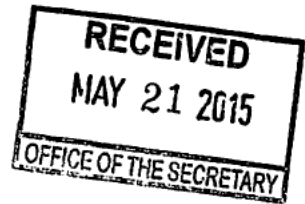


HARD COPY

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**



**ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING
File No. 3-16479**

In the Matter of

**JOSEPH J. ALMAZON
AND
SPARTAN CAPITAL PARTNERS,**

Respondents.

**DIVISION OF ENFORCEMENT'S MOTION
TO DISCONTINUE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING
WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO REINSTATEMENT**

The Division of Enforcement ("Division") respectfully submits this motion pursuant to 17 C.F.R. § 200.30-10(a)(8)¹ to discontinue this administrative proceeding against Joseph J. Almazon ("Almazon") and Spartan Capital Partners ("Spartan," and together, "Respondents") without prejudice to reinstatement. The Division makes this request because, despite diligent efforts, it has been unable to serve the April 8, 2015 Order Instituting Proceedings ("OIP") on either Respondent.

¹ This regulation delegates to the Chief Administrative Law Judge the power "[t]o grant motions of staff counsel to discontinue administrative proceedings as to a particular respondent who has died or cannot be found, or because of a mistake in the identity of a respondent named in the order for proceedings."

Background

On April 8, 2015, the Commission issued the OIP pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”). To date, neither Alamazon, a *pro se* Respondent, nor Spartan, which is wholly-owned and controlled by Alamazon, has acknowledged service of the OIP by the Office of the Secretary. *See* May 20, 2015 Declaration of Karen Willenken at ¶ 4. Separately, as described below, the Division has attempted diligently to serve Alamazon and Spartan Capital Partners, which Alamazon owns and controls, at each of their known and potential physical and other addresses with the OIP by other means.

The Division emailed the OIP to the email address previously provided to the Division by Alamazon as the sole means by which he agreed to be served with pleadings in the related civil enforcement action, SEC v. John A. Mattera, et al., 11-cv-8323 (PKC) (SDNY). Alamazon has not acknowledged service of the OIP by email. The Division also called Alamazon’s last known telephone number and left a voicemail, but Alamazon did not respond. Willenken Decl. at ¶ 5.

In addition, the Division retained a process server to serve Alamazon personally with the OIP at five of his known or suspected past residences and places of business. The process server was unable to locate Alamazon or anyone who was familiar with Alamazon at four of the five addresses. The process server was advised by neighbors that an address at [REDACTED] in Hicksville, NY, which Alamazon had previously testified was his home address, had been vacant and under construction for over six months. Willenken Decl. at ¶ 6.

In his deposition in the civil litigation on May 17, 2013, Alamazon testified that he would sometimes “crash” at his grandparents’ residence in Roslyn, NY, but he declined to provide a specific address. On April 11, 2015, the process server served the OIP at an address in Roslyn Heights, NY, identified in public databases as being owned by possible relatives of Alamazon.

The woman who answered the door at that address identified herself to the process server as Alamazon's grandmother and advised the process server that Alamazon did not reside there and that she did not know how to reach him. The process server nevertheless attempted substitute service by handing her a copy of the papers and sending a copy of the papers to Mr. Alamazon at the Roslyn Heights address. Willenken Decl. at ¶ 7.

Prior Motion Practice

On April 30, 2015, the Division moved for an order adjourning the scheduled May 4, 2015 hearing in this matter, and the setting of a pre-hearing conference to address whether the Division had adequately served the Respondents and to discuss additional steps such as service by publication. By order dated May 1, 2015, the Chief Administrative Law Judge granted the Division's motion to adjourn the hearing, but declined to schedule a pre-hearing conference to address the Division's proposal of alternate service, and ordered that a prehearing conference would only be scheduled "once the Division has filed a declaration showing service on Respondents."

Relief Requested

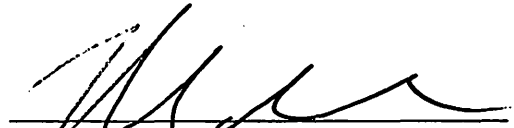
The Division has exhausted all avenues available in an attempt to determine Respondents' whereabouts, and has expended substantial resources in the process. The Division does not believe that additional time and the expenditure of additional resources would assist it in locating the Respondents. Willenken Decl. at ¶ 8. Accordingly, the Division believes that discontinuance of the proceeding, without prejudice to reinstate the proceeding in the event the Division locates the Respondents, is appropriate under the circumstances.

WHEREFORE, the Division respectfully requests that this proceeding be discontinued,
without prejudice to reinstatement.

Dated: May 20, 2015
New York, New York

DIVISION OF ENFORCEMENT

By:



Neal Jacobson (212) 336-0095
Jacobsonn@sec.gov
Karen Willenken (212) 336-0140
Willenkenk@sec.gov
Securities and Exchange Commission
New York Regional Office
Brookfield Pl., 200 Vesey St., Suite 400
New York, NY 10281-1022



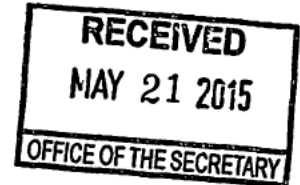
UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
NEW YORK REGIONAL OFFICE
BROOKFIELD PLACE, 200 VESEY STREET, SUITE 400
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10281-1022

WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL LINE
(212) 336-0095

May 20, 2015

BY FAX AND UPS

Brent J. Fields, Secretary
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission
100 F. Street, N.E., Mail Stop 3628
Washington, DC 20549
Fax: (202) 772-9324



Re: Joseph J. Almazon, et al., AP File No. 3-16479

Dear Mr. Fields:

Please find attached the Division's motion to discontinue the above-captioned administrative proceeding without prejudice to reinstatement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neal Jacobson".

Neal Jacobson
Senior Trial Counsel