all Defaulting Defendants other than Comptroller Ltd. from violating Sections 5(a) and 5(c) of the Securities Act; (2) enjoining all Defaulting Defendants other than Comptroller Ltd. from violating Section 17(a) of the Securities Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder; and (3) enjoining Pedras and Bryan from violating Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act. (Mem. at 1.)

Additionally, Plaintiff asks for a judgment against Pedras, Maxum Ltd., Maxum LLC, FMP Ltd., and FMP LLC, holding them jointly and severally liable for \$3,185,152 in ill-gotten gains, plus \$31,492.64 in prejudgment interest, for a total of \$3,216,644.64.

(Id. at 2.) Plaintiff also asks that Comptroller Ltd. be found jointly and severally liable for a portion of that total: \$553,403.70, plus \$5,471.68 in prejudgment interest, for a subtotal of \$558,875.38. (Id.; Docket No. 71 [Suppl. Longo Decl.] ¶ 8.) And Plaintiff

asks that the Court order Bryan to disgorge \$226,676 in ill-gotten gains—another portion of the total amount—along with \$2,241.22 in prejudgment interest, for a subtotal of \$228,917.22. (Mem. at 2.) Finally, Plaintiff asks for third-tier civil penalties against both Pedras and Bryan under Section 20(d) of the Securities Act and Section 21(d)(3) of the Exchange Act. (Id.) This penalty would leave Pedras with an additional liability of \$1,985,152, and Bryan with an additional liability of \$150,000. (Id.)

After examining Plaintiff's relevant filings, the Court concludes that Plaintiff is entitled to default judgment because it has satisfied all of the relevant procedural requirements, has pleaded sufficient facts in its complaint to justify entry of default judgment, seeks remedies the Court deems proper, and has shown that it is entitled to relief. Accordingly, Plaintiff's motion for default judgment is GRANTED for the reasons and on the terms set forth below.

#### П.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The following facts are those alleged in Plaintiff's complaint and supported by evidence produced by Plaintiff in these proceedings.

#### A. DEFENDANTS' ACTIONS

Beginning in July 2010, Defendants offered and sold unregistered securities based on materially false representations and omissions. (Compl. ¶ 4.) In doing so, they raised over \$5.6 million from more than 50 investors in the United States. (Id.)

Defendants Pedras and Gray were business partners. (Id.) Together with Defendant Bryan, their lead sales representative, they falsely represented the nature of investments in two successive phases. (Id.) First, they pitched a "Maxum Gold Trade Program" to investors, describing it as a "low risk" investment with returns ranging between four and eight percent per month. (Id. ¶ 5.) The securities offered as an

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Gray is the only Defendant to have filed an answer to Plaintiff's complaint, and is therefore not one of the targets of the current motion. His alleged role is described only to provide factual context.

investment in this program took the form of investment contracts issued by Defendants

Maxum Ltd. and Maxum LLC. (Id.)

However, the investment was nothing more than a Ponzi scheme. (Id. ¶ 7.) Eventually, when they began having difficulty making their promised payouts on the Maxum Gold Trade Program, Pedras, Gray, and Bryan changed their pitch. (Id. ¶ 6.) They began offering the "FMP Renal Program" to investors who had already bought in to the Maxum Program. (Id.)

The FMP Renal Program purported to offer investors the opportunity to back kidney dialysis clinics in New Zealand. (Id.) By signing on to this Program, victims were told that they could increase the value of their Maxum Program investments by 80% overnight. (Id.) They were told to wire money to Defendant Comptroller Ltd.; the money would then be used to purchase securities issued by Defendants FMP Ltd. and FMP LLC. (Id.)

None of Defendants' investment promises were true. (Id. ¶ 7.) Neither the Maxum Gold Trade Program nor the FMP Renal Program are real. (Id.) Of the \$5.6 million they raised, Defendants have returned \$2.4 million as "investment returns," and paid over \$1.2 million in commissions to a small network of sales agents. (Id.)

Defendant Pedras has appropriated nearly \$2 million in cash, purchases, and transfers to his related companies. (Id.) Neither the instruments associated with the Maxum Gold Trade Program, nor the instruments associated with the FMP Renal Program, were registered with the SEC. (Id. ¶ 8.)

#### **B. THE PRESENT ACTION**

The SEC filed this action on October 28, 2013. (Compl.) It then served the complaint on each of the Defendants. Defendant Pedras was served via email, as authorized by this Court, on October 30, 2013. (Docket No. 35.) He was then served personally on November 4, 2013. (Docket No. 25.) Defendant Bryan was served personally on October 31, 2013. (Docket No. 31.) Defendant Maxum Ltd. was served via email, as authorized by this Court, on October 30, 2013, by service upon Pedras.

(Docket No. 32.) It was then served by personal service on its registered agent on November 4, 2013. (Docket No. 37.) Maxum LLC was served by personal service on its registered agent on October 31, 2013. (Docket No. 29.) FMP Ltd. was served via email, as authorized by this Court, on October 30, 2013, by service upon Pedras. (Docket No. 33.) It was then served by personal service on its registered agent on November 5, 2013. (Docket No. 36.) FMP LLC was served by personal service on its registered agent on October 31, 2013. (Docket No. 30.) Comptroller Ltd. was served via email, as authorized by this Court, on October 30, 2013, by service upon Pedras. (Docket No. 26.) It was then served by personal service on its registered agent on November 4, 2013. (Id.)

Defaulting Defendants have never responded to the complaint. Accordingly, at Plaintiff's request, the Court Clerk entered default against each of them on December 20, 2013. (Docket No. 59 [Clerk's Default].) Plaintiff then served the notice of entry of default on each Defaulting Defendant. (Docket No. 61.) Plaintiff filed the present motion for default judgment on February 21, 2014. (Not.)

III.

#### DISCUSSION

#### A. PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY OF DEFAULT JUDGMENT

Rule 55(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure permits a court-ordered default judgment following the entry of default by the Court Clerk under Rule 55(a). Elektra Entm't Grp., Inc. v. Bryant, 2004 WL 783123, at \*1 (C.D. Cal. Feb. 13, 2004) (citing Kloepping v. Fireman's Fund, 1996 WL 75314, at \*2 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 13, 1996)). Local Rule 55-1 requires that motions for default judgment set forth the following information: (1) when and against what party default was entered; (2) identification of the pleading as to which default was entered; (3) whether the defaulting party is an infant or incompetent person, and if so, whether that person is adequately represented;

(4) that the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act,<sup>2</sup> 50 App. U.S.C. § 521, does not apply; and (5) that notice of the motion has been served on the defaulting party, if required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55(b)(2). C.D. Cal. R. 55-1.

Here, Plaintiff has satisfied all applicable procedural requirements. The Court Clerk entered default against the Defaulting Defendants on December 20, 2013. (Clerk's Default; Mem. at 2.) The default was entered as to the complaint, which is the only pleading filed so far in this case. (Id.) Plaintiff has also established that Defaulting Defendants are not infants, incompetent persons, or subject to the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. (Mem. at 5 n.2.) Finally, Plaintiff has served notice of the motion on the Defaulting Defendants. (Not. at 2–3.) Because the procedural requirements for entry of default judgment are met, the Court proceeds to weigh the merits of Plaintiff's motion.

#### B. FACTORS USED TO DETERMINE WHETHER TO GRANT DEFAULT JUDGMENTS

A district court has discretion to grant or deny a motion for default judgment.

Aldabe v. Aldabe, 616 F.2d 1089, 1092 (9th Cir. 1980). Thus, a defendant's default alone does not entitle a plaintiff to a court-ordered judgment. The Ninth Circuit has held that a district court must examine the following factors when determining whether to enter a default judgment:

(1) the possibility of prejudice to the plaintiff, (2) the merits of plaintiff's substantive claim, (3) the sufficiency of the complaint, (4) the sum of money at stake in the action, (5) the possibility of a dispute concerning material facts, (6) whether the default was due to excusable neglect, and (7) the strong policy underlying the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure favoring decisions on the merits.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act was formerly known as the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940.

<u>Eitel v. McCool.</u> 782 F.2d 1470, 1471–72 (9th Cir. 1986) (citation omitted). "In applying this discretionary standard, default judgments are more often granted than denied." <u>PepsiCo. Inc. v. Triunfo-Mex. Inc.</u>, 189 F.R.D. 431, 432 (C.D. Cal. 1999).

On a motion for default judgment, a court must presume the truth of all factual allegations in the complaint except for those pertaining to the amount of damages. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917–18 (9th Cir. 1987). Along with the complaint, the court may look to affidavits and declarations to determine whether default judgment is appropriate. See William W. Schwarzer et al., California Practice Guide: Federal Civil Procedure Before Trial § 6:91 (2010).

#### 1. Possibility of Prejudice to Plaintiffs

To satisfy the first <u>Eitel</u> factor, Plaintiff must show that it will face prejudice if the Court does not enter default judgment. <u>Eitel</u>, 782 F.2d at 1471–72. The Court borrows the standard of prejudice employed by courts when evaluating motions to set aside entry of default judgment—namely, whether a plaintiff's ability to pursue its claim will be hindered if the application for default judgment is not granted. <u>See TCI Group Life Ins. Plan v. Knoebber</u>, 244 F.3d 691, 701 (9th Cir. 2001). In other words, the plaintiff must show more than mere delay resulting from a denial of its application; it must establish that it will suffer "tangible harm such as loss of evidence, increased difficulties of discovery, or greater opportunity for fraud or collusion" if the application is denied. <u>Thompson v. Am. Home Assur. Co.</u>, 95 F.3d 429, 433–34 (6th Cir. 1996). Additionally, courts have held that prejudice is shown where a plaintiff has no "other recourse for recovery" against the defendant. <u>PepsiCo. Inc. v. Cal. Sec. Cans.</u>, 238 F. Supp. 2d 1172, 1177 (C.D. Cal. 2002).

The Court concludes that Plaintiff would suffer significant prejudice if the Court were to deny its motion. Notably, Plaintiff will be left without other recourse for recovery. See id. If default judgment were not entered, Plaintiff would have no way to enforce the Securities Act or the Exchange Act against Defaulting Defendants. They would effectively be permitted to violate both without liability or consequence.

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Because Plaintiff would suffer substantial prejudice if default judgment were not entered, the first Eitel factor weighs in favor of granting default judgment.

## 2. Substantive Merits and Sufficiency of the Complaint

The second and third Eitel factors have been interpreted by courts to require a plaintiff to state a claim upon which he or she may recover. Id. at 1175. This means simply that the Court must examine the complaint to determine whether Plaintiff has adequately pleaded its claims.

Plaintiff asserts claims under: (1) the security registration provisions of Sections 5(a) and 5(c) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77e(a), (c); (2) the antifraud provisions of Section 17(a) of the same Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77q(a); (3) Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b), and the corresponding Rule 10b-5, 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5; and (4) Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78o(a). (Compl. ¶ 81-95.) The Court addresses these claims below.

## a. Sections 5(a) and 5(c) of the Securities Act

The registration provisions of 15 U.S.C. §§ 77e(a), and (c) prohibit the unregistered offer or sale of securities in interstate commerce. See Anderson v. Aurotek, 774 F.2d 927, 929 (9th Cir. 1985); SEC v. Murphy, 626 F.2d 633, 649 (9th Cir. 1980). In order to establish a violation of Section 5, the SEC must demonstrate that: (1) defendants offered or sold securities; (2) no registration was in effect or filed with the SEC for those securities; and (3) interstate transportation or communication or the mails were used in connection with the offer an sale. See SEC v. Phan, 500 F.3d 895, 902 (9th Cir. 2007). A defendant may rebut this showing by demonstrating that an exemption to the registration requirement applies. SEC v. Platforms Wireless Int'l Corp., 617 F.3d 1072, 1086 (9th Cir. 2010) (citing SEC v. Murphy, 626 F.2d at 641.)

A security includes "any . . . stock [or] investment contract." 15 U.S.C. § 77b(a)(1). In this case, the conduct at issue consisted of the sale of investment contracts and stocks—both of which are securities. (Compl. 915, 6.) In the Maxum Gold Trade Program, Pedras and Bryan sold investment contracts issued by Maxum Ltd. and

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Maxum LLC; in the FMP Renal Program, Pedras and Bryan offered stock in, and cooperated with, FMP Ltd. and FMP LLC. (Id.) Accordingly, Pedras, Bryan, Maxum Ltd., and Maxum LLC engaged in the sale or offer of securities for the Maxum Gold Trade Program. Pedras, Bryan, FMP Ltd., and FMP LLC engaged in the sale or offer of securities for the FMP Renal Program.

Neither the Maxum investment contracts nor the FMP stocks were registered with the SEC. (Id. ¶ 8.) And the securities were offered for sale to investors throughout the United States, via telephone calls and email, thereby making use of "interstate . . . communication or the mails." (Id. 91 40, 61.)

In light of these allegations, Plaintiff has stated an adequate claim for violation of Sections 5(a) and 5(c) against all Defaulting Defendants.

> b. Section 17(a) of the Securities Act, Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act, and Rule 10b-5

Section 17 of the Securities Act and Section 10 of the Exchange Act both prohibit fraudulent conduct or practices in connection with the offer or sale of securities. See SEC v. Dain Rauscher, Inc., 254 F.3d 852, 855 (9th Cir. 2001); 15 U.S.C. §§ 77q(a) and 78j(b); 17 C.F.R. 21 240.10b-5. Violations of these provisions occur when a defendant's omissions and misstatements, made in connection with the offer or sale of securities, concern material facts. Basic Inc. v. Levinson, 485 U.S. 224, 231-232 (1988). A fact is material if there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable investor would consider it important in making an investment decision. TSC Indus., Inc. v. Northway, Inc., 426 U.S. 438, 449 (1976). Liability arises not only from affirmative representations, but also from failures to disclose material information. Dain Rauscher, 254 F.3d at 855-856. The antifraud provisions impose "a duty to disclose material facts that are necessary to make disclosed statements, whether mandatory or volunteered, not misleading." SEC v. Fehn, 97 F.3d 1276, 1290 n.12. (9th Cir. 1996).

