

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Release No. 73064 / September 10, 2014

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING
File No. 3-16093

In the Matter of

Raul S. McQuivey,

Respondent.

**ORDER INSTITUTING CEASE-AND-
DESIST PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO
SECTION 21C OF THE SECURITIES
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, MAKING
FINDINGS, AND IMPOSING A CEASE-
AND-DESIST ORDER AND CIVIL
PENALTY**

I.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) deems it appropriate that cease-and-desist proceedings be, and hereby are, instituted pursuant to Section 21C of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”), against Raul S. McQuivey (“McQuivey” or “Respondent”).

II.

In anticipation of the institution of these proceedings, Respondent has submitted an Offer of Settlement (the “Offer”) which the Commission has determined to accept. Solely for the purpose of these proceedings and any other proceedings brought by or on behalf of the Commission, or to which the Commission is a party, and without admitting or denying the findings herein, except as to the Commission’s jurisdiction over Respondent and the subject matter of these proceedings, which are admitted, Respondent consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Cease-and-Desist Proceedings Pursuant to Section 21C of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Making Findings, and Imposing a Cease-and-Desist Order and Civil Penalty (“Order”), as set forth below.

III.

On the basis of this Order and Respondent's Offer, the Commission finds¹ that:

Summary

1. These proceedings arise out of violations of the beneficial ownership reporting requirements of the federal securities laws.
2. Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act and the rules promulgated thereunder require officers and directors of a company with a registered class of equity securities, and any beneficial owners of greater than 10% of such class, to file certain reports of securities holdings and transactions. Section 16(a) was motivated by a belief that "the most potent weapon against the abuse of inside information is full and prompt publicity" and by a desire "to give investors an idea of the purchases and sales by insiders which may in turn indicate their private opinion as to prospects of the company." H.R. Rep. 73-1383, at 13, 24 (1934). Reflecting this informational purpose, the obligation to file applies irrespective of profits or the filer's reasons for engaging in the transactions. The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and Commission implementing regulations accelerated the reporting deadline for most transactions to two business days and mandated that all reports be filed electronically on EDGAR and posted on the company's website to facilitate rapid dissemination to the public.
3. Section 13(g) of the Exchange Act and the rules promulgated thereunder generally require any person or group who is directly or indirectly the beneficial owner of more than 5% of a Section 12 registered equity security as of the end of a calendar year to file a statement with the Commission disclosing certain information relating to such beneficial ownership. The duty to file is not dependent on any intention by the stockholder, but on a mechanical 5% ownership test.
4. While subject to the reporting requirements of Section 16(a) as an officer and director of Sutron Corporation ("Sutron") and as a greater than 10% beneficial owner of Sutron's registered common stock, Respondent violated Section 16(a) on multiple occasions by failing to timely file reports of holdings and transactions in Sutron's securities. Respondent also violated Section 13(g) on multiple occasions by failing to timely file required amendments to the Schedule 13G Respondent filed with respect to his beneficial ownership in Sutron.

Respondent

5. McQuivey, age 75, has been the President, Chief Executive Officer, and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Sutron since 1989 and has been an executive officer, director and greater than 10% beneficial owner of Sutron's common stock since it was registered with the

¹ The findings herein are made pursuant to Respondent's Offer of Settlement and are not binding on any other person or entity in this or any other proceeding.

Commission under Section 12 of the Exchange Act in 1984. At all relevant times, Respondent is and has been subject to Sections 13(g) and 16(a) of the Exchange Act.

Issuer

6. Sutron is a Virginia corporation with its principal place of business in Virginia. Sutron's common stock is and has been at all relevant times registered with the Commission under Section 12 of the Exchange Act and trades on the NASDAQ stock market (ticker: STRN).

Applicable Legal Framework

7. Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act and the rules promulgated thereunder apply to every person who is the beneficial owner of more than 10% of any class of any equity security registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act, and any officer or director of the issuer of any such security (collectively, "insiders").

