

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Release No. 80889/ June 8, 2017

INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT OF 1940

Release No. 4713/ June 8, 2017

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING

File No. 3-17948

In the Matter of

ABIDA KHAN,

Respondent.

**ORDER MAKING FINDINGS AND
IMPOSING REMEDIAL SANCTIONS
PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(b) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
AND SECTION 203(f) OF THE
INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT OF 1940**

I.

On April 27, 2017, the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) instituted public administrative proceedings pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”) and Section 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (“Advisers Act”) against Abida Khan (“Khan” or “Respondent”).

II.

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 her and the subject matter of these proceedings, and the findings contained in paragraph III.2 below, and consents to the entry of this Order Making Findings and Imposing Remedial Sanctions Pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Section 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (“Order”), as set forth below.

III.

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

A. RESPONDENT

1. Khan, aka Sheik Firdosh Khan, age 53, is a resident of Pasadena, California. Khan was an associated person of Ameritas Investment Corp., a dually registered investment adviser and broker-dealer, between May 2002 and December 2013.

B. RESPONDENT'S CRIMINAL CONVICTION

2. On March 22, 2017, a jury returned a verdict finding Khan guilty of violations of Title 15, United States Code, Section 78j(b); and Title 18, United States Code, Section 371, 1343, 1349, and 1621. The indictment charged, *inter alia*, that Khan committed securities and investment adviser fraud by, among other things, falsely telling prospective investors that their investments in private offerings of VGTL would benefit from prospective reverse-mergers between VGTL and private companies even though no merger would ever be consummated, scheming to control and manipulate the publicly traded price of VGTL stock to inflate the price and increase the trading volume of VGTL stock, and scheming to induce investors to invest in private shares of VGTL through false and misleading statements.

IV.

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

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED pursuant to Section 15(b)(6) of the Exchange Act, and Section 203(f) of the Advisers Act, that Respondent 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.

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.

For the Commission, by its Secretary, pursuant to delegated authority.

Brent J. Fields
Secretary