In this case, Defaulting Defendants made several affirmative misrepresentations. Among other things, Pedras and Bryan indicated that money would be used for investments, when instead it was diverted directly to Pedras' pockets. (Compl. ¶ 7.) All Defaulting Defendants indicated that the respective investment programs had a guaranteed rate of return, when in reality there were no investment programs whatsoever. (Id. ¶¶ 5–7.)

Finally, violations of Section 17(a)(1) of the Securities Act, Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act, and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, only transpire when defendants act with scienter. Aaron v. SEC, 446 U.S. 680, 691 (1980). In the Ninth Circuit, scienter may be established by a showing of either "deliberate recklessness" or "conscious recklessness." Dain Rauscher, 254 F.3d at 856. Reckless conduct "consists of a highly unreasonable act, or omission, that is an extreme departure from the standards of ordinary care, and which presents a danger of misleading buyers or sellers that is either known to the defendant or is so obvious that the actor must have been aware of it." Id.

Defendants Pedras and Bryan each knew that they were using false offering and marketing materials to solicit investors. (Compl. ¶¶ 48–52, 64–60, 70–75.) Likewise, by offering investment contracts and stocks based on non-existent investment strategies or projects, Maxum Ltd., Maxum LLC, FMP Ltd., and FMP LLC, knew that false offering and marketing materials were being used to solicit investors. (Id.) Neither the Maxum Gold Trade Program nor the FMP Renal Program offered any legitimate returns on investment, let alone the promised market-beating percentages. (Id. ¶ 7.)

In light of these facts, Plaintiff has stated an adequate claim against all Defaulting Defendants under Section 17(a) of the Securities Act, Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act, and Rule 10b-5.

#### c. Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act

Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act requires brokers or dealers who "effect any transactions in, or induce or attempt to induce the purchase or sale of, any security" to be registered with the SEC or, if the broker-dealer is a natural person, to be associated

 with a registered broker or dealer that is not a natural person. 15 U.S.C. § 780(a); <u>SEC v. Homestead Properties</u>, <u>L.P.</u>, 2009 WL 5173685 at \*4-5 (C.D. Cal. Dec. 18, 2009).

All the SEC must demonstrate in order to have pled its claim is that an unregistered person "engaged in the business of effecting transactions in securities for the account of others." 15 U.S.C. § 78c(a)(4); <u>SEC v. Interlink Data Network</u>, 1993 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 20163 at \*46 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 15, 1993).

The SEC only brings its claim under this Section against Pedras and Bryan. (Compl.) Pedras and Bryan directly solicited investors for the Maxum and FMP Programs. (Compl. ¶ 24, 27–28, 48.) They both recruited sales agents in order to promote the programs, and they both paid those sales agents commissions. (Id. ¶ 76–80.) Bryan even received commissions herself. (Id. ¶ 78.) Neither is registered with the SEC, nor are they associated with a registered broker. (Id. ¶ 12, 14.)

In light of these facts, Plaintiff has stated an adequate claim against Pedras and Bryan under Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act.

#### d. Control Person

Finally, the Court notes that one individual may be held liable for another person's violation of the Exchange Act as a "control person." 15 U.S.C. § 78t(a). To demonstrate that this liability is appropriate, the SEC must establish: (1) a violation of the Exchange Act, and (2) that the control person directly or indirectly controlled the primary violator. SEC v. Todd, 642 F.3d 1207, 1223–24 (9th Cir. 2011). Pedras and Gray were the only directors or shareholders of Defendants Maxum Ltd., Maxum LLC, FMP Ltd., and FMP LLC. (Compl. ¶ 92.) In his capacity as one of the directors or shareholders, Pedras led Maxum Ltd., Maxum LLC, FMP Ltd., and FMP LLC to undertake the violations described above. (Id.) He may therefore be classified as a control person for violations of the Exchange Act.

#### 3. AMOUNT AT STAKE

The fourth <u>Eitel</u> factor requires the Court to consider the amount of money at stake. <u>Eitel</u>, 782 F.2d at 1471–72. The Court must evaluate the amount at stake

because default judgments are disfavored where the amount at stake "is too large or unreasonable in light of [the] defendant's actions." <u>Truong Giang Corp. v. Twinstar</u> <u>Tea Corp.</u>, 2007 WL 1545173, at \*12 (N.D. Cal. May 29, 2007).

Here, Plaintiff seeks disgorgement of \$3,185,152, plus prejudgment interest, from Pedras, Maxum Ltd., Maxum LLC, FMP Ltd., and FMP LLC. (Mem. at 13.)

Additionally, Plaintiff seeks disgorgement of \$226,676, plus prejudgment interest, from Bryan. Plaintiff also seeks penalties of \$1,985,152 from Pedras and \$150,000 from Bryan. (Id.)

Defendants raised at least \$5.6 million from investors. Given this starting amount, the disgorgement requested and penalties sought are reasonable. This factor therefore weighs in favor of granting default judgment.

#### 4. Possibility of Dispute

The fifth <u>Eitel</u> factor requires the Court to consider the possibility of disputes regarding material facts in the case. <u>Eitel</u>, 782 F.2d at 1471–72. As explained above, upon entry of default, a court must presume the truth of all well-pleaded facts in the complaint except those relating to damages. <u>TeleVideo</u>, 826 F.2d at 917–18.

Here, Plaintiff's complaint, which the Court takes as true, alleges sufficient facts to establish its claims for relief. By failing to respond, Defaulting Defendants have failed to rebut the presumption that Plaintiff's allegations are true. Thus, no genuine dispute exists, or is likely to exist, regarding the material facts at issue in this case. This <u>Eitel</u> factor therefore favors entering default judgment.

#### 5. Possibility of Excusable Neglect

In considering the sixth <u>Eitel</u> factor, the Court must account for the possibility that Defaulting Defendants' default resulted from excusable neglect. Due process requires that all interested parties be given notice reasonably calculated to apprise them of the pendency of the action, and that they be afforded an opportunity to present their objections before a final judgment is rendered. <u>Mullane v. Cent. Hanover Bank & Trust Co.</u>, 339 U.S. 306, 314 (1950).

 Plaintiff served a copy of the complaint on all Defaulting Defendants. (Docket Nos. 25, 26, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37.) Several Defendants received a copy of the complaint both via email and via personal service. (Id.) The Court is therefore satisfied that Defaulting Defendants have been effectively served.

Defaulting Defendants have had ample time to resolve this matter by filing motions or interposing an answer, but have done nothing. The Court thus concludes that their default was the result of an affirmative decision not to litigate the action rather than excusable neglect. The sixth <u>Eitel</u> factor favors entering default judgment.

## 6. POLICY FAVORING DECISIONS ON THE MERITS

The seventh <u>Eitel</u> factor requires the Court to account for the policy favoring decisions on the merits. <u>Eitel</u>, 782 F.2d at 1471–72. The very existence of Rule 55(b), however, indicates that "this preference, standing alone, is not dispositive." <u>PepsiCo</u>, 238 F. Supp. 2d at 1177 (internal quotation marks omitted) (<u>quoting Kloepping</u>, 1996 WL 75314, at \*3). Rule 55(a) permits a district court to render a judgment before adjudicating the merits of the case where the defendant fails to defend against the action. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55(a); <u>see also</u> Schwarzer, <u>supra</u>, § 6:102, at 6-26.

Here, Defaulting Defendants' failure to answer the complaint or otherwise respond in this matter renders the Court unable to adjudicate the case on the merits. Accordingly, the policy of deciding cases on the merits does not preclude the Court from entering default judgment.

#### 7. CONCLUSION RE: EITEL FACTORS

After analyzing each <u>Eitel</u> factor, the Court concludes that, on balance, the factors weigh in favor of entering default judgment against Defaulting Defendants. Accordingly, Plaintiff's motion for entry of default judgment is **GRANTED**.

#### C. REMEDIES

The Court proceeds to assess whether Plaintiff is entitled to the remedies it seeks. District courts do not automatically presume the truth of allegations relating to damages upon entry of default; rather, the plaintiff must "prove up" damages. <u>Philip Morris</u>

USA, Inc. v. Castworld Prods., Inc., 219 F.R.D. 494, 501 (C.D. Cal. 2003). When determining the amount of damages to be awarded in a default judgment proceeding, a plaintiff is required to prove all damages sought in the complaint. See Geddes v. United Fin. Grp., 559 F.2d 557, 560 (9th Cir. 1977) (stating the general rule of law that allegations in the complaint are not accepted as true with regard to damages). Accordingly, the demand for relief must be specific, Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a), and the damages sought cannot "differ in kind from, or exceed in amount, what is demanded in the pleadings." Fed. R. Civ. P. 54(c). These rules limit the scope of relief and ensure fundamental fairness as required by due process. Schwarzer, supra, § 6:131, at 6-33.

A plaintiff's burden in "proving up" damages is relatively lenient. This Court has ruled that "[i]f proximate cause is properly alleged in the complaint, it is admitted upon default." Castworld Prods., Inc., 219 F.R.D. at 498 (citing Greyhound Exhibitgroup, Inc. v. E.L.U.L. Realty Corp., 973 F.2d 155, 159 (2d Cir. 1992)). The plaintiff need only prove that the compensation sought relates to the damages that flow naturally from the well-pleaded injuries. See id. (citation omitted). However, if the facts necessary to determine damages are not contained in the complaint or are legally insufficient, they are not established by default. See Cripps v. Life Ins. Co. of N. Am., 980 F.2d 1261, 1267 (9th Cir. 1992). Finally, damages calculation may not be "clearly erroneous" and must have some basis in declarations, testimony, deposition transcripts, or other material evidence. Swoboda v. Pala Min., Inc., 844 F.2d 654, 659 (9th Cir. 1988).

Plaintiff requests monetary relief as follows: (1) that Pedras, Maxum Ltd.,
Maxum LLC, FMP Ltd., and FMP LLC, be held jointly and severally liable for
\$3,185,152 in ill-gotten gains, plus \$31,492.64 in prejudgment interest, for a total of
\$3,216,644.64 (the "Total Amount"); (2) that Comptroller Ltd. be held jointly and
severally liable for \$558,875.38 of the Total Amount; (3) that Bryan be held jointly and

 severally liable for \$228,917.22 of the Total Amount;<sup>3</sup> (4) that third-tier penalties be imposed on Pedras for an additional \$1,985,152; and (5) that third-tier penalties be imposed on Bryan for an additional \$150,000. (Mem. at 2.)

Plaintiff requests injunctive relief as follows: (1) that all Defaulting Defendants other than Comptroller Ltd. be enjoined from violating Sections 5(a) and 5(c) of the Securities Act; (2) that all Defaulting Defendants other than Comptroller Ltd. be enjoined from violating Section 17(a) of the Securities Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder; and (3) that Pedras and Bryan be enjoined from violating Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act. (Mem. at 1.)

The Court finds that the requested relief is warranted. The Court provides its reasoning below.

#### 1. MONETARY RELIEF

"[A] district court has broad equity powers to order the disgorgement of ill-gotten gains obtained through violation of the securities laws." SEC v. Platforms

Wireless, 617 F.3d at 1096. "Disgorgement is designed to deprive a wrongdoer of unjust enrichment, and to deter others from violating securities laws by making violations unprofitable." Id. "The amount of disgorgement should include all gains flowing from the illegal activities." Id. This includes the total amount of proceeds raised in an offering fraud, less whatever was paid back to the investors. See SEC v. JT Wallenbrock & Assocs., 440 F.3d 1109, 1113 (9th Cir. 2006). In cases such as these, the SEC need only present evidence of a "reasonable approximation" of the defendant's ill-gotten gains. SEC v. Platforms Wireless, 617 F.3d at 1096.

It is not entirely clear from Plaintiff's motion that it believes Bryan's obligation to be a subset of the Total Amount. (See Mem. at 20-21.) Plaintiff does not indicate that she should be held jointly and severally liable, and discusses Bryan's portion of the ill-gotten gains separately from the Total Amount. (Id.) However, the numbers provided to the Court indicate that it must be so.

If Defendants raised \$5.6 million in investor funds, and \$2.4 million was returned to investors, roughly \$3.2 million would remain outstanding. (Id. at 19.) Not coincidentally, this roughly matches the Total Amount. But treating Bryan's obligation as separate from the Total Amount would result in a combined disgorgement order of roughly \$3.4 million—\$200,000 more than would be necessary, if \$2.4 million has already been returned to investors.

Defaulting Defendants here raised at least \$5.6 million in investor funds.

(Compl. ¶¶ 34–35.) Of that amount, \$2.4 million was paid back to investors. (Id. ¶ 34.) Sales commissions comprised a further \$1.2 million—including \$226,676 in sales commissions paid to Bryan. (Id.) Defendant Pedras misappropriated \$1,985,152 for his personal use. (Id. ¶ 35; Docket No. 73 [Suppl. Mem. in Support of Default ("Supp.")] at 4.) Comptroller Ltd. received \$553,403.70. (Compl. ¶ 32; Mem. at 4.) A total of \$3,185,152 was never returned to investors. (Mem. at 20.)

Defendants Maxum Ltd., Maxum LLC, FMP Ltd., and FMP LLC, as the issuing entities for fraudulent securities—and as companies whose close relationships furthered a fraudulent scheme—are jointly and severally liable for all ill-gotten gains obtained through their scheme. See SEC v. JT Wallenbrock & Assocs., 440 F.3d 1109, 1117 (9th Cir. 2006) ("[W]here two or more individuals or entities collaborate or have a close relationship in engaging in the violations of the securities laws, they [may be] held jointly and severally liable for the disgorgement of illegally obtained proceeds.") (quoting SEC v. First Pac. Bancorp., 142 F.3d 1186, 1191 (9th Cir. 1998)). Pedras, as a control person for all four of these companies, is likewise jointly and severally liable for the ill-gotten gains. Id.

Accordingly, Defendants Pedras, Maxum Ltd., Maxum LLC, FMP Ltd., and FMP LLC are jointly liable for the entire \$3,185,152 still outstanding and kept from investors. Because she was not a control person, Bryan's share of this is limited to the \$226,676 she received in sales commissions. Comptroller Ltd.'s liability is limited to the \$553,403.70 it actually received.

