UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Before the SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

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ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING File No. 3-17716

In the Matter of

ROBERT L. BAKER, JACOB B. HERRERA, MICHAEL D. BOWEN, and TERRANCE A. BALLARD,

Respondents.

RESPONDENT ROBERT L. BAKER'S ANSWER TO ORDER INSTITUTING ADMINISTRATIVE AND CEASE-AND-DESIST PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO SECTION 8A OF THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, SECTIONS 15(b) AND 21C OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, AND SECTION 9(b) OF THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940 AND NOTICE OF HEARING

ANSWER OF RESPONDENT ROBERT L. BAKER

Respondent Robert L. Baker ("Baker" or "Respondent") and files this Answer to the Order Instituting Administrative and Cease-And-Desist Proceedings Pursuant to Section 8A of the Securities Act of 1933, Sections 15(b) and 21C of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and Section 9(b) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 and Notice of hearing (the "Order") as follows:

I. RESPONSES APPLICABLE TO ALL ALLEGATIONS

- A. Baker denies any allegation in the Complaint, explicit or implicit, that Baker participated and substantially assisted in the "Faulkner Scheme" as alleged.
- B. Baker denies that it is "appropriate and in the public interest" to bring this proceeding as it applies to him in Section I of the Order.

II. RESPONSES APPLICABLE TO ALL ALLEGATIONS

- 1. To the extent the allegations in paragraph 1 consist of legal conclusions, no response is necessary or required. To the extent a response is required, Baker denies the allegations set forth against him in paragraph 1. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation as it relates to other Respondents.
- 2. Baker admits that he was not registered with the Commission as a broker or associated with a broker-dealer during the time in question. Baker denies the remaining allegations set forth against him in paragraph 2. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation as it relates to other Respondents.
- 3. Baker admits that at the time of Order he was 54 years old and a resident of Dallas, Texas. Baker admits that he was not registered with the Commission as a broker or associated with a broker-dealer during the time in question. Baker admits he lacks disciplinary history. Baker denies the remaining allegations set forth against him in paragraph 3.
- 4. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation in paragraph 4.
- 5. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation in paragraph 5.
- 6. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation in paragraph 6.
- 7. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation in paragraph 7.
- 8. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation in paragraph 8.

- 9. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation in paragraph 9.
- 10. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation in paragraph 10.
- 11. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation in paragraph 11.
- 12. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation in paragraph 12.
- 13. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation in paragraph 13.
- 14. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation set forth in the first sentence of paragraph 14. Baker denies the remaining allegations set forth against him in paragraph 14. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegation as it relates to other Respondents in paragraph 14.
- 15. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations set forth in paragraph 15.
- 16. Baker denies he deceived or made misrepresentations to investors. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation set forth in the remainder of paragraph 16.
- 17. Baker denies he sold working interest in oil and gas prospects for BOG, Crude and Patriot and royalty interests in oil and gas prospects for BRC, CR, and PR. Baker denies he was regularly and intimately involved at key points in the chain of distribution. Baker lacks

knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation set forth in the remainder of paragraph 17.

- 18. Baker denies he was a primary salesperson, offered the investment, or actively participated in the chain of distribution. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation set forth in the remainder of paragraph 18.
- 19. Baker denies the allegations contained in paragraph 19 as it relates to him. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation set forth in the remainder of paragraph 19.
- 20. Baker denies he performed sales-related duties, but admits to receiving a salary of \$800/month. Baker denies the remaining allegations set forth in paragraph 20 as it relates to him. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation set forth in the remainder of paragraph 20.
- 21. Baker admits he received approximately \$2,912.514 from 2011-2016, but denies it was transaction-based compensation. Baker denies the remaining allegations set forth in paragraph 21 as it relates to him. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remainder of the allegations set forth in the remainder of paragraph 21.
- 22. Baker admits he was not registered with the Commission as a broker or associated with a registered broker-dealer during the time in question. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remainder of the allegations set forth in the remainder of paragraph 22.

- 23. Baker denies he sold working interests. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remainder of the allegations set forth in the remainder of paragraph 23.
- 24. To the extent the allegations in paragraph 24 consist of legal conclusions, no response is necessary or required. To the extent a response is required, Baker denies the allegations in paragraph 24 as it relates to him. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remainder of the allegations set forth in the remainder of paragraph 24.
- 25. To the extent the allegations in paragraph 25 consist of legal conclusions, no response is necessary or required. To the extent a response is required, Baker denies the allegations in paragraph 25 as it relates to him. Baker lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remainder of the allegations set forth in the remainder of paragraph 25.
- 26. To the extent the allegations in Sections III. and IV. of the Order consist of legal conclusions, no response is necessary or required. To the extent a response is required, Baker denies that it is necessary to institute cease-and-desist proceedings in this matter, to the extent the proceedings pertain to Baker.
 - 27. Baker's Answer is filed in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice.
 - 28. To the extent any allegation in the Order is not admitted herein, it is denied.

III. AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

(Failure to State a Cause of Action)

The allegations contained within the Order for every asserted securities violation against Baker fail to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

(Statute of Limitations)

One or more of the causes of action pleaded in the Order are barred by the applicable statute of limitations.

(Compliance with Applicable Statutes or Regulations)

At all times, Baker reasonably followed or adhered to all compliance and supervisory procedures as well as applicable rules.

IV. RESERVATION

Baker reserves the right to amend this Answer and assert any additional affirmative or special defenses that may exist, as they become known.

V. CONCLUSION

Baker requests that the Securities and Exchange Commission's request for public administrative proceedings be denied and dismiss the allegations contained within the Order in their entirety as they pertain to Baker.

SIGNED this 11th day of April, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jeff Ansley

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COUNSEL FOR RESPONDENT ROBERT L. BAKER

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to Rule 150 of the Commission's Rules of Practice, I hereby certify that on April 11, 2017, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was sent in the manner indicated below upon the following:

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Honorable Jason S. Patil
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Securities and Exchange Commission
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Via e-mail to ali@sec.gov (courtesy copy)

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/s/ Greg Kelminson
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