

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Release No. 78999 / September 29, 2016

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING
File No. 3-17602

In the Matter of

JASON COPE,

Respondent.

ORDER INSTITUTING
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS
PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(b) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934,
MAKING FINDINGS, AND IMPOSING
REMEDIAL SANCTIONS

I.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) deems it appropriate and in the public interest that public administrative proceedings be, and hereby are, instituted pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”) against Jason Cope (“Respondent” or “Cope”).

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, Respondent admits the Commission’s jurisdiction over him and the subject matter of these proceedings, and the findings contained in paragraphs III.2 and III.4 below, and consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Making Findings, and Imposing Remedial Sanctions (“Order”), as set forth below.

III.

On the basis of this Order and Respondent’s Offer, the Commission finds that:

1. Between in or about December 2010 and November 2011, Cope defrauded investors in Casablanca Mining Ltd. (“Casablanca”), an issuer with common stock registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Exchange Act that was subject to Exchange Act reporting obligations pursuant

to Section 13(a). Among other things, Cope received transaction-based compensation in the form of undisclosed commissions from Casablanca's principal, Izak Zirk de Maison (f/k/a Izak Zirk Engelbrecht) ("Engelbrecht"), to solicit investments in Casablanca's securities. Cope did so without being registered with the Commission as a broker or dealer. Cope, 43 years old, is a resident of Highland Heights, Ohio.

Respondent participated in an offering of Casablanca stock, which was a penny stock.

2. On December 17, 2015, a final judgment was entered by consent against Respondent, permanently enjoining him from future violations of Sections 5 and 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, and Sections 9(a), 10(b), and 15(a) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder in the civil action entitled Securities and Exchange Commission v. Jason Cope et al., Civil Action Number 14 Civ. 7575, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

3. The Commission's Amended Complaint alleged that Respondent defrauded investors by, inter alia, accepting undisclosed commissions from Engelbrecht to solicit investors to buy Casablanca securities. The Amended Complaint also alleged that Respondent sold unregistered securities and solicited investors to purchase Casablanca securities without being registered with the Commission as a broker or dealer.

4. On October 23, 2015, Respondent pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit securities fraud, 18 U.S.C. § 1348, and wire fraud, 18 U.S.C. § 1343, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1349; one count of securities fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1348; one count of securities fraud in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b), 78ff, and 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5; and four counts of wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343 before the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, in United States v. Jason M. Cope, Crim. Information No. 1:15-cr-329.

5. The counts of the criminal information to which Respondent pled guilty alleged, inter alia, that Respondent defrauded investors and obtained money and property by means of materially false and misleading statements, and that he engaged in a scheme to defraud by transmitting and causing others to transmit funds from accounts in the Northern District of Ohio to accounts controlled by Engelbrecht in California.

IV.

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

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED pursuant to Section 15(b)(6) of the Exchange Act, that Respondent Cope be, and hereby is barred from association with any broker, dealer, investment adviser, municipal securities dealer, municipal advisor, transfer agent, or nationally recognized statistical rating organization; and

Pursuant to Section 15(b)(6) of the Exchange Act Respondent Cope be, and hereby is barred from participating in any offering of a penny stock, including: acting as a promoter, finder, consultant, agent or other person who engages in activities with a broker, dealer or issuer for purposes of the issuance or trading in any penny stock, or inducing or attempting to induce the purchase or sale of any penny stock.

Any reapplication for association by the Respondent will be subject to the applicable laws and regulations governing the reentry process, and reentry may be conditioned upon a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the satisfaction of any or all of the following: (a) any disgorgement ordered against the Respondent, whether or not the Commission has fully or partially waived payment of such disgorgement; (b) any arbitration award related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order; (c) any self-regulatory organization arbitration award to a customer, whether or not related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order; and (d) any restitution order by a self-regulatory organization, whether or not related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order.

By the Commission.

Brent J. Fields
Secretary