Interest on the total amount outstanding is \$31,492.64. (Docket No. 64 [Longo Decl.] ¶ 5); see SEC v. Platforms Wireless, 617 F.3d at 1099 (approving an award of prejudgment interest). Bryan's share of the interest, based on the total she will be required to disgorge, stands at \$2,241.22. (Longo Decl. ¶ 6.) Comptroller Ltd.'s share is \$5,471.68. (Suppl. Longo Decl. ¶ 8.)

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Adding the disgorgement amounts and prejudgment interest together, the Court hereby ORDERS: (1) Defendants Pedras, Maxum Ltd., Maxum LLC, FMP Ltd., and FMP LLC to pay the Total Amount of \$3,216,644.64, for which they shall be jointly and severally liable; (2) Bryan to pay \$228,917.22 of the Total Amount, for which she shall be jointly and severally liable; and (3) Comptroller Ltd. to pay \$558,875.38 of the Total Amount, for which it shall be jointly and severally liable.

#### 2. Injunctive Relief

Plaintiff additionally seeks permanent injunctions under Section 20(b) of the Securities Act and Section 21(d)(1) of the Exchange Act. (Compl. at 19-20; Mem. at 16.) It seeks to enjoin all Defaulting Defendants, other than Comptroller Ltd., from future violations of: (1) Sections 5(a), 5(c), and 17(a) of the Securities Act; (2) Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act; and (3) Rule 10b-5 thereunder. (Mem. at 1, 17.) It also seeks to enjoin Pedras and Bryan from violating Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act. (Id.) Before such an injunction will issue, the SEC must establish that there is a reasonable likelihood of future violations. SEC v. Murphy, 626 F.2d at 655. "The existence of past violations may give rise to an inference that there will be future violations; and the fact that the defendant is currently complying with the securities laws does not preclude an injunction." Id. (citing SEC v. Koracorp Industries, Inc., 575 F.2d 692, 698 (9th Cir. 1978)). In predicting the likelihood of future violations, a court must assess the totality of the circumstances surrounding the defendant and his violations; it considers factors such as (1) the degree of scienter involved; (2) the isolated or recurrent nature of the infraction; (3) the defendant's recognition of the wrongful nature of his conduct: (4) the likelihood, because of defendant's professional occupation, that future violations might occur; and (5) the sincerity of his assurances against future violations. Id. (citing SEC v. Bonastia, 614 F.2d 908, 912 (3d Cir. 1980)). A permanent injunction may especially be proper where a violation was "founded on systemic wrongdoing rather than an isolated occurrence," or involved a "high degree of scienter." SEC v. Berger, 244 F.Supp. 2d 180, 193 (S.D.N.Y. 2001).

Defaulting Defendants here have committed prior violations "founded on systemic wrongdoing," and they have not offered any assurances against future violations. Because "[t]he existence of past violations may give rise to an inference that there will be future violations," the Court is satisfied that a permanent injunction—as described above, and covering each of the types of violations in which Defaulting Defendants engaged—would be appropriate in this case. <u>SEC v. Murphy</u>, 626 F.2d at 655. Accordingly, Plaintiff's requested injunctive relief is GRANTED.

### 3. THIRD-TIER PENALTIES

Finally, their violations of the Securities Act and the Exchange Act make Pedras and Bryan potentially liable for penalties under Section 20(d) and Section 21(d)(3) of each Act, respectively. 15 U.S.C. §§ 77t(d) and 78u(d)(3). Civil penalties are meant to punish wrongdoers and to deter them and others from future securities law violations. SEC v. Kenton Capital, Ltd., 69 F. Supp. 2d 1, 17 (D.D.C. 1998).

The two Acts provide for three tiers of penalties. The most severe type of penalty—third-tier penalties, such as those requested here—apply to violations that involve "fraud, deceit, manipulation, or deliberate or reckless disregard of a regulatory requirement," and "directly or indirectly result[] in substantial losses or create[] a significant risk of substantial losses to other persons." 15 U.S.C. § 77t(d)(2)(B); 15 U.S.C. § 78u(d)(3)(B)(ii). These penalties may not exceed the greater of (1) \$150,000 or (2) the gross amount of pecuniary gain. <u>Id.</u>; 17 C.F.R. § 201.1004, Table IV.

Civil penalties are "determined by the court in light of the facts and circumstances." See 15 U.S.C. § 78u(d)(3)(B). In determining the amount of civil penalties, courts routinely consider the five factors established in SEC v. Murphy. See SEC v. Wilde, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 183252, at \*45 (C.D. Cal. Dec. 17, 2012); SEC v. CMKM Diamonds, 635 F. Supp. 2d 1185, 1192 (D. Nev. 2009). This is the same test described in the previous section regarding injunctions. Because it supported the imposition of a permanent injunction, this test also supports the imposition of civil penalties.

<u>.</u>. 9

Given the fraudulent nature of their action, resulting in substantial losses to investors, the Court therefore finds that Pedras and Bryan should be required to pay third-tier civil penalties. See SEC v. Wilde, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 183252, at \*46 (granting the same request). For Pedras, this should equal total gross pecuniary gain. For Bryan, the SEC has requested only the statutory fine. (Mem. at 23.)

The Court therefore ORDERS Pedras to pay a civil fine of \$1,985,152, and Bryan to pay a civil fine of \$150,000.

IV.

#### CONCLUSION

Consistent with the reasoning above, Plaintiff's motion for default judgment is GRANTED. Pedras, Bryan, Maxum Ltd., Maxum LLC, FMP Ltd., and FMP LLC are ENJOINED as set forth above.

Defendants Pedras, Maxum Ltd., Maxum LLC, FMP Ltd., and FMP LLC are hereby ORDERED to disgorge a Total Amount of \$3,216,644.64, for which they shall be jointly and severally liable. Bryan is ORDERED to disgorge \$228,917.22 of the Total Amount, for which she shall be jointly and severally liable. Comptroller Ltd. is ORDERED to disgorge \$558,875.38 of the Total Amount, for which it shall be jointly and severally liable.

Defendant Pedras is further ORDERED to pay a third-tier civil penalty of \$1,985,152 in addition to the Total Amount. Bryan is also ORDERED to pay a third-tier civil penalty. Her penalty shall be \$150,000, also in addition to the amount she pays in disgorgement.

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## Case 2:1B-cv-07932-GAF-MRW Document 74 Filed 04/16/14 Page 20 of 20 Page ID #:1336

The Court will defer entering final judgment until the claims against Defendant Gray have been resolved.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

**DATED: April 16, 2014** 

Judge Gasy Allen Feess United States District Court

At the state of th

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CENTRAL DEFUNDE OF CALLEDRING CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT

I hereby ettest and certify on 2.22. User the foregoing document is a full, frue and consect copy of the original on file in my legal custody.

# EXHIBIL 4

Case 2:13-cv-07932-GAF-MRW Document 9 Filed 10/28/13 Page 1 of 23 Page ID #:797

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## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,

Plaintiff,

VS.

CHRISTOPHER A.T. PEDRAS (aka CHRIS PEDRAS aka ANTONE THOMAS PEDRAS); SYLVESTER M. GRAY II; ALICIA BRYAN; MAXUM GÓLD BNK HOLDINGS LIMITED: MAXUM GOLD BNK HOLDINGS LLC; FMP MEDICAL SERVICES LIMITED: and FMP MEDICAL SERVICES LLC.

Defendants, and

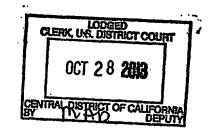
COMPTROLLER 2013 LIMITED,

Relief Defendant.

CV13-07932

PLAINTIFF SECURITIES AND **EXCHANGE COMMISSION'S** MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND **AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF EX** PARTE APPLICATION FOR A TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AND AN ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE WHY A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED

(FILED UNDER SEAL)



c	se 2:	13-cv-	07932	-GAF-	M(RW)	Document 9 'Filed 10/28/13 Rage 2 of 23 Page ID #:7	<del>9</del> 8			
1 2						TABLE OF CONTENTS				
3	I.	INT	RODI	JCTIO	N		1			
4	n.					TS				
5		Α.				s in Orchestrating the Fraud				
6		В.				urported "Trade Program"				
7		C.	FMP Medical's Supposed "Renal Program"							
8		D.				zi Payments and Misappropriation of Investor Funds				
9	m.	ARC	ARGUMENT							
10		A.	. The Standard for a Preliminary Injunction Is Different In SEC							
11		n			rement Actions					
12		В.	Viol	SEC Has Made a Prima Facie Showing That Defendants Are ating the Federal Securities Laws						
13			1.	Def	endants	s are violating the antifraud provisions of Section 17(a), (b) and Rule 10b-5	8			
14				a.		endants have made material misrepresentations and	, U			
15	ĺ				omis	sions in connection with the offerings	9			
16					(i)	Investments in the Maxum Gold Trade Program and the FMP Renal Program are securities	9			
17   18					(ii)	Defendants made misleading statements and omissions to investors	ū			
19					(iii)	Defendants' misrepresentations and omissions were	••••			
20					()	material	10			
21					(iv)	Defendants acted with scienter	11			
22					(v)	The fraud was made in the offer or sale, and in connection with the purchase or sale of securities, in				
23						interstate commerce				
24				ъ.	Defe	ndants are engaging in a scheme to defraud	12			
25				c.		as and Gray are also liable as "control persons"	1			
26			2.	By not registering the offerings, Defendants are also violating Section 5 of the Securities Act						
27			3. By acting as unregistered broker-dealers, Pedras and Bryan are also violating Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act							
28	•				<b>J</b>	i Case No	Ì			

Cá	se 2:13-cv-07932-GAF-MRW) Document 9 Filed 10/28/13 Page 3 of 23 Page ID #:799								
1	TABLE OF AUTHORITIES								
2									
3	CASES								
4	Aaron v. SEC,								
5	446 U.\$. 680 (1980)10								
6	Avis Budget Group Inc. v. Cal. State Teachers' Ret. System, 552 U.S. 1162 (2008)12								
7	Basic Inc. v. Levinson, 485 U.S. 224 (1988)8, 10								
8	Frant & Frant v. Hochfolder								
9	425 U.S. 185 (1976)10								
10	FSLIC v. Sahni, 868 F.2d 1096 (9th Cir. 1989)7								
11	FTC Affan Julia Madin 11 C								
12	179 F.3d 1228 (9th Cir. 1999)17								
13	Hollinger v. Titan Capital Corp., 914 F.2d 1564 (9th Cir. 1990)13								
14	Johnson v. Couturier, 572 F.3d 1067 (9th Cir. 2009)16								
15									
16	Massachusetts Financial Services, Inc. v. Securities Investor Protection Corp. 411 F. Supp. 411 (D. Mass. 1976)15								
17	Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc., v. Dabit, 547 U.S. 71 (2006)12								
18	Rio Properties, Inc. v. Rio International Interlink, 284 F.3d 1007 (9th Cir. 2002)18								
19	284 F.3d 1007 (9th Cir. 2002)18								
20	SEC v. CMKM Diamonds, 2013 WL 4793215 (9th Cir. Sept. 10, 2013)14								
21	SEC v. Dain Rauscher, Inc.								
22	254 F.3d 852 (9th Cir. 2001)8, 9								
23	SEC v. Eurobond Exch., 13 F.3d 1334 (9th Cir. 1994)13								
24	SEC v. Fehn,								
25	97 F.3d at 1276 (9th Cir. 1996)15								
- 11	SEC v. Hansen, 1984 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 17835 (S.D.N.Y. Apr. 6, 1984)15								
27									
28	SEC v. Hickey, 322 F.3d 1123 (9th Cir. 2003)16, 17								
	iii Case No.								
H									

ć	se 2:13-cv-07932-GAF-MRW Document 9 Filed 10/28/13 Page 4 of 23 Page ID #:80
1	Section 5 [15 U.S.C. § 77e]13
2	Section 17(a)(1) [15 U.S.C. § 77q(a)(1)]10
3	Section 17(a)(2)-(3) [15 U.S.C. § 77q(a)(2)-(3)]10
5	
6	Section 20(b) [15 U.S.C. § 77t(b)]7
7	Securities Exchange Act of 1934
8	Section 3(a)(4) [15 U.S.C. § 78c(a)(4)]14
9	Section 3(a)(10) [15 U.S.C. § 78c(a)(10)]9
10	
11	Section 10(b) [15 U.S.C. §78j(b)]2, 8, 10
12	Section 15(a) [15 U.S.C. § 78o(a)]2, 15
13	
14	Section 15(a)(1) [15 U.S.C. § 78o(3)]14
15 16	Section 20(a) [15 U.S.C. § 78t(a)]13
17	Section 21(d) [15 U.S.C. § 78u(d)]7
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
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24	·
25	·
26	
27	
28	
	vi Case No

## I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") brings this emergency action to stop an ongoing fraudulent scheme involving Ponzi-like payments and misappropriation. Defendants have raised more than \$5.6 million from over 50 U.S. investors through two sham investment schemes: the Maxum Gold Small Cap Trade Program ("Maxum Gold Trade Program") and the FMP Renal Program (the "FMP Renal Program").

Beginning in 2010, Defendant Christopher Pedras and his partner, Defendant Sylvester Gray—through a number of entities in the U.S. and in New Zealand and with the help of Defendant and lead sales agent Alicia Bryan—started pitching the Maxum Gold Trade Program as a "low risk" investment, where investor funds were supposedly placed in escrow to facilitate a bank trade program, with returns ranging from 4% to 8% per month.

In late 2012, when they were unable to continue to pay investors in this trade program, Defendants started promoting the FMP Renal Program, a new venture, allegedly to operate kidney dialysis clinics in New Zealand. Maxum Gold investors in the U.S. are now being promised that they can automatically increase the value of their investments by approximately 80% if they convert from the Maxum Gold Trade Program to the FMP Renal Program. The New Zealand government earlier this month cancelled a prospectus that Pedras had registered to sell stock in the FMP Renal Program in New Zealand, finding it likely to mislead investors, including because the dialysis business was merely a "concept in the mind" of Pedras.