8. Pursuant to Section 16(a) and Rule 16a-3, insiders are required to file initial statements of holdings on Form 3 and keep this information current by reporting transactions on Forms 4 and 5. Specifically, within 10 days after becoming an insider, or on or before the effective date of the Section 12 registration of the class of equity security, an insider must file a Form 3 report disclosing his or her beneficial ownership of all securities of the issuer. To keep this information current, insiders must file Form 4 reports disclosing transactions resulting in a change in beneficial ownership within two business days following the execution date of the transaction, except for limited types of transactions eligible for deferred reporting. Transactions required to be reported on Form 4 include purchases and sales of securities, exercises and conversions of derivative securities, and grants or awards of securities from the issuer. In addition, insiders are required to file an annual statement on Form 5 within 45 days after the issuer's fiscal year-end to report any transactions or holdings that should have been, but were not, reported on Form 3 or 4 during the issuer's most recent fiscal year and any transactions eligible for deferred reporting (unless the corporate insider has previously reported all such transactions).

9. Exchange Act Rule 16a-1(f) defines the term "officer" to include an issuer's president, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer (or, if there is no such accounting officer, the controller), any vice-president of the issuer in charge of a principal business unit, division or function, and any other officer who performs a policy-making function.

10. Although the Commission has encouraged the practice of many issuers to "help their [officers and directors] or submit the [] filings on their behalf . . . [in order] to facilitate accurate and

timely filing,” Section 16 places the responsibility to report changes in securities ownership on insiders.²

11. Under Section 13(g) of the Exchange Act and the operation of Rule 13d-1(d), any person who, as of the end of a calendar year, is directly or indirectly the beneficial owner of more than 5% of any equity security of a class registered under Section 12 of the Exchange Act, and who has not made an acquisition subject to Section 13(d), must publicly file with the Commission a disclosure statement containing the information specified by Schedule 13G within 45 days after the end of the calendar year in which the obligation arises. Exchange Act Rule 13d-2(b) requires that a person filing a Schedule 13G pursuant to Rule 13d-1(d) must file an annual amendment within 45 days after the end of each calendar year if there are any changes in the information reported in the previous filing on that Schedule, unless certain limited exceptions apply.

12. There is no state of mind requirement for violations of Sections 16(a) and 13(g) and the rules thereunder.³ The failure to timely file a required report, even if inadvertent, constitutes a violation.⁴

² Mandated Electronic Filing and Website Posting for Forms 3, 4 and 5, SEC Release No. 34-47809 (May 7, 2003).

³ See Lexington Resources Inc., et al., 96 SEC Docket 229, 2009 WL 1684743, at *17-18 (June 5, 2009) (“A finding of scienter is not required to demonstrate a violation of either [Section 13(d) or 16(a)]”); Robert G. Weeks, et al., 76 SEC Docket 2609, 2002 WL 169185, at *50 (Feb. 2, 2002) (“No showing of scienter is required to prove violations of these reporting provisions”); see also SEC v. Savoy Indus., Inc., 587 F.2d 1149, 1167 (D.C. Cir. 1978) (“Indeed, the plain language of section 13(d)(1) gives no hint that intentional conduct need be found, but rather, appears to place a simple and affirmative duty of reporting on certain persons. The legislative history confirms that Congress was concerned with providing disclosure to investors, and not merely with protecting them from fraudulent conduct.”).

⁴ Cf. Oppenheimer & Co., Inc., 47 SEC 286, 1980 WL 26901, at *1-2 (May 19, 1980) (“We have previously held that the failure to make a required report, even though inadvertent, constitutes a willful violation.”); see generally SEC Release No. 34-47809 (noting that an issuer’s eligibility for temporary relief from disclosing Forms 4 filed one business day late by its insiders “does not change the fact that any Form 3, 4 or 5 filed later than the applicable due date violates Section 16(a)”) (emphasis added); Herbert Moskowitz, 77 SEC Docket 446, 2002 WL 434524, at *7 (Mar. 21, 2002) (“evidence of both motive for non-disclosure and actual market impact ... is irrelevant” to whether violations of Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act and Rules 13d-1 and 13d-2 thereunder occurred).

Respondent Failed to File Required Section 16(a) Reports on a Timely Basis

13. As an executive officer and director of Sutron and a greater than 10% beneficial owner of Sutron’s common stock, Respondent is and has been since 1984 subject to the reporting requirements of Exchange Act Section 16(a).

