## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Before the SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

# SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 Release No. 82668 / February 8, 2018

## INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT OF 1940 Release No. 4855 / February 8, 2018

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING File No. 3-18364

In the Matter of

VICTOR M. DANDRIDGE, III,

**Respondent.** 

# ORDER INSTITUTING ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(b) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 AND SECTION 203(f) OF THE INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT OF 1940, 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") and Section 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 ("Advisers Act") against V ictor M. Dandridge, III ("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, Respondent admits the Commission's jurisdiction over him and the subject matter of these proceedings, and the findings contained in paragraph III.2 below, and consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Section 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, 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. Dandridge, age 53, is a resident of Charlottesville, VA. From approximately January 2012 through July 2016, Dandridge was a registered representative and investment adviser representative associated with Thompson Davis & Co., Inc.. ("Thompson Davis"), a broker-dealer and investment adviser registered with the Commission. At the time of his termination, he was Thompson Davis's Director of Investment Management.

2. On July 19, 2017, Dandridge pleaded guilty two counts of wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343 and one count of bank fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1344 before the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, in <u>United States v. Victor M. Dandridge</u>, <u>III</u>, Case No. 3:17-cr-00083-HEH. On November 9, 2017, Dandridge was sentenced to 84 months in prison, and ordered to pay full restitution.

3. The allegations to which Dandridge pleaded guilty included, among other things, that from January 2006 through April 2016, Dandridge misappropriated at least \$3,193,793 from an investment advisory client. Dandridge repeatedly instructed this client to authorize wire transfers from her accounts to accounts under Dandridge's control. Dandridge then used much of this client's money to prop up his other failing businesses.

#### IV.

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