

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Release No. 98754 / November 30, 2023

Admin. Proc. File no. 3-21211

In the Matter of

RICHARD GREGORY TILFORD

RESPONSE TO SECOND ORDER DIRECTING RESPONDENT TO SHOW CAUSE

COMES NOW, Respondent Richard Gregory (“Respondent”), by and through his undersigned counsel, provides an explanation and basis for his failure to respond to the order issuing administrative proceedings (“OIF”) and respectfully requests thirty (30) additional days to present an offer of settlement to the Security and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). In support of this motion, Defendant respectfully shows as follows:

On June 21, 2022, Respondent was sentenced to 40 years in prison following a 1-day bench trial in Collin County, Texas, where Respondent made an uninformed decision to represent himself *pro se*. Respondent was not aware of his constitutional right to appeal his case and is now seeking relief through a writ of habeas corpus, through which he intends to assert violation of various constitution rights primarily related to due process.

Respondent is currently serving his jail sentence in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (“TDJC”), Powledge Unit. He has received correspondence from the SEC, including (1) an order instituting administrative proceedings (“OIP”) dated October 19, 2022; (2) an order to answer the OIP, dated March 2, 2023; (3) an order directing Respondent to show cause dated June 23, 2023; and (4) a second order directing Respondent to show cause dated October 16, 2023. This, finally, is Respondent’s formal response to the second order to show cause.

Respondent’s failure to respond until now was not intentional nor was it an effort to subvert the procedures set forth in Section 15(b). Rather, it was a result of his isolation, inability to effectively communicate from prison, and his general despair. Respondent has just begun to serve his sentence of 40 years and does not intend to contest any sanctions that the SEC seeks to impose. Indeed, his focus and goals have changed significantly.

Turning to the two issues set forth in the OIP, Respondent expects to submit an offer to settle that will expedite this process saving the government significant time and resources. In addition to his lengthy prison sentence, Respondent's financial liabilities far exceed his assets and net value. In short, Respondent owes close to \$30,000.00 in credit card debt which his family currently pays in small increments every month. He has no assets or anything of any value.

In conclusion, Respondent is prepared to accept any non-monetary equitable sanctions that the SEC sees fit to impose. All he asks is an additional 30 days so that an in-person visit can be scheduled with his attorney to effect closure in this matter. There is an equitable solution here that will prevent any waste of time or resources which a public hearing would certainly invite.

In conclusion, due to his incarceration, Respondent has been unable effectively communicate with counsel or research how to effectively respond. He has indicated his intent to settle this matter and now requests leave to present an offer of settlement.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Jeffery King

Jeffery C. King

SBN: 24038039

Email: jeff@jeffkinglaw.com

LAW OFFICE OF JEFFERY KING, PLLC

4925 Greenville Ave. Suite 200

Dallas, TX 75206

Telephone: 858.245.6245

Facsimile: 469.399.7002

Attorney for Respondent