# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Before the SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT OF 1940 Release No. 3923 / September 17, 2014

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING File No. 3-16134

In the Matter of

JOHN ALLAN RUSSELL,

Respondent.

ORDER INSTITUTING ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO SECTION 203(f) OF THE INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT OF 1940, AND NOTICE OF HEARING

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 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 ("Advisers Act") against John Allan Russell ("Russell" or "Respondent").

II.

After an investigation, the Division of Enforcement alleges that:

## A. <u>RESPONDENT</u>

From September 2007 to January 2010, Russell was associated with an investment adviser that was registered with the Commission. Russell, age 50, is a resident of Aurora, Colorado.

## B. RESPONDENT'S CRIMINAL CONVICTION

1. On July 5, 2013, Russell pled guilty to one count of securities fraud in violation of Colo. Rev. Stat. § 11-51-501(1)(b), a class three felony, before the District Court, City and County of Denver, Colorado, in <a href="People v. John Allan Russell">People v. John Allan Russell</a>, No. 2009CR06137. On August 19, 2013, a judgment in the criminal case was entered against Russell. Russell was sentenced to five years of probation and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$441,501.53.

- 2. The securities fraud count to which Russell pled guilty alleged that between August 2006 and March 2008, Russell, in connection with the offer, sale, or purchase of any security, directly or indirectly, unlawfully, feloniously, and willfully made an untrue statement of material fact or omitted to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.
- 3. At the time of the misconduct for which he was convicted, Russell was associated with an investment adviser registered with the Commission.

### III.

In view of the allegations made by the Division of Enforcement, the Commission deems it necessary and appropriate in the public interest that public administrative proceedings be instituted to determine:

- A. Whether the allegations set forth in Section II hereof are true and, in connection therewith, to afford Respondent an opportunity to establish any defenses to such allegations; and
- B. What, if any, remedial action is appropriate in the public interest against Respondent pursuant to Section 203(f) of the Advisers Act.

## IV.

IT IS ORDERED that a public hearing for the purpose of taking evidence on the questions set forth in Section III hereof shall be convened at a time and place to be fixed, and before an Administrative Law Judge to be designated by further order as provided by Rule 110 of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 17 C.F.R. § 201.110.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent shall file an Answer to the allegations contained in this Order within twenty (20) days after service of this Order, as provided by Rule 220 of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 17 C.F.R. § 201.220.

If Respondent fails to file the directed answer, or fails to appear at a hearing after being duly notified, the Respondent may be deemed in default and the proceedings may be determined against him upon consideration of this Order, the allegations of which may be deemed to be true as provided by Rules 155(a), 220(f), 221(f), and 310 of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 17 C.F.R. §§ 201.155(a), 201.220(f), 201.221(f), and 201.310.

This Order shall be served forthwith upon Respondent personally or by certified mail.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Administrative Law Judge shall issue an initial decision no later than 210 days from the date of service of this Order, pursuant to Rule 360(a)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

In the absence of an appropriate waiver, no officer or employee of the Commission engaged in the performance of investigative or prosecuting functions in this or any factually related

proceeding will be permitted to participate or advise in the decision of this matter, except as witness or counsel in proceedings held pursuant to notice. Since this proceeding is not "rule making" within the meaning of Section 551 of the Administrative Procedure Act, it is not deemed subject to the provisions of Section 553 delaying the effective date of any final Commission action.

By the Commission.

Jill M. Peterson Assistant Secretary