

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

CASE NO. 20-CV-81205-RAR

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE
COMMISSION,**

Plaintiff,

v.

**COMPLETE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS
GROUP, INC. d/b/a PAR FUNDING, et al.,**

Defendants.

**JUDGMENT OF PERMANENT INJUNCTION AND OTHER RELIEF
AGAINST DEFENDANT JOSEPH W. LAFORTE**

This cause comes before the Court upon Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission's Unopposed Motion for a Judgment of Permanent Injunction and Other Relief Against Defendant Joseph W. LaForte [ECF No. 1003] ("Motion"). By the Consent of Joseph W. LaForte to Judgment of Permanent Injunction and Other Relief [ECF No. 1003-2] ("Consent"), without admitting or denying the allegations of the Amended Complaint (except that LaForte admits the jurisdiction of this Court over him and over the subject matter of this action and as otherwise set forth in Section V below), LaForte has entered a general appearance, consented to entry of this Judgment, waived findings of fact and conclusions of law, and waived any right to appeal from this Judgment. The Court finds that good cause exists for entry of the Judgment. Accordingly, the Commission's Motion is **GRANTED**. The Court further orders as follows:

I.

PERMANENT INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

A. Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 (“Securities Act”)

IT IS ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that LaForte is permanently restrained and enjoined from violating Section 17(a) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. § 77q(a)] in the offer or sale of any security by the use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or by use of the mails, directly or indirectly:

- (a) to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud;
- (b) to obtain money or property by means of any untrue statement of a material fact or any omission of 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) to engage in any transaction, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon the purchaser

by, directly or indirectly (i) creating a false appearance or otherwise deceiving any person, or (ii) disseminating false or misleading documents, materials, or information or making, either orally or in writing, any false or misleading statement in any communication with any investor or prospective investor, about: (A) any investment in securities; (B) the prospects for success of any product or company; (C) the use of investor funds; (D) the safety of any securities investment; (E) the use of investor funds or investment proceeds; (F) orders issued by state or federal enforcement agencies; (G) the financial status of an issuer; or (H) the management of an issuer.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that, as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(2), the foregoing paragraph also binds the following who receive actual

notice of this Judgment: (a) LaForte's officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (b) other persons in active concert or participation with LaForte or with anyone described in (a).

B. Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") and Rule 10b-5

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that LaForte is permanently restrained and enjoined from violating, directly or indirectly, Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78j(b)] and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder [17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5], by using any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce, or of the mails, or of any facility of any national securities exchange, in connection with the purchase or sale of any security:

- (a) to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud;
- (b) to make any untrue statement of a material fact or to omit 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) to engage in any act, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon any person,

by, directly or indirectly (i) creating a false appearance or otherwise deceiving any person, or (ii) disseminating false or misleading documents, materials, or information or making, either orally or in writing, any false or misleading statement in any communication with any investor or prospective investor, about: (A) any investment in securities; (B) the prospects for success of any product or company; (C) the use of investor funds; (D) the safety of any securities investment; (E) the use of investor funds or investment proceeds; (F) orders issued by state or federal enforcement agencies; (G) the financial status of an issuer; or (H) the management of an issuer.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that, as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(2), the foregoing paragraph also binds the following who receive actual

notice of this Judgment by personal service or otherwise: (a) LaForte's officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (b) other persons in active concert or participation with LaForte or with anyone described in (a).

C. Section 5 of the Securities Act

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that LaForte is permanently restrained and enjoined from violating Section 5 of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. § 77e] by, 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 Commission 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].

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that, as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(2), the foregoing paragraph also binds the following who receive actual notice of this Judgment by personal service or otherwise: (a) LaForte's officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (b) other persons in active concert or participation with LaForte or with anyone described in (a).

II.

MONETARY RELIEF

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that LaForte shall pay disgorgement of ill-gotten gains, prejudgment interest on disgorgement, and a civil penalty 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)]. The Court shall determine the amounts of the disgorgement and civil penalty upon motion of the Commission. Prejudgment interest on disgorgement shall be calculated from August 1, 2020, based on the rate of interest used by the Internal Revenue Service for the underpayment of federal income tax as set forth in 26 U.S.C. § 6621(a)(2). In connection with the Commission's motion for disgorgement or a civil penalty, and at any hearing held on such a motion: (i) LaForte will be precluded from arguing that he did not violate the federal securities laws as alleged in the Amended Complaint; (ii) LaForte may not challenge the validity of the Consent or this Judgment; (iii) solely for the purposes of such motion, the allegations of the Amended Complaint shall be accepted as and deemed true by the Court; and (iv) the Court may determine the issues raised in the motion on the basis of affidavits, declarations, excerpts of sworn deposition or investigative testimony, and documentary evidence, without regard to the standards for summary judgment contained in Rule 56(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. In connection with the Commission's motion for disgorgement and a civil penalty, the parties may take discovery, including discovery from appropriate non-parties.

III.

INCORPORATION OF CONSENT

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Consent filed herewith is incorporated herein with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein, and LaForte shall comply with all of the undertakings and agreements set forth therein.

IV.

RETENTION OF JURISDICTION

This Court shall retain jurisdiction over this matter and LaForte in order to implement and carry out the terms of all Orders and Decrees that may be entered and/or to entertain any suitable application or motion for additional relief within the jurisdiction of this Court, and will order other relief that this Court deems appropriate under the circumstances.

V.

BANKRUPTCY NONDISCHARGEABILITY


IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that, solely for purposes of exceptions to discharge set forth in Section 523 of the Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. § 523, the allegations in the Complaint are true and admitted by LaForte, and further, any debt for disgorgement, prejudgment interest, or civil penalty or other amounts due by LaForte under this Judgment or any other judgment, order, consent order, decree, or settlement agreement entered in connection with this proceeding, is a debt for the violation by LaForte of the federal securities laws or any regulation or order issued under such laws, as set forth in Section 523(a)(19) of the Bankruptcy Code [11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(19)].

VI.

RULE 54(b) CERTIFICATION

There being no just reason for delay, pursuant to Rule 54(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Clerk is ordered to enter this Judgment forthwith and without further notice.

DONE and ORDERED in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, this 24th day of November, 2021.



RODOLFO A. RUIZ II
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Copies to: Counsel of Record