STATE OF OREGON



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See related Division case number S-18-0067.



- 3. Platinum advertised and solicited investors using the internet, including on the websites Facebook and LinkedIn.
  - 4. In or about May 2017, Respondent made an investment in Platinum.
- 5. On or about July 28, 2017, Respondent signed an "Independent Contractor Agreement" to work for Platinum, as more fully described below.
- 6. At least two other Oregonians, identified herein as JP and MT, invested in Platinum.
- 7. On or about November 16, 2017, JP invested \$1,000 in Platinum with the expectation that Platinum would invest that money in the cryptocurrency Bitcoin on behalf of JP.
- 8. To initiate his investment, JP completed an "Investment Contract" that Platinum provided to him.
- 9. JP also signed a "Participation Form," authorizing Platinum to use his funds as part of a "pooled fund" investment, whereby Platinum would combine JP's investment with others' investments and spread those funds "across various investment vehicles." The Participation Form stated that withdrawal "can be made at any time," and further indicated that "expected returns" on investments ranged from "300% ROI in 6 months" to "1450% ROI in 12 months."
- 10. JP agreed to invest his \$1,000 for a period of 90 days at a rate of 30%.

  Platinum indicated that JP would receive interest of \$1,197 for a total expected return of \$2,197 (principal plus interest).
- 11. JP subsequently made repeated requests to Platinum to withdraw his funds but he never received a return of principal or interest. Platinum ceased responding to his requests. Accordingly, JP lost his entire \$1,000 investment.
- 12. On or about January 9, 2018, MT invested \$3,000 in Platinum with the expectation that Platinum would invest that money in the cryptocurrency Bitcoin on

behalf of MT.

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those funds.

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such an intermediary.

MT made this investment through Respondent, as described below.

but he never received a return of principal or interest. Platinum ceased responding to his

expectation that the Bitcoin and thus their investments would increase in value. This

investment was structured such that Platinum would pool together investors' funds and

As part of Platinum's scheme, it collected investment funds through

Platinum recruited Respondent to be an independent contractor and to act as

Pursuant to the terms of her contract with Platinum, Respondent maintained a

Pursuant to her contract with Platinum, Respondent received funds from

Platinum initially agreed to pay Respondent \$500 per month for the foregoing

intermediaries, thereby obscuring the flow of funds from investors to Respondent.

personal bank account to receive investors' funds and to purchase cryptocurrency with

various investors in her bank account, generally via wire transfer. At the direction of

Platinum, Respondent used those funds to purchase cryptocurrency such as Bitcoin,

services. Platinum subsequently changed this structure, agreeing to pay Respondent a

Respondent received \$50 for performing the foregoing services for MT.

Respondent funneled hundreds of thousands of dollars in the foregoing

which she then transferred to digital wallets owned by Platinum.

percentage or portion of the investment per transaction.

requests. Accordingly, MT lost his entire \$3,000 investment.

that Platinum would be responsible for managing their investments.

MT subsequently made repeated requests to