14. Respondent failed to file since 1984 all Section 16(a) reports with the Commission for his reportable holdings and transactions in Sutron’s common stock until after the Commission’s enforcement staff contacted him regarding his failure to file. Respondent filed 18 Forms 4 and 11 Forms 5 on May 20, 2014 to report his previously unreported transactions dating back to 2002. These transactions primarily consist of option grants, option exercises, and gifts of common stock, and include transactions executed on the following dates:

<u>Form Type</u>	<u>Date of Trans.</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Date Filed</u>
5	12/23/2010	2/14/2011	5/20/2014
5	12/22/2011	2/14/2012	5/20/2014
4	5/9/2012	5/11/2012	5/20/2014
4	8/6/2012	8/8/2012	5/20/2014
5	12/21/2012	2/14/2013	5/20/2014
5	12/27/2013	2/14/2014	5/20/2014

15. As a result of the conduct described above, Respondent violated Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act and Rule 16a-3 thereunder.

Respondent Failed to Timely File Schedule 13G Amendments

16. Respondent has been subject to the reporting requirements of Exchange Act Section 13(g) and Rules 13d-1(d) and 13d-2(b) since December 31, 1984 as a beneficial owner of more than 5% of Sutron’s common stock. Respondent filed an initial Schedule 13G statement in 1984 and an amendment in 1985. Respondent did not file any subsequent amendments to his Schedule 13G until after the Commission’s enforcement staff contacted him regarding his failure to file.

17. Respondent was required to file annual amendments to his Schedule 13G to reflect any changes to the information previously reported. On May 20 and 30, 2014, Respondent filed 30 amendments to Schedule 13G. Respondent’s failure to file required annual amendments to his Schedule 13G, included:

- an annual amendment due by February 14, 2011 due to a decrease in the number of shares he beneficially owned during 2010;

- an annual amendment due by February 14, 2012 due to a decrease in the number of shares he beneficially owned as of December 31, 2011;
- an annual amendment due by February 14, 2013 due to a decrease in the number of shares he beneficially owned as of December 31, 2012; and
- an annual amendment due by February 14, 2014 due to a decrease in the number of shares he beneficially owned as of December 31, 2013.

18. As a result of the conduct described above, Respondent violated Section 13(g) of the Exchange Act and Rule 13d-2 thereunder.

Respondent's Remedial Efforts

19. In determining to accept Respondent's Offer, the Commission considered certain remedial acts undertaken by Respondent and cooperation afforded to Commission staff.

IV.

In view of the foregoing, the Commission deems it appropriate to impose the sanctions agreed to in Respondent McQuivey's Offer.

Accordingly, pursuant to Sections 21B and 21C of the Exchange Act, it is hereby ORDERED that:

A. Respondent cease and desist from committing or causing any violations and any future violations of Sections 13(g) and 16(a) of the Exchange Act and Rules 13d-2 and 16a-3 promulgated thereunder.

B. Respondent shall, within 14 days of the entry of this Order, pay a civil money penalty in the amount of \$60,000 to the Securities and Exchange Commission, for transmission to the United States Treasury. If timely payment is not made, additional interest shall accrue pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3717. Payment must be made in one of the following ways:

- (1) Respondent may transmit payment electronically to the Commission, which will provide detailed ACH transfer/Fedwire instructions upon request;
- (2) Respondent may make direct payment from a bank account via Pay.gov through the SEC website at <http://www.sec.gov/about/offices/ofm.htm>; or
- (3) Respondent may pay by certified check, bank cashier's check, or United States postal money order, made payable to the Securities and Exchange Commission and hand-delivered or mailed to:

Enterprise Services Center
Accounts Receivable Branch
HQ Bldg., Room 181, AMZ-341
6500 South MacArthur Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73169

Payments by check or money order must be accompanied by a cover letter identifying Raul S. McQuivey as a Respondent in these proceedings, and the file number of these proceedings; a copy of the cover letter and check or money order must be sent to Timothy Casey, Assistant Regional Director, Division of Enforcement, Securities and Exchange Commission, 200 Vesey Street, New York, NY 10281.

By the Commission.

Jill M. Peterson
Assistant Secretary