

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Release No. 81793 / October 2, 2017

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING
File No. 3-18242

In the Matter of

MARTIN T. CANTU,

Respondent.

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**ORDER OF FORTHWITH SUSPENSION
PURSUANT TO RULE 102(e)(2) OF THE
COMMISSION'S RULES OF PRACTICE**

I.

The Securities and Exchange Commission deems it appropriate to issue an order of forthwith suspension of Martin T. Cantu pursuant to Rule 102(e)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice [17 C.F.R. § 201.102(e)(2)].¹

II.

The Commission finds that:

1. Cantu was an attorney admitted to practice law in the state of Texas.

2. In September 2009, the Commission sued Cantu and others in *SEC v. ConnectAJet.com, Inc. et al.*, Case No. 3:09-cv-01742-B (N.D. Tex.). The Commission alleged that Cantu participated in the scheme to "pump and dump" ConnectAJet stock and issued several false press releases and advertisements to further the scheme. On July 23, 2010, the Commission obtained a judgment against Cantu that (a) enjoined him from further violations of the antifraud and registration provisions of federal securities law, (b) permanently barred him from serving as an officer and director of a public company, (c) permanently barred him from participating in an offering of penny stock, (d) required him to pay \$632,327 in disgorgement and prejudgment interest, and (e) required him to pay a civil penalty of \$260,000.

¹ Rule 102(e)(2) provides in pertinent part, that "[a]ny attorney who has been suspended or disbarred by a court of the United States or any State . . . or any person who has been convicted of a felony . . . shall be forthwith suspended from appearing or practicing before the Commission."

3. On September 11, 2013, an indictment was filed against Cantu in a criminal action titled *United States v. Martin Cantu*, No. 13-cr-347 (N.D. Texas). On December 16, 2015, Cantu was found guilty of one count of conspiracy to commit securities fraud and one count of securities fraud and aiding and abetting. He was sentenced to 35 months in prison and one year of supervised release, and ordered to pay restitution of \$423,938.66, joint and several with a codefendant, and a criminal monetary penalty of \$200.00.

4. Based on his criminal conviction, Cantu was disbarred by Texas on August 1, 2016.

III.

In view of the foregoing, the Commission finds that Cantu has been (1) convicted of a felony and (2) disbarred from the practice of law by Texas, both within the meaning of Rule 102(e)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

Accordingly, it is ORDERED, that Martin T. Cantu is forthwith suspended from appearing or practicing before the Commission pursuant to Rule 102(e)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

By the Commission.

Brent J. Fields
Secretary