In fact, neither the "Maxum Gold Trade Program" nor the "FMP Renal Program" are real. Rather, of the \$5.6 million raised from investors, Defendants have paid out more than \$2.4 million in investor "returns" directly out of investors' funds; Pedras has misappropriated nearly \$2 million; and Defendants have paid more than \$1.2 million in commissions to the band of sales agents who help promote the scheme. Defendants have violated and are violating the registration provisions of

Section 5 of the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act"), 15 U.S.C. § 77e(a) and § 77e(c); the antifraud provisions of Sections 17(a) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77q(a) and of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"), 15 U.S.C. §78j(b), and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, and the broker-dealer registration requirements of Section 15(a) the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78o(a). In order to protect existing and potential investors from further irreparable harm, the SEC applies ex parte for a temporary restraining order and an order to show cause regarding a preliminary injunction prohibiting future violations, an order freezing assets, an order prohibiting destruction of documents, and an accounting. The SEC further asks the Court to order that Pedras and the New Zealand parties may be served in New Zealand by alternate means of service pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure Rule 4(f)(3), (h)(2).

## II. STATEMENT OF FACTS

## A. Defendants' Roles in Orchestrating the Fraud

The lead perpetrator of the fraud is Defendant Pedras, a U.S. citizen who resides in Turlock, California and Auckland, New Zealand. Pedras is the founder and a director, officer and/or owner of the five U.S. and New Zealand-based entities involved in the fraud: Defendants Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited and Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC (collectively "Maxum Gold"); Defendants FMP Medical Services Limited and FMP Medical Services LLC (collectively, "FMP Medical"); and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited. (See Declaration of J. Cindy Eson filed concurrently herewith ("Eson Decl.") Exs. 1-5, 9-10). Pedras is either the exclusive signatory or one of two signatories on numerous different bank accounts in the U.S. and New Zealand opened in the names of these entities. (See Declaration of

Because the fraud and misappropriation are ongoing, the SEC has filed this application without notice to Defendants. Moreover, the SEC has asked the Court to file these papers under seal so that the application is not publicly available on the Court's PACER docket — which would defeat the whole purpose of filing the TRO application without notice and give Defendants the opportunity to misappropriate more investor funds.

discouraged investors from cooperating with the SEC's investigation, claiming that the SEC's investor questionnaires are "fake". (Eson Decl. Ex. 38 at 398-99).

Alongside Pedras, Defendants Gray and Bryan have played key roles in the

Dora Zaldivar filed concurrently herewith ("Zaldivar Decl.") Exs. 3-8). Pedras has

Alongside Pedras, Defendants Gray and Bryan have played key roles in the fraud. Gray, Pedras's partner, is a director, an owner and an account executive of Maxum Gold and a co-signatory on Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC's U.S. bank account. (Zaldivar Decl. Ex. 11).<sup>2</sup> Gray, along with Pedras, signed agreements with investors in order to open their accounts with Maxum Gold. (*E.g.*, Eson Decl. Ex. 31 at 262; Ex. 33 at 295).

Bryan, Maxum Gold's lead sales agent, resides in Louisiana. Bryan served as the primary liaison between Maxum Gold and the sales agents until sometime in 2013. (Eson Decl. Ex. 49 at 673-74). When subpoenaed for investigative testimony by the SEC in November 2012, Bryan refused to appear. (Eson Decl. Ex. ¶ 29; Ex. 20). After subsequently being ordered to appear, Bryan invoked her Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination for all questions pertaining to Pedras, Maxum Gold or FMP. (Eson Decl. Ex. 23 at 164-78).

None of the Defendants are registered with the SEC in any capacity, nor have Maxum Gold nor FMP registered any offerings with the SEC. (Eson Decl. Exs. 11-19).

## B. Maxum Gold's Purported "Trade Program"

Regarding the Maxum Gold Trade Program, Defendants claimed that Maxum Gold generates investor returns by serving as the intermediary between banks that want to trade with each other, but cannot legally do so directly, so instead they use Maxum Gold's trade platform. Neither the banks nor the financial instruments supposedly traded by the banks are identified. Investors were promised returns ranging from 4% to 8% a month, for terms of between six to eight months or longer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Gray refused to appear for investigative testimony when the SEC subpoenaed him in August 2013. (Eson Decl. ¶¶ 55-56; Exs. 44-45).

Investors were assured that their principal was being held in "escrow" accounts audited in accordance with New Zealand banking law. (Eson Decl. Ex.34 at 311-13, 330-32; Ex. 35 at 335-40).

Defendants and a group of sales agents marketed the Maxum Gold Trade
Program in a variety of methods, including via the internet, through periodic investor
conference calls, through in-person meetings and by email. One of Maxum Gold's
two websites, registered by Pedras, <a href="www.maxumgoldbnk.com">www.maxumgoldbnk.com</a>, describes the nature
of the Maxum Gold Bank Trade Program, the use of investor proceeds and the
expected returns, and states that investors' principal is retained securely in escrow
accounts. (Eson Decl. Ex. 34 at 311-13, 330-32; Ex. 35 at 335-40). Throughout the
relevant time period, Pedras and Bryan conducted conference calls, organized by
Bryan, where Pedras repeated similar representations. (Eson Decl. Ex. 26 at 197-99;
Ex. 38 at 386-87). Pedras also made similar representations at an in-person seminar
he conducted in March 2012 at Paramount Studios in Los Angeles. (Eson Decl. Ex.
38 at 401-03). And Pedras and Bryan routinely emailed with investors, including
sending "educational" materials about the Maxum Gold Trade Program and providing
investors online access to view their "account balances" and "profits" on Maxum
Gold's website. (Eson Decl. Exs. 27-30, 41-42).

The representations on Maxum Gold's website and repeated during investor conference calls, in-person, and by email, regarding the intended use of investor proceeds, the expected returns, and the holding of investors' principal in escrow accounts were false. Investors' online "account balances" and "profits" from the Maxum Gold Trade Program were a fiction. In fact, no investor monies were invested in a bank trade program; the promised 4% to 8% returns were not generated; and investor funds were not safely held in escrow accounts. Instead, Defendants made Ponzi payments to other investors; misappropriated investor funds; and paid commissions to Maxum Gold sales agents. (Zaldivar Decl. ¶ 17-18; Exs. 11-12).

## C. FMP Medical's Supposed "Renal Program"

Starting in late 2012, Maxum Gold's payments to investors were delayed.

Defendants attributed the delay variously to technical difficulties; to Maxum Gold switching banks; and to an audit by the New Zealand government. (Eson Decl. Ex. 26 at 203-05; Ex. 38 at 382-83; Ex. 43). In approximately March 2013, Defendants began encouraging Maxum Gold investors to convert to the FMP Renal Program.

(Eson Decl. Ex. 26 at 209-11; Ex. 38 at 404-07). The FMP Renal Program was billed as a new venture that would be a publicly traded company (and therefore more liquid), providing kidney dialysis clinics in New Zealand. (Id.).

Pedras and Bryan marketed the FMP Renal Program by email and on investor conference calls. (Eson Decl. Ex. 26 at 209-11; Ex. 30; Ex. 38 at 404-06). Through another Maxum Gold website registered by Pedras, <a href="https://www.maxumgoldbnkpcpt.com">www.maxumgoldbnkpcpt.com</a>, investors were falsely told that by converting their Maxum Gold investment to shares of FMP Medical, they could increase the value of their investment instantly by approximately 80%. For each investor, the website reflected a "Comparison Account Balance from Shares Offer" with the current "value" of their Maxum Gold account, and the promised "value" if they convert to shares of FMP. The website also contained a link to FMP Medical's website, where investors could register to purchase shares: <a href="www.fmpmed.co.nz">www.fmpmed.co.nz</a>. (Eson Decl. Ex. 46 at 452-54, 473-75). Defendants' sales agents communicated the same information to Maxum Gold investors by email, juxtaposing their purported "current balance" and the balance if they convert to shares of FMP Medical. (Eson Decl. Exs. 50-51).

On August 26, 2013, Pedras registered an Investment Statement and Prospectus with the New Zealand Registrar of Companies, amended on October 3, 2013 (the "FMP Medical Prospectus"). (Eson Decl. Exs. 6-7). On October 15, 2013, the New Zealand Financial Markets Authority ("NZFMA") issued two orders, cancelling the registration for failure to comply with New Zealand law and prohibiting stock from being sold pursuant to the Prospectus in New Zealand, finding that the FMP Medical

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Prospectus presented a danger of misleading investors, as merely a "concept" in the mind of Pedras. (Eson Decl. Ex. 8). The NZFMA found, among other things, that:

> The positive statements about work undertaken to investigate this venture are misleading by omitting to include information provided to FMA, namely that the research resides only in the director's head, that there is no retrievable correspondence or documentation to show for the claimed 18 months of feasibility planning, site identification has not been undertaken, and the claimed negotiations have not been documented.... In view of the apparent lack of any serious planning... we do not consider there is any reasonable basis to estimate that operations can commence within 12 months, making this statement likely to mislead investors. (Eson Decl. Ex. 8 at 120-26).

The representations on Maxum Gold's website and repeated during investor conference calls and by email, regarding the intended use of investor proceeds, the expected returns, and the expected liquidity of shares of FMP Medical were false. The "comparison account balances" for converting to the FMP Renal Program were a fiction, based as they were on phony Maxum Gold Trade Program balances. In fact, no investor monies were invested in a kidney dialysis clinics; conversion to FMP Medical would not instantaneously increase investors' value by 80%; and FMP Medical shares were not liquid nor publicly traded. Instead, Defendants made Ponzilike payments to other investors; misappropriated investor funds; and paid commissions to their sales agents. (Zaldivar Decl. ¶ 17-18; Exs. 11-12).

#### D. Defendants' Ponzi Payments and Misappropriation of Investor Funds

Instead of investing in a bank trade program or in renal dialysis clinics, as they

told investors, Defendants used the funds to pay existing investors and sales agents, 1 2 and misappropriated investor funds for Pedras's personal use or benefit. Of the 3 approximately \$5.6 million raised from U.S. investors: (1) approximately \$2.4 million has been paid to investors; (2) approximately \$1.2 million has been paid as 4 5 sales commissions (including at least \$215,900 to Bryan, from which she, in part, paid other sales agents' commissions, and \$14,110 to Gray); and, (3) of the 6 7 remainder, Pedras has misappropriated for his personal use at least \$1.99 million, 8 including: a) \$1.4 million in cash withdrawals and transfers to his own accounts; (b) \$217,274 in transfers to Pedras-related entities or Pedras's relatives; and (c) \$337,889 10 in retail purchases, including, among other expenses, \$131,074.01 on cars and carrelated expenses, \$99,424.05 on other retail expenditures, and \$52,970 on travel and lodging. (Zaldivar Decl. ¶¶ 17-18; Exs. 11-12). 12

## III. ARGUMENT

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A temporary restraining order, asset freeze and receiver are needed here because the SEC has established a prima facie case that Defendants have committed securities fraud, and has presented sufficient evidence that they continue to dissipate assets.

#### A. The Standard for a Preliminary Injunction Is Different In SEC **Enforcement Actions**

As a threshold matter, the standard for obtaining emergency injunctive relief is different in a SEC enforcement action than in a regular civil action involving private parties. Section 20(b) of the Securities Act and Section 21(d) of the Exchange Act specifically provide that the SEC may, upon a proper showing, obtain a temporary restraining order without a bond. See 15 U.S.C. § 77t(b); 15 U.S.C. § 78u(d); SEC v. Wencke, 622 F.2d 1363, 1375 (9th Cir. 1980) (SEC enforcement actions do not require a bond). The SEC faces a lower burden because it appears before this Court "not as an ordinary litigant, but as a statutory guardian charged with safeguarding the public interest in enforcing the securities laws." SEC v. Management Dynamics, Inc.,

515 F.2d 801, 808 (2d Cir. 1975); see also FSLIC v. Sahni, 868 F.2d 1096, 1097 (9th Cir. 1989).

If the government can show a probability of success on the merits, courts presume irreparable injury when injunctive relief is sought in enforcement actions. See United States v. Nutri-Cology, Inc., 982 F.2d 394, 398 (9th Cir. 1992) ("[i]n statutory enforcement cases ... passage of the statute is itself an implied finding by Congress that violations will harm the public"). Therefore, the SEC need only demonstrate two things: (1) a prima facie case that a violation of the securities laws has occurred and (2) a reasonable likelihood that the violation will be repeated. See SEC.v. United Fin. Group, Inc., 474 F.2d 354, 358-59 (9th Cir. 1973); SEC v. Unique Fin. Concepts, Inc., 196 F.3d 1195, 1199 n.2 (11th Cir. 1999); SEC v. Schooler, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 144777, at \*4 (S.D. Cal. Oct. 5, 2012).

The SEC has satisfied this two-prong standard, and so a temporary injunction of Defendants' conduct is warranted (see infra, Sections III.B and III.C), and the SEC is also entitled to ancillary relief (see infra, Section III.D).

- B. The SEC Has Made a Prima Facie Showing That Defendants Are Violating the Federal Securities Laws
  - Defendants are violating the antifraud provisions of Section 17(a), Section 10(b) and Rule 10b-5

Section 17(a) prohibits fraud in the offer or sale of securities, while Section 10(b) and Rule 10b-5 thereunder prohibit fraud in connection with the purchase or sale of any security. See 15 U.S.C. § 77q(a), 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b), 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5; SEC v. Dain Rauscher, Inc., 254 F.3d 852, 855 (9th Cir. 2001). The SEC has established a prima facie case that Defendants have violated these antifraud provisions by (1) making material misrepresentations and omissions, and (2) engaging in a scheme to defraud investors.

a. Defendants have made material misrepresentations and omissions in connection with the offerings

To establish a *prima facie* case of misrepresentations and omissions under Section 17(a), Section 10(b) and Rule 10b-5, the SEC must establish that: (1) a material misrepresentation or omission was made, (2) in connection with the purchase, offer or sale of a security, (3) with scienter and (4) in interstate commerce. SEC v. Platforms Wireless, 617 F.3d 1072, 1092 (9th Cir. 2010); SEC v. Rana Research, Inc., 8 F.3d 1358, 1364 (9th Cir. 1993); Basic Inc. v. Levinson, 485 U.S. 224, 231-32 (1988). These elements are satisfied here.

## (i) Investments in the Maxum Gold Trade Program and the FMP Renal Program are securities.

As a threshold matter, the investment contracts for the Maxum Gold Trade Program are securities under the Supreme Court's definition in SEC v. W.J. Howey Co., 328 U.S. 293, 298-99 (1946) (investment contracts are securities where they feature: (1) the investment of money; (2) in a common enterprise; (3) with an expectation of profits to be derived solely from the efforts of the promoter or a third party). Maxum Gold investors sent their money in to Maxum Gold, supposedly to be pooled with other investors' funds for a bank trade program, run by Pedras, Gray and Maxum Gold.

Likewise, the stock offered to investors through the FMP Renal Program is by definition a security under both the Securities Act and the Exchange Act. See 15 U.S.C. § 77b(a)(1); 15 U.S.C. § 78c(a)(10).

## (ii) Defendants made misleading statements and omissions to investors

Liability for securities fraud can arise from affirmative misstatements as well as failure to disclose material information. See SEC v. Dain Rauscher, 254 F.3d at 855-56. Both are present here. Defendants represented the intended use of investor proceeds: namely, that investor funds would be invested in a bank trade program (for the Maxum Gold Trade Program) and in renal dialysis clinics (for the FMP Renal Program). Instead, Defendants either misappropriated those funds or used them to

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make Ponzi-like payments to pre-existing investors or pay commissions to sales agents. As to the Maxum Gold Trade Program, Defendants falsely represented that it was a "low risk" investment where investors' funds were in some form of "escrow" account, and promised returns of 4% to 8% a month. As to the FMP Renal Program, Defendants falsely represented that investors could instantly increase the value of their investments by approximately 80% by converting their investments in Maxum Gold to shares of FMP Medical. Meanwhile, Defendants portrayed fictitious online "account" and "profit" balances for both programs on Maxum Gold's website and communicated them by email, concealing that Defendants had depleted investors' funds to pay other investors, to pay sales commissions, and for Pedras's personal use.

## (iii) Defendants' misrepresentations and omissions were material

For purposes of securities fraud, a fact is material if there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable investor would consider it important in making a decision, because the fact would significantly alter the "total mix" of available information. *Basic*, 485 U.S. at 232; *TSC Indus. v. Northway, Inc.*, 426 U.S. 438 (1976).

Here, Defendants' misrepresentations and omissions are central to the investments themselves. Any reasonable investor would have considered it important to their investment decision to know that the money they invested was not being deployed in bank trading or renal dialysis clinics, but instead was being used to pay other investors or sales agents, or diverted to Pedras, Bryan and Gray. A reasonable investor would want to know that his or her "account" and "profit" balance was fictitious and that the promised returns would not come to pass. These representations and omissions are material because they address the very purpose of the investment and the use of investment proceeds, which reasonable investors consider important in deciding whether to invest.

#### (iv) Defendants acted with scienter

Violations of Section 17(a)(1) of the Securities Act and Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder require a showing of scienter, while violations of Section 17(a)(2)-(3) of the Securities Act require a showing of negligence. Aaron v. SEC, 446 U.S. 680 (1980). Scienter is defined as a "mental state embracing intent to deceive, manipulate or defraud." Ernst & Ernst v. Hochfelder, 425 U.S. 185, 193 n.12 (1976). In the Ninth Circuit, scienter may be established by a showing of either "deliberate recklessness" or "conscious recklessness". SEC v. Platforms Wireless Int'l Corp., 617 F.3d 1072, 1093 (9th Cir. 2010).

Here, Defendants knew, or were reckless in not knowing, that the representations concerning the Maxum Gold Trade Program and the FMP Renal Program were false. Pedras founded and ran Maxum Gold; controlled its bank accounts; misappropriated investor funds for personal use; and knew that he was using false offering and marketing materials via the internet, during investor conferences calls, in person and by email, to solicit investors. Gray contracted with investors to open their Maxum Gold accounts; controlled at least one of Maxum Gold's bank accounts with Pedras; and served as the account executive for Maxum Gold investors. Bryan knew that the Maxum Gold Trade Program and FMP Renal Program offering and marketing materials that she emailed to investors and that were discussed during investor conference calls she organized were false or misleading. Bryan's invocation of her Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination during her investigative testimony further contributes to an inference of her scienter.

Because Pedras is the sole owner and director of Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited and FMP Medical Services LLC; one of three officers of Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings, LLC; the sole director and shareholder of FMP Medical Services Limited; and the sole owner and director of Comptroller 2013 Limited, his scienter is imputed to them. SEC v. Platforms Wireless Intern. Corp., 559 F.Supp. 2d 1091, 1096 (S.D.

Cal. 2008), aff'd., 617 F.3d 1072 (9th Cir. 2010), citing SEC v. Manor Nursing Ctrs., Inc., 458 F.2d 1082, 1089 n.3 (2d Cir. 1972).

## (v) The fraud was made in the offer or sale, and in connection with the purchase or sale of securities, in interstate commerce

Defendants' fraudulent activities were clearly "in the offer or sale," or "in connection with the purchase or sale" of securities and in interstate commerce. The phrase "in connection with the purchase or sale" of a security is met when the fraud alleged "coincides with a securities transaction." Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc., v. Dabit, 547 U.S. 71, 85 (2006). Moreover, "in connection with" requires only that there be "deceptive practices touching" the purchase or sale of securities. See Superintendent of Ins. v. Bankers Life & Casualty Co., 404 U.S. 6, 12-13 (1971); see also SEC v. Zandford, 535 U.S. 813, 819 (2002). These elements are clearly established here. Defendants offered and sold securities in the Maxum Gold Trade Program and the FMP Renal Program by misrepresenting material facts to lure over 50 U.S. investors, and made false statements and omissions regarding the intended use of investors' proceeds, the nature of the investments, and the expected returns.

## b. Defendants are engaging in a scheme to defraud

The SEC has also established a prima facie case that Defendants engaged in a scheme to defraud. To be liable for a scheme to defraud, a defendant must have engaged in conduct that had the principal purpose and effect of creating a false appearance of fact in furtherance of the scheme. See Simpson v. AOL Time Warner, Inc., 452 F.3d 1040, 1048 (9th Cir. 2006), vacated on other grounds sub nom., Avis Budget Group Inc. v. Cal. State Teachers' Ret. System, 552 U.S. 1162 (2008). Here, separate and apart from making misrepresentations and omissions in connection with offering and selling the securities, Defendants engaged in a fraudulent scheme by misappropriating investors' funds in the Maxum Gold Trade Program and the FMP

Renal Program; making Ponzi-like payments to investors; and soliciting investment through false and misleading websites, investor conference calls, in-person meetings and emails. See, e.g., SEC v. Merrill Scott & Associates, Ltd., 505 F. Supp. 2d 1193, 1214 (D. Utah 2007) (promoter engaged in scheme to defraud investors when it failed to inform them that funds would be used for personal expenses and funding of massive Ponzi scheme).

### c. Pedras and Gray are also liable as "control persons"

The SEC has also shown that Pedras should be liable as a control person of Maxum Gold and FMP, and Gray as a control person of Maxum Gold, under Section 20(a) of the Securities Act. Under Section 20(a) a person may be held liable for another person's violation of the Exchange Act as a "control person." 15 U.S.C. § 78t(a). To prove control person liability under the Exchange Act, the SEC must show: (1) a violation of the Exchange Act, and (2) that the control person directly or indirectly controlled the primary violator. SEC v. Todd, 642 F.3d 1207, 1223-1224 (9th Cir. 2011); Hollinger v. Titan Capital Corp., 914 F.2d 1564, 1575 (9th Cir. 1990) (en banc) (holding it unnecessary to show "culpable participation" by control person). Here, this prima facie standard is easily met. As Maxum Gold's and FMP's principal or only director and shareholder, Pedras typifies a "control person", exercising control of the corporate Defendants' activities and finances, including the misstatements and omission described above. Gray was also a principal and an account executive of Maxum Gold; was a signatory to agreements with investors to open their accounts; and had control over at least one of its accounts.

## By not registering the offerings, Defendants are also violating Section 5 of the Securities Act

The SEC has also established a *prima facie* case that Defendants have violated Sections 5(a) and 5(c) of the Securities Act. See 15 U.S.C. § 77e(a), (c). These provisions prohibit the unregistered offer or sale of securities in interstate commerce, unless an exemption from registration applies. See SEC v. Eurobond Exch., 13 F.3d

1334, 1338 (9th Cir. 1994). Section 5 operates as a strict liability statute. See SEC v. Holschuh, 694 F.2d 130, 137 n.10 (9th Cir. 1982) ("good faith is not relevant to whether there has been a primary violation of the registration requirements"). A prima facie Section 5 violation is established by showing that: (1) defendants, directly or indirectly, offered or sold securities; (2) no registration was in effect or filed with the SEC for those securities; and (3) interstate transportation or communication or the mails were used in connection with the offer and sale. See 15 U.S.C. §§ 77e(a), 77e(c); SEC v. Phan, 500 F.3d 895, 902 (9th Cir. 2007).

The SEC has made this showing. Defendants were offering and selling securities, the offerings were not registered with the SEC, and the securities were offered and sold through interstate commerce to more than 50 U.S. investors.

Moreover, Section 5 imposes liability on persons who "directly or indirectly" offer or sell securities in unregistered, nonexempt transactions in interstate commerce. 15 U.S.C. §§ 77e(a), 77e(c). Maxum Gold and FMP Medical directly offered and/or sold the offerings to investors. Pedras and Bryan are primarily liable because they directly offered and sold securities, or were a substantial factor and necessary participant in the offers and sales of securities by Maxum Gold and FMP Medical.

See SEC v. Rogers, 790 F.2d 1450, 1456 (9th Cir. 1986); see also SEC v. CMKM Diamonds, 2013 WL 4793215 (9th Cir. Sept. 10, 2013) (for indirect seller liability, a defendant's role in the transaction must be "significant") (citing SEC v. Murphy, 626 F.2d 633, 652 (9th Cir. 1980)).

Because the SEC has established the *prima facie* elements of a Section 5 violation, the burden shifts to Defendants to prove that an exemption from registration applies. See SEC v. Ralston Purina Co., 346 U.S. 119, 126 (1953); SEC v. Murphy, 626 F.2d at 633, 641(9th Cir. 1980). None apply here.

3. By acting as unregistered broker-dealers, Pedras and Bryan are also violating Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act

The SEC has established a prima facie violation of Section 15(a)(1) of the

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Exchange Act, which requires brokers or dealers who "effect any transaction in, or induce or attempt to induce the purchase or sale of, any security" through interstate commerce to be registered with the SEC, or, if the broker dealer is a natural person, to be associated with a registered broker or dealer that is not a natural person. Scienter is not required; only that the person is "engaged in the business of effecting transactions in securities for the account of others." Exchange Act, Section 3(a)(4); SEC v. Interlink Data Network, 1993 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 20163 at \*46 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 15, 1993). To determine if a person is engaged in the business of effecting securities transactions, courts look to whether there is "a certain regularity of participation in securities transactions at key points in the chain of distribution." SEC v. Hansen, 1984 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 17835, \*25 (S.D.N.Y. Apr. 6, 1984) (quoting Massachusetts Financial Services, Inc. v. Securities Investor Protection Corp. 411 F. Supp. 411, 415 (D. Mass. 1976). Other relevant factors are whether the alleged broker: "1) is an employee of the issuer; 2) received commissions as opposed to a salary; 3) is selling, or previously sold, the securities of other issuers; 4) is involved in negotiations between the issuer and the investor; 5) makes valuations as to the merits of the investment or gives advice; and 6) is an active rather than passive finder of investors." Id.; SEC v. Homestead Properties, LLP, 2009 WL 5173685 at \*\*4-5 (C.D. Cal. Dec. 18, 2009).

Here, Pedras and Bryan directly solicited investors to invest in Maxum Gold and FMP. Bryan paid and received, and Pedras paid, sales commissions on investors' funds, and both recruited sales agents to help promote the scheme. As such, each acted as a broker dealer, without being registered with the SEC, in violation of Section 15(a).

### C. A Preliminary Injunction Is Needed Because Defendants' Violations Are Likely To Continue Unless They Are Restrained

Defendants need to be enjoined because they will continue violating the securities laws unless they are restrained. Whether a likelihood of future violations

exists depends upon the totality of the circumstances. See SEC v. Murphy, 626 F.2d at 655; SEC v. Fehn, 97 F.3d at 1276, 1295-96 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1996). The existence of past violations may give rise to an inference that there will be future violations. See SEC v. Murphy, 626 F.2d at 655; see also United States v. Odessa Union Warehouse Co-Op, 833 F.2d 172, 176 (9th Cir. 1987). Courts also consider factors such as the degree of scienter involved, the isolated or recurrent nature of the violative conduct, the defendant's recognition of the wrongful nature of the conduct, the likelihood that, because of the defendant's occupation, future violations may occur, and the sincerity of defendant's assurances (if any) against future violations. SEC v. Murphy, 626 F.2d at 655.

Defendants' violations are egregious. They have raised over \$5.6 million from more than 50 U.S. investors, and are using those funds either to pay other investors, to pay sales commissions, or for Pedras's personal use. When they were unable to continue making payments to investors in the Maxum Gold Trade Program,

Defendants switched gears and began promoting the FMP Renal Program, never revealing that both programs are no more than a sham. Defendants continue to mislead investors online and by email into believing that they have fictitious "account balances" and "profits", which will automatically grow by 80% size if investors convert to equity shares of FMP Medical (thereby relieving Defendants of their stated promises to pay investors returns of 4% to 8% per month through the Maxum Gold Trade Program). Defendant Pedras has already been precluded from selling shares of FMP Medical to New Zealand investors by the NZFMA, based in part the dialysis business being just a "concept in his mind." For these reasons, imposition of a temporary restraining order, together with an order to show cause why a preliminary injunction should not be entered, is necessary and appropriate.

## D. The Court Should Also Impose An Asset Freeze And Grant The Ancillary Relief The SEC Seeks

Federal courts have inherent equitable authority to issue a variety of ancillary

relief in SEC injunctive actions. See SEC v. Wencke, 622 F.2d at 1369. These powers include the authority to freeze assets of both parties and nonparties, see SEC v. Hickey, 322 F.3d 1123, 1131 (9th Cir. 2003); SEC v. Int'l Swiss Invs. Corp., 895 F.2d 1272, 1276 (9th Cir. 1990).

### 1. An asset freeze is needed to preserve investor assets

Freeze orders are warranted to prevent waste and dissipation of assets and to ensure their availability for disgorgement for the benefit of victims of the fraud. 

Johnson v. Couturier, 572 F.3d 1067, 1085 (9th Cir. 2009) ("[a] party seeking an asset freeze must show a likelihood of dissipation of the claimed assets, or other inability to recover monetary damages, if relief is not granted."); Hickey, 322 F.3d at 1132 (affirming asset freeze over nonparty brokerage firm controlled by defendant to effectuate disgorgement order against defendant); SEC v. Manor Nursing, 458 F.2d at 1105-06. Indeed, the Ninth Circuit has found that "the public interest in preserving the illicit proceeds [of a defendant's fraud] for restitution to the victims is great."

FTC v. Affordable Media, LLC, 179 F.3d 1228, 1236 (9th Cir. 1999).

Here, it is likely that Defendants will continue to dissipate investors' funds, unless Maxum Gold's, FMP Medical's, Comptroller 2013 Limited's and Pedras's assets are frozen. Because: (1) as of this month, Maxum Gold's website continued to solicit investors; (2) Maxum Gold, FMP Medical, and Comptroller 2013 Limited received over \$624,000 from investors in 2013 (Zaldivar Decl. ¶ 17(e)); and (3) Pedras used the money in part to make Ponzi-like payments to Maxum Gold investors and misappropriated the funds, there is an ongoing threat that Defendants will misappropriate and dissipate funds from new and existing investors and imperil investors' interests. An asset freeze would prevent such losses.

## Orders requiring an accounting and the preservation of documents are warranted

Once the SEC has properly invoked the Court's equity jurisdiction by seeking injunctive relief, the Court has broad equitable powers to order ancillary relief to

require Defendants to preserve their records and to provide an accounting. See Wencke, 622 F.2d at 1369; SEC v. International Swiss Invest. Corp., 895 F.2d 1272, 1276 (9th Cir. 1990) (ordering an accounting); SEC v. Materia, 745 F.2d 197, 200 (2d Cir. 1984) ("once the equity jurisdiction of the district court properly has been invoked, the court has power to order all equitable relief necessary under the circumstances"). An order that requires the preservation of documents and an accounting will assist the SEC in identifying all of the available assets, so that funds and assets can be properly frozen and available to satisfy any future order of disgorgement or civil penalties against Defendants.

## E. The Court Should Order Alternative Service on Pedras

In addition to personal service at his residence in Turlock, California, the Court should order that the SEC may serve Pedras in New Zealand either personally or through email service, and that email service on Pedras effectuates service on New Zealand entity Defendants Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited and FMP Medical Services Limited and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013. Under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure Rule 4(f)(3), service may be made on an individual in a foreign country by means "not prohibited by international agreement" where ordered by the Court. Fed. R. Civ. P. Rule 4(f)(3). Under Rule 4(h)(2), service may be made upon a corporation not located in the U.S. by any manner prescribed by Rule 4(f) for serving an individual", except personal service.

New Zealand is not a signatory to the Hague convention, and no international agreement prohibits email service in New Zealand. Email service is within the Court's discretion to order under Rule 4(f)(3) and (h)(2). See Rio Properties, Inc. v. Rio International Interlink, 284 F.3d 1007 (9th Cir. 2002) (affirming district court order of email service upon foreign corporation, finding it was reasonably calculated to provide notice and the most likely means of notifying the defendant of the lawsuit). Pedras communicates with U.S. investors routinely using email; is the founder and major principal of Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited and FMP Medical Services

18 Case No.

Limited; and the principal of Comptroller 2013 Limited. Therefore, the SEC requests that the Court order that Pedras may be served, in addition to by personal service at his residence in Turlock, California, by either personal service or email in New Zealand, and that service on Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, FMP Medical Services Limited, and Comptroller 2013 Limited, may be effectuated by email service on Pedras.

## IV. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the Court should grant the SEC's Ex Parte
Application and enter the accompanying (1) Temporary Restraining Order
temporarily enjoining Defendants, freezing assets, prohibiting the destruction of
documents, and requiring accountings; and (2) Order to Show Cause Why a
Preliminary Injunction Should Not Be Granted.

DATED: October 25, 2013

Respectfully submitted

AMY JANE LONGO Attorney for Plaintiff

Securities and Exchange Commission

# EXHIBIL 2

Cast 2:13-cv-07932-GAF-N(R)V Document 5 Filed 10/28/13 Page 1 of 12 Page ID #:36 AMY JANE LONGO, Cal. Bar No. 198304 1 Email: longoa@sec.go KAREN MATTESON, Cal. Bar. No. 102103 Email: mattesonk@sec.gov FILED J. CINDY ESON, Cal. Bar. No. 219782 CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT. 3 Email: esonic@sec.gov OCT 28 2013 4 Attornevs for Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission Michele Wein Layne, Regional Director Lorraine B. Echavarria, Associate Regional Director 5 John W. Berry, Regional Trial Counsel 5670 Wilshire Boulevard, 11th Floor 6 Los Angeles, California 90036 Telephone: (323) 965-3998 Facsimile: (323) 965-3908 7 8 LODGED JA. DISTRICT COURT CLERK UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 110 CT 28 2013 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA Case Cov 13-07932-1 DEPUTY SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE 13 COMMISSION, <del>PROPOSED| TEMPORARY</del> RESTRAINING ORDER AND 14 Plaintiff. ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE WHY A 15 PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION VS. SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED 16 CHRISTOPHER A.T. PEDRAS (aka CHRIS PEDRAS aka ANTONE (FILED UNDER SEAL) 17 THOMAS PEDRAS); SYLVESTER M. GRAY II; ALICIA BRYAN; 18 MAXUM GOLD BNK HOLDINGS LIMITED; MAXUM GOLD BNK HOLDINGS LLC; FMP MEDICAL SERVICES LIMITED; and FMP MEDICAL SERVICES LLC, 19 20 21 Defendants, and 22 COMPTROLLER 2013 LIMITED, 23 Relief Defendant. 24 25 26 This matter came before the Court upon the Ex Parte Application for a 27 Temporary Restraining Order and Order to Show Cause Why a Preliminary

Temporary Restraining Order and Order to Show Cause Why a Preliminary Injunction Should Not Be Granted (the "TRO Application") filed by Plaintiff

Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC").

The Court, having considered the SEC's Complaint, the TRO Application, the supporting Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the supporting declarations and exhibits, and the other evidence and argument presented to the Court, finds that:

- A. This Court has jurisdiction over the parties to, and the subject matter of, this action.
- B. Good cause exists to believe that:
  - (1) Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and each of them, have engaged in, are engaging in, and are about to engage in transactions, acts, practices and courses of business that constitute violations of Sections 5(a), 5(c) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. §§ 77e(a), 77e(c));
  - (2) Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and each of them, have engaged in, are engaging in, and are about to engage in transactions, acts, practices and courses of business that constitute violations of Section17(a) of the Securities Act (15 U.S.C. § 77q(a)) and Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. § 78j(b)) and Rule 10b-5 thereunder (17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5); and
  - (3) Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras and Alicia Bryan, and each of them, have engaged in, are engaging in, and are about to engage in transactions, acts, practices and courses of business that constitute violations of Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. § 780(a)).

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- C. The SEC has demonstrated (1) a *prima facie* case that one or more violations of the securities laws have occurred and (2) a reasonable likelihood that the violations will be repeated.
- D. It is appropriate and the interests of justice require that the SEC's TRO Application be granted without notice to Defendants as the SEC has set forth in its Application the reasons supporting its claim that notice should not be required, and it appears from specific facts shown by the declarations filed by the SEC that immediate and irreparable injury, loss or damage will result if notice is given to Defendants.

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IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the SEC's application for a Temporary
Restraining Order and Order To Show Cause Why a Preliminary Injunction Should
Not Be Granted against Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray II,
Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC,
FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and Relief
Defendant Comptroller 2013 is GRANTED.

II.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and affiliates, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them who receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are temporarily restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly, in the absence of any applicable exemption:

A. unless a registration statement is in effect as to a security, making use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in

Case No.

- interstate commerce or of the mails to sell such security through the use or medium of any prospectus or otherwise;
- B. unless a registration statement is in effect as to a security, carrying or causing to be carried through the mails or in interstate commerce, by any means or instruments of transportation, any such security for the purpose of sale or for delivery after sale; or
- C. making use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or of the mails to offer to sell or offer to buy through the use or medium of any prospectus or otherwise any security, unless a registration statement has been filed with the SEC as to such security, or while the registration statement is the subject of a refusal order or stop order or (prior to the effective date of the registration statement) any public proceeding or examination under Section 8 of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77h in violation of Section 5 of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77e.

#### III.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras,
Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum
Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services
LLC, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and
affiliates, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who
receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them,
be and hereby are temporarily restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly, in
the offer or sale of any securities, by the use of any means or instruments of
transportation or communication in interstate commerce or by the use of the mails:

- A. employing any device, scheme or artifice to defraud;
- B. obtaining money or property by means of any untrue statement of a material fact or any omission to state a material fact necessary in order to

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 make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; or

C. engaging in any transaction, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon the purchaser; in violation of Section 17(a) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77q(a).

#### IV.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and affiliates, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are temporarily restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly, in connection with the purchase or sale of any security, by the use of any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce, or of the mails, or of any facility of any national securities exchange:

- A. employing any device, scheme or artifice to defraud;
- B. making any untrue statement of a material fact or omitting 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
- engaging in any act, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon any person;

in violation of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b), and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5.

## V.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, and Alicia Bryan, and their agents, servants, attorneys, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, by personal

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service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are temporarily restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly unless they are registered with the SEC in accordance with Section 15(b) of Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 780(b), and in the absence of any applicable exemption, making use of the mails, or any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce to effect any transactions in, or to induce or attempt to induce the purchase or sale of, any security (other than an exempted security or commercial paper, bankers' acceptances, or commercial bills) in the United States, in violation of Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 780(a).

VI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, except as otherwise ordered by this Court, Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and affiliate, and those persons in active concert with them, who receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are permanently restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly, transferring, assigning, selling, hypothecating, changing, wasting, dissipating, converting, concealing, encumbering, or otherwise disposing of, in any manner, any funds, assets, securities, claims or other real or personal property, including any notes or deeds of trust or other interest in real property, wherever located, of any one of the Defendants, or their subsidiaries or affiliates, owned by, controlled by, managed by or in the possession or custody of any of them and from transferring, encumbering dissipating, incurring charges or cash advances on any debit or credit card of the credit arrangement of any one of the Defendants, or their subsidiaries and affiliates.

## VII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, except as otherwise ordered by this Court, an immediate freeze shall be placed on all monies and assets (with an allowance for

necessary and reasonable living expenses to be granted only upon good cause shown 1 2 by application to the Court with notice to and an opportunity for the SEC to be heard) 3 in all accounts at any bank (including, without limitation, ANZ (Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited), Bank of New Zealand, Westpac New Zealand 4 Limited, and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.), financial institution or brokerage firm, or 5 Internet or "e-commerce" payment processor, all certificates of deposit, and other 6 7 funds or assets, held in the name of, for the benefit of, or over which account authority is held by Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings 8 Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, or FMP Medical Services LLC, including but not limited to the accounts listed below:

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Bank Name	Account Name	Account
	·	Number
Wells Fargo	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Bank, N.A.		
Wells Fargo	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Bank, N.A.		
Wells Fargo	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Bank, N.A.		1
Wells Fargo	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Bank, N.A.		
Wells Fargo	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Bank, N.A.		
Wells Fargo	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Bank, N.A.		
Wells Fargo	FMP Medical Services LLC	
Bank, N.A.		

Bank Name	Account Name	Account Number
Vells Fargo	FMP Medical Services LLC	
ank, N.A.		
Vells Fargo	FMP Medical Services LLC	
ank, N.A.	<u> </u>	
Vells Fargo	FMP Medical Services LLC	
ank, N.A.		
Vells Fargo	FMP Medical Services LLC	
ank, N.A.		
ells Fargo	FMP Medical Services LLC	
ank, N.A.		
NZ	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited	
Australia and		
ew Zealand		
anking Group	·	
imited)	·	·
NZ	Maxum Gold Bnk PCPT Limited	
ustralia and	{	
ew Zealand		
anking Group		
mited)		
NZ .	Antone Thomas Pedras	
ustralia and		
ew Zealand		
nking Group		
mited)		

Bank Name	Account Name	Account Number
Bank of New Zealand	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited	
Bank of New Zealand	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited	
Bank of New Zealand	Maxum Gold Bnk Limited	
Bank of New Zealand	Mr. A T Pedras Associated Business Advisors	
Bank of New Zealand	Mr. A T Pedras Associated Business Advisors	
Westpac New Zealand Limited	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited	
Westpac New Zealand Limited	Comptroller 2013 Limited	
Westpac New Zealand Limited	Mr. A T. Pedras	
Westpac New Cealand Limited	Mr. A T. Pedras	
Vestpac New Cealand Limited	FMP Medical Services Limited	

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Account Name	Account
	Number
FMP Medical Services Limited – Trust	
Account	
	<b>i</b> .

## VIII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, except as otherwise ordered by this Court, each of the Defendants, and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and affiliates, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are temporarily restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly: destroying, mutilating, concealing, transferring, altering, or otherwise disposing of, in any manner, any documents, which includes all books, records, computer programs, computer files, computer printouts, contracts, emails, correspondence, memoranda, brochures, or any other documents of any kind in their possession, custody or control, however created, produced, or stored (manually, mechanically, electronically, or otherwise), pertaining in any manner to Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, FMP Medical Services LLC, or Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited.

## IX.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras,
Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum
Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services
LLC, and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited, within five days of the
issuance of this Order, shall prepare and deliver to the SEC a detailed and complete
schedule of all of their personal assets, including all real and personal property

exceeding \$5,000 in value, and all bank, securities, and other accounts identified by institution, branch address and account number. The accounting shall include a description of the sources of all such assets. Such accounting shall be filed with the Court and a copy shall be delivered to the SEC's Los Angeles Regional Office to the attention of Amy Jane Longo, Trial Counsel. After completion of the accounting, each of the Defendants shall produce to the SEC's Los Angeles Regional Office, at a time agreeable to the SEC, all books, records and other documents supporting or underlying their accounting.

X.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any person who receives actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, and who holds, possesses or controls assets exceeding \$5,000 for the account or benefit of any one of the Defendants or Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited, shall within 5 days of receiving actual notice of this Order provide counsel for the SEC with a written statement identifying all such assets, the value of such assets, or best approximation thereof, and any account numbers or account names in which the assets are held.

XI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff SEC may effect service on Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras by personal service in California or in New Zealand, or by email; and that service on Pedras by email will effectuate service upon Defendants Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited and FMP Medical Services Limited, and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited

#### XII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Temporary Restraining Order shall expire at (a) from Opticist (b), 2013 unless for good cause shown it is extended or the parties against whom it is directed consent that it may be extended for a longer period.

XXIII. 1 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that at 9 3 10 October 2 thereafter as the parties may be heard, the Defendants, and each of them, shall appear 3 4 before the Honorable Judge of the United States District Court for the Central District of California, to show cause, if there be any, why a 5 preliminary injunction should not be granted Any declarations, affidavits, points and 6 7 authorities, or other submissions in support of, or in opposition to, the issuance of such an Order shall be filed with the Court and delivered to the SEC's Los Angeles 8 office and the offices of the Defendants or their attorneys no later than Sollion 9 2013. Any reply papers shall be filed with the Court and delivered to 10 opposing counsel no later than Surface Of October 6, 2013. Service of all such 11 12 papers shall be by electronic mail, facsimile, or personal service. 13 XXIV. 14 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Court shall retain jurisdiction over this 15 action for the purpose of implementing and carrying out the terms of all orders and decrees which may be entered herein and to entertain any suitable application or 16 17 motion for additional relief within the jurisdiction of this Court. 18 19 IT IS SO ORDERED. 20 21 22 Presented by: **Amy Jane Longo** 23 Attorney for Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission 24 25 26 27

## EXHIBIT 6

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С	se 2:13-cv-07932-GAF-MRW Document 13	Filed 11/06/13 Page 1 of 13 Page ID #:939
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	AMY JANE LONGO, Cal. Bar No. 19830 Email: longoa@sec.gov KAREN MATTESON, Cal. Bar. No. 102 Email: mattesonk@sec.gov J. CINDY ESON, Cal. Bar. No. 219782 Email: esonjc@sec.gov Attorneys for Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission Michele Wein Layne, Regional Director Lorraine B. Echavarria, Associate Regional John W. Berry, Regional Trial Counsel 5670 Wilshire Boulevard, 11th Floor Los Angeles, California 90036 Telephone: (323) 965-3998 Facsimile: (323) 965-3908	Note Changes Made by th Court
9	, ,	
10		DISTRICT COURT
11	CENTRAL DISTRIC	CT OF CALIFORNIA
12	CECUDITIES AND EVOLANCE	Case No. CV 13-07932-GAF (MRWx)
13	SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,	
14	Plaintiff,	(PROPOSED) AMENDED TEMPORARY RESTRAINING
15	vs.	ORDER AND ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE WHY A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION SHOULD NOT BE
16	CHRISTOPHER A.T. PEDRAS (aka	GRANTED
17	CHRIS PEDRAS aka ANTONE THOMAS PEDRAS); SYLVESTER	
18	M. GRAY II; ALICIA BRYAN; MAXUM GOLD BNK HOLDINGS	
19	HOLDINGS LLC; FMP MEDICAL	
20	SERVICES LIMITED; and FMP   MEDICAL SERVICES LLC,	
21	Defendants, and	
22	COMPTROLLER 2013 LIMITED,	
23	Relief Defendant.	
24		
25		
26	This matter came before the Court 1	pon the Ex Parte Application for a
27	Temporary Restraining Order and Order to	Show Cause Why a Preliminary
28	Injunction Should Not Be Granted (the "T	RO Application") filed by Plaintiff
		1 Case No. CV 13-07932-GAF (MRWx)

Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC").

The Court, having considered the SEC's Request to Modify its October 28, 2013 Temporary Restraining Order, the Complaint, the TRO Application, the supporting Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the supporting declarations and exhibits, and the other evidence and argument presented to the Court, finds that:

- A. This Court has jurisdiction over the parties to, and the subject matter of, this action.
- B. Good cause exists to believe that:
  - (1) Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and each of them, have engaged in, are engaging in, and are about to engage in transactions, acts, practices and courses of business that constitute violations of Sections 5(a), 5(c) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. §§ 77e(a), 77e(c));
  - Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and each of them, have engaged in, are engaging in, and are about to engage in transactions, acts, practices and courses of business that constitute violations of Section17(a) of the Securities Act (15 U.S.C. § 77q(a)) and Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. § 78j(b)) and Rule 10b-5 thereunder (17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5); and
  - (3) Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras and Alicia Bryan, and each of them, have engaged in, are engaging in, and are about to engage in transactions, acts, practices and courses of business that constitute

violations of Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. § 780(a)).

- C. The SEC has demonstrated (1) a *prima facie* case that one or more violations of the securities laws have occurred and (2) a reasonable likelihood that the violations will be repeated.
- D. It is appropriate and the interests of justice require that the SEC's TRO Application be granted without notice to Defendants as the SEC has set forth in its Application the reasons supporting its claim that notice should not be required, and it appears from specific facts shown by the declarations filed by the SEC that immediate and irreparable injury, loss or damage will result if notice is given to Defendants.

I.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the SEC's application for a Temporary
Restraining Order and Order To Show Cause Why a Preliminary Injunction Should
Not Be Granted against Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray II,
Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC,
FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and Relief
Defendant Comptroller 2013 is GRANTED.

II.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and affiliates, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them who receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are temporarily restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly, in the absence of any applicable exemption:

- A. unless a registration statement is in effect as to a security, making use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or of the mails to sell such security through the use or medium of any prospectus or otherwise;
- B. unless a registration statement is in effect as to a security, carrying or causing to be carried through the mails or in interstate commerce, by any means or instruments of transportation, any such security for the purpose of sale or for delivery after sale; or
- C. making use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or of the mails to offer to sell or offer to buy through the use or medium of any prospectus or otherwise any security, unless a registration statement has been filed with the SEC as to such security, or while the registration statement is the subject of a refusal order or stop order or (prior to the effective date of the registration statement) any public proceeding or examination under Section 8 of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77h in violation of Section 5 of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77e.

## III.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and affiliates, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are temporarily restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly, in the offer or sale of any securities, by the use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or by the use of the mails:

A. employing any device, scheme or artifice to defraud;

- B. obtaining money or property by means of any untrue statement of a material fact or any omission to state 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. engaging in any transaction, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon the purchaser; in violation of Section 17(a) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77q(a).

IV.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and affiliates, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are temporarily restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly, in connection with the purchase or sale of any security, by the use of any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce, or of the mails, or of any facility of any national securities exchange:

- A. employing any device, scheme or artifice to defraud;
- B. making any untrue statement of a material fact or omitting 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. engaging in any act, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon any person;

in violation of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b), and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5.

V.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, and Alicia Bryan, and their agents, servants, attorneys, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are temporarily restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly unless they are registered with the SEC in accordance with Section 15(b) of Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 780(b), and in the absence of any applicable exemption, making use of the mails, or any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce to effect any transactions in, or to induce or attempt to induce the purchase or sale of, any security (other than an exempted security or commercial paper, bankers' acceptances, or commercial bills) in the United States, in violation of Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 780(a).

VI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, except as otherwise ordered by this Court, Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and affiliate, and those persons in active concert with them, who receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are permanently restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly, transferring, assigning, selling, hypothecating, changing, wasting, dissipating, converting, concealing, encumbering, or otherwise disposing of, in any manner, any funds, assets, securities, claims or other real or personal property, including any notes or deeds of trust or other interest in real property, wherever located, of any one of the Defendants, or their subsidiaries or affiliates, owned by, controlled by, managed by or in the possession or custody of any of them and from transferring, encumbering

dissipating, incurring charges or cash advances on any debit or credit card of the credit arrangement of any one of the Defendants, or their subsidiaries and affiliates.

## VII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, except as otherwise ordered by this Court, an immediate freeze shall be placed on all monies and assets (with an allowance for necessary and reasonable living expenses to be granted only upon good cause shown by application to the Court with notice to and an opportunity for the SEC to be heard) in all accounts at any bank (including, without limitation, ANZ (Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited), Bank of New Zealand, Westpac New Zealand Limited, and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.), financial institution or brokerage firm, or Internet or "e-commerce" payment processor, all certificates of deposit, and other funds or assets, held in the name of, for the benefit of, or over which account authority is held by Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, or FMP Medical Services LLC, including but not limited to the accounts listed below:

Bank Name	Account Name	Account Number
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	

Bank Name	Account Name	Account Number
Wells Fargo	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Bank, N.A.		
Wells Fargo	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Bank, N.A.		
Wells Fargo	FMP Medical Services LLC	1
Bank, N.A.		
Wells Fargo	FMP Medical Services LLC	
Bank, N.A.		
Wells Fargo	FMP Medical Services LLC	
Bank, N.A.		
Wells Fargo	FMP Medical Services LLC	
Bank, N.A.		
Wells Fargo	FMP Medical Services LLC	:
Bank, N.A.		
Wells Fargo	FMP Medical Services LLC	
Bank, N.A.		
ANZ	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited	
(Australia and		
New Zealand		
Banking Group		
Limited)		
ANZ	Maxum Gold Bnk PCPT Limited	
(Australia and		
New Zealand		
Banking Group		

Bank Name	Account Name	Account Number
Limited)		
ANZ	Antone Thomas Pedras	
(Australia and		
New Zealand		
Banking Group		
Limited)		
Bank of New	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited	
Zealand		
Bank of New	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited	
Zealand		
Bank of New	Maxum Gold Bnk Limited	
Zealand		
Bank of New	Mr. A T Pedras	
Zealand	Associated Business Advisors	
Bank of New	Mr. A T Pedras	
Zealand	Associated Business Advisors	
Westpac New	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited	
Zealand Limited		

Case No. CV 13-07932-GAF (MRWx)

Bank Name	Account Name	Account Number
Westpac New Zealand Limited	Comptroller 2013 Limited	
Westpac New Zealand Limited	Mr. A T. Pedras	
Westpac New Zealand Limited	Mr. A T. Pedras	
Westpac New Zealand Limited	FMP Medical Services Limited	
Westpac New Zealand Limited	FMP Medical Services Limited – Trust Account	

## VIII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, except as otherwise ordered by this Court, each of the Defendants, and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and affiliates, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are temporarily restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly: destroying, mutilating, concealing, transferring, altering, or otherwise disposing of, in any manner, any documents, which includes all books, records, computer programs, computer files, computer printouts, contracts, emails, correspondence, memoranda, brochures, or any other documents of any kind in their possession, custody or control, however created, produced, or stored (manually, mechanically, electronically, or otherwise), pertaining in any manner to Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum

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Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, FMP Medical Services LLC, or Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited.

IX.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited, within five days of the issuance of this Order, shall prepare and deliver to the SEC a detailed and complete schedule of all of their personal assets, including all real and personal property exceeding \$5,000 in value, and all bank, securities, and other accounts identified by institution, branch address and account number. The accounting shall include a description of the sources of all such assets. Such accounting shall be filed with the Court and a copy shall be delivered to the SEC's Los Angeles Regional Office to the attention of Amy Jane Longo, Trial Counsel. After completion of the accounting, each of the Defendants shall produce to the SEC's Los Angeles Regional Office, at a time agreeable to the SEC, all books, records and other documents supporting or underlying their accounting.

X.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any person who receives actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, and who holds, possesses or controls assets exceeding \$5,000 for the account or benefit of any one of the Defendants or Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited, shall within 5 days of receiving actual notice of this Order provide counsel for the SEC with a written statement identifying all such assets, the value of such assets, or best approximation thereof, and any account numbers or account names in which the assets are held.

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XI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff SEC may effect service on Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras by personal service in California or in New Zealand, or by email; and that service on Pedras by email will effectuate service upon Defendants Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited and FMP Medical Services Limited, and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited.

#### XII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Amended Temporary Restraining Order supersedes the Temporary Restraining Order entered on October 28, 2013, and this Amended Temporary Restraining Order shall expire at 5:00pm on November 21, 2013, unless for good cause shown it is extended or the parties against whom it is directed consent that it may be extended for a longer period.

## XXIII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that at 2:30 p.m. November 20 2013, or as soon thereafter as the parties may be heard, the Defendants, and each of them, shall appear before the Honorable Gary Feess, Judge of the United States District Court for the Central District of California, to show cause, if there be any, why a preliminary injunction should not be granted Any declarations, affidavits, points and authorities, or other submissions in support of, or in opposition to, the issuance of such an Order shall be filed with the Court and delivered to the SEC's Los Angeles office and the offices of the Defendants or their attorneys no later than 5:00pm on November 13, 2013. Any reply papers shall be filed with the Court and delivered to opposing counsel no later than 5:00pm on November 18, 2013. Service of all such papers shall be by electronic mail, facsimile, or personal service.

#### XXIV.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Court shall retain jurisdiction over this action for the purpose of implementing and carrying out the terms of all orders and

**GAF** 

decrees which may be entered herein and to entertain any suitable application or motion for additional relief within the jurisdiction of this Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

November 6, 2013

Dated:  $\frac{}{}$ , 2013

HONORABLE GARY FEESS UNITED STATES D. STRICT JUDGE

Presented by: Amy Jane Longo Attorney for Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission

# EXHIBIT 7

Case 2:13-cv-07932-GAF-MRW Document 45 Filed 11/20/13 Page 1 of 13 Page ID #:1110 AMY JANE LONGO, Cal. Bar No. 198304 Email: longoa@sec.gov KAREN MATTESON, Cal. Bar. No. 102103 CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT Email: mattesonk@sec.gov J. CINDY ESON, Cal. Bar. No. 219782 **NOV** 2 0 2013 3 Email: esonic@sec.gov Attorneys for Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission Michele Wein Layne, Regional Director
Lorraine B. Echavarria, Associate Regional Director
John W. Berry, Regional Trial Counsel
5670 Wilshire Boulevard, 11th Floor Los Angeles, California 90036 Telephone: (323) 965-3998 Facsimile: (323) 965-3908 8 9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 10 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 11 WESTERN DIVISION 12 13 Case No. CV 13-07932-GAF (MRWx) SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE 14 COMMISSION, REVISED PROPOSED ORDER OF PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION . 15 Plaintiff. 16 VS. 17 CHRISTOPHER A.T. PEDRAS (aka CHRIS PEDRAS aka ANTONE THOMAS PEDRAS); SYLVESTER M. GRAY II; ALICIA BRYAN; 18 19 MAXUM GOLD BNK HOLDINGS LIMITED: MAXUM GOLD BNK 20 HOLDINGS LLC; FMP MEDICAL SERVICES LIMITED; and FMP 21 MEDICAL SERVICES LLC, 22 Defendants, and 23 COMPTROLLER 2013 LIMITED, 24 Relief Defendant. 25 26 This matter came to be heard upon the application of Plaintiff Securities and 27 Exchange Commission ("SEC") for a Preliminary Injunction ("Application"). Case No. CV 13-07932-GAF (MRWx)

This Court has considered all of the evidence filed by the SEC in support of its Ex Parte Application For Temporary Restraining Order and Order To Show Cause Why a Preliminary Injunction Should Not Be Granted ("TRO") and the SEC's Request to Modify and Extend the October 28, 2013 Temporary Restraining Order and Continue Hearing on the Order to Show Cause Why a Preliminary Injunction Should Not Be Granted, as well as the Declaration of Amy Jane Longo Regarding Failure by Defendants to Oppose Entry of Preliminary Injunction.

Each of the Defendants has been served with the Summons, Complaint, TRO and all papers filed by the SEC in support of its Application for a TRO:

- Defendant Christopher A.T. Pedras was served by email on October 30, 2013, as authorized by this Court's Order dated October 28, 2013 (Dkt. No. 35) and was personally served on November 4, 2013 (Dkt. No. 25);
- Defendant Sylvester M. Gray II was personally served on November 2,
   2013 (Dkt. No. 27);
- Defendant Alicia Bryan was personally served on October 31, 2013
   (Dkt. No. 31);
- Defendant Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited was served by email on October 30, 2013 through email service upon Christopher A.T. Pedras, as authorized by this Court's Order dated October 28, 2013 (Dkt. No. 32) and was served on November 4, 2013 by personal service on its registered agent for service of process (Dkt. No. 37);
- Defendant Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC was served on October 31,
   2013 by personal service on its registered agent for service of process
   (Dkt. No. 29);
- Defendant FMP Medical Services Limited was served by email on
   October 30, 2013 through email service upon Christopher A.T. Pedras,
   as authorized by this Court's Order dated October 28, 2013 (Dkt. No.

- 33) and was served on November 5, 2013 by personal service on its registered agent for service of process (Dkt. No. 36);
- Defendant FMP Medical Services LLC was served on October 31, 2013
   by personal service on its registered agent for service of process (Dkt.
   No. 30); and
- Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 was served by email on October 30, 2013 through email service upon Christopher A.T. Pedras, as authorized by this Court's Order dated October 28, 2013 (Dkt. No. 34) and was served on November 4, 2013 by personal service on its registered agent for service of process (Dkt. No. 26).

In the Amended TRO, issued on November 6, 2013 (Dkt. No. 13), the Court ordered the defendants to file and serve any opposition to entry of a preliminary injunction no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 13, 2013. No opposition to the SEC's Application or any other document has been filed or served by any of the Defendants in this case.

Based upon the evidence filed by the SEC, as set forth below, the Court finds:

- A. This Court has jurisdiction over the parties to, and the subject matter of, this action.
  - B. Good cause exists to believe that:
    - (1) Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and each of them, have engaged in, are engaging in, and are about to engage in transactions, acts, practices and courses of business that constitute violations of Sections 5(a) and 5(c) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. §§ 77e(a), 77e(c));
    - (2) Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk

- Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and each of them, have engaged in, are engaging in, and are about to engage in transactions, acts, practices and courses of business that constitute violations of Section17(a) of the Securities Act (15 U.S.C. § 77q(a)) and Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. § 78j(b)) and Rule 10b-5 thereunder (17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5); and
- (3) Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras and Alicia Bryan, and each of them, have engaged in, are engaging in, and are about to engage in transactions, acts, practices and courses of business that constitute violations of Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. § 780(a)).
- C. Specifically, the uncontroverted evidence submitted by the SEC establishes that Defendants raised at least \$5.6 million from investors in an unregistered fraudulent offering of securities to the general public, including through the conduct of Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras and Alicia Bryan as unregistered broker dealers. The Defendants have not accounted for any of the investor funds they received.
- D. The SEC has demonstrated a probability of success on the merits in this action.
- E. Good cause exists to believe that the Defendants will continue to engage in such violations to the immediate and irreparable loss and damage to investors and to the general public unless they are restrained and enjoined.
- F. The likelihood that the Defendants will continue to violate the above provisions absent entry of a preliminary injunction is further evidenced by Defendants' failure to file or serve, by November 12, 2013, the accounting required by paragraph IX of the Amended TRO.

Accordingly:

I.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the SEC's Application for a Preliminary Injunction is GRANTED.

II.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and affiliates, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are preliminarily restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly:

- A. unless a registration statement is in effect as to a security, making use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or of the mails to sell such security through the use or medium of any prospectus or otherwise;
- B. unless a registration statement is in effect as to a security, carrying or causing to be carried through the mails or in interstate commerce, by any means or instruments of transportation, any such security for the purpose of sale or for delivery after sale; or
- C. making use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or of the mails to offer to sell or offer to buy through the use or medium of any prospectus or otherwise any security, unless a registration statement has been filed with the SEC as to such security, or while the registration statement is the subject of a refusal order or stop order or (prior to the effective date of the registration statement) any public proceeding or examination under Section 8 of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77h;

in violation of Section 5 of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77e.

Ш.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and affiliates, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are preliminarily restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly, in the offer or sale of any securities, by the use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or by use of the mails:

- A. employing any device, scheme or artifice to defraud;
- B. obtaining money or property by means of any untrue statement of a material fact or any omission to state 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. engaging in any transaction, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon the purchaser; in violation of Section 17(a) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77q(a).

IV.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras,
Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum
Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services
LLC and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and
affiliates, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who
receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of
them, be and hereby are preliminarily restrained and enjoined from, directly or
indirectly, in connection with the purchase or sale of any security, by the use of any

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means or instrumentality of interstate commerce, or of the mails, or of any facility of any national securities exchange:

- A. employing any device, scheme or artifice to defraud;
- B. making any untrue statement of a material fact or omitting 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. engaging in any act, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon any person;

in violation of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b), and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5.

V.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, and Alicia Bryan, and their agents, servants, attorneys, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are preliminarily restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly unless they are registered with the SEC in accordance with Section 15(b) of Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 780(b), and in the absence of any applicable exemption, making use of the mails, or any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce to effect any transactions in, or to induce or attempt to induce the purchase or sale of, any security (other than an exempted security or commercial paper, bankers' acceptances, or commercial bills) in the United States, in violation of Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 780(a).

VI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, except as otherwise ordered by this Court,
Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum
Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical
Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and Relief Defendant
Comptroller 2013, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys,

subsidiaries and affiliates, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are preliminarily restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly transferring, assigning, selling, hypothecating, changing, wasting, dissipating, converting, concealing, encumbering, or otherwise disposing of, in any manner, any funds, assets, securities, claims or other real or personal property, including any notes or deeds of trust or other interest in real property, wherever located, of any one of the entity Defendants or Defendant Pedras, or their subsidiaries or affiliates, owned by, controlled by, managed by or in the possession or custody of any of them and from transferring, encumbering dissipating, incurring charges or cash advances on any debit or credit card of any one of the entity Defendants or Defendant Pedras, or their subsidiaries and affiliates.

## VII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, except as otherwise ordered by this Court, the previously ordered freeze placed on all monies and assets (with an allowance for necessary and reasonable living expenses to be granted only upon good cause shown by application to the Court with notice to and an opportunity for the SEC to be heard) in all accounts at any bank (including, without limitation, ANZ (Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited), Bank of New Zealand, Westpac New Zealand Limited, and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.), financial institution or brokerage firm, or Internet or "e-commerce" payment processor, all certificates of deposit, and other funds or assets, held in the name of, for the benefit of, or over which account authority is held by Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, or FMP Medical Services LLC, remains in full force and effect, and includes, but is not limited to, the accounts listed below:

Case 2:13-cv-07932-GAF-MRW Document 45 Filed 11/20/13 Page 9 of 13 Page ID #:1118

Bank N	ame Account Name	Account Number
Wells Far Bank, N.		
Wells Far Bank, N.		
Wells Far Bank, N.		
Wells Far Bank, N.	•	
Wells Far Bank, N.	go Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC	
Wells Far Bank, N.A		
Wells Far	go FMP Medical Services LLC	

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Case 2:13-cv-07932-GAF-MRW Document 45 Filed 11/20/13 Page 10 of 13 Page ID #:1119

Bank Name	Account Name	Account Number
ANZ	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited	
(Australia and	·	
New Zealand	•	
Banking Group		
Limited)		
ANZ	Maxum Gold Bnk PCPT Limited	
(Australia and		
New Zealand		
Banking Group		
Limited)	·	
ANZ	Antone Thomas Pedras	
(Australia and		
New Zealand		
Banking Group		
Limited)		
Bank of New	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited	
Zealand		
Bank of New	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited	
Zealand		
Bank of New Zealand	Maxum Gold Bnk Limited	

Case 2:13-cv-07932-GAF-MRW Document 45 Filed 11/20/13 Page 11 of 13 Page ID #:1120

14.

Bank Name	Account Name	Account Number
Bank of New	Mr. A T Pedras	
Zealand	Associated Business Advisors	
Bank of New	Mr. A T Pedras	
Zealand	Associated Business Advisors	
Westpac New	Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited	<del>-  </del>
Zealand		
Limited		
Westpac New	Comptroller 2013 Limited	
Zealand		
Limited		
Westpac New	Mr. A T. Pedras	
Zealand		
Limited		
Westpac New	Mr. A T. Pedras	
Zealand		
Limited		
Westpac New	FMP Medical Services Limited	
Zealand		
Limited		
Westpac New	FMP Medical Services Limited – Trust	
Zealand	Account	
Limited		

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VIII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, except as otherwise ordered by this Court, Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, subsidiaries and affiliates, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, be and hereby are preliminarily restrained and enjoined from, directly or indirectly: destroying, mutilating, concealing, transferring, altering, or otherwise disposing of, in any manner, any documents, which includes all books, records, computer programs, computer files, computer printouts, contracts, correspondence, memoranda, brochures, or any other documents of any kind in their possession, custody or control, however created, produced, or stored (manually, mechanically, electronically, or otherwise), pertaining in any manner to Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013or their subsidiaries and affiliates.

## IX.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras,
Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold
Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC,
and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 shall, within five days of the issuance of this
Order, prepare and deliver to the SEC a detailed and complete schedule of all of their
personal assets, including all real and personal property exceeding \$5,000 in value, and
all bank, securities, futures and other accounts identified by institution, branch address
and account number. The accountings shall include a description of the source(s) of
all such assets. Such accountings shall be filed with the Court and a copy shall be

delivered to counsel for the SEC in this action at the SEC's Los Angeles Regional Office. Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras, Sylvester M. Gray II, Alicia Bryan, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited, Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings LLC, FMP Medical Services Limited, and FMP Medical Services LLC, and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 shall produce to the SEC's Los Angeles Regional Office, together with the accountings, all books, records and other documents supporting or underlying their accountings.

X.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff SEC may effect service of this Order and any subsequent filings in this action on Defendants Christopher A.T. Pedras by personal service in California or in New Zealand, or by email; and that service on Pedras by email will effectuate service upon Defendants Maxum Gold Bnk Holdings Limited and FMP Medical Services Limited, and Relief Defendant Comptroller 2013 Limited.

XI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Court shall retain jurisdiction over this action for the purpose of implementing and carrying out the terms of all orders and decrees which may be entered herein and to entertain any suitable application or motion for additional relief within the jurisdiction of this Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated:

HONORABLE GARY FEESS L'NITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

## **EXHIBIT 8**

New Zealand Page 1 of 2

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## LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

New Zealand Official Name: New Zealand

LAST UPDATED: HOVEMBER 15, 2013

Party to Hague Service Convention? No Party to Hague Evidence Convention? No Party to Hague Apostille Convention? Yes Party to Inter-American Convention? No Service of Process by Mail? N/A

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Page 2 of 2 New Zealand

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## LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

No Country Specific Information

U.S. Passports &

travel.state.gov

The Department of State does not currently have any country specific information on Tonga regarding judicial assistance. Questions about methods of service, rules of evidence or other matters may be directed to local counsel. The U.S. Embassy maintains a list of attorneys willing to assist U.S. clients at the Embassy and Consulate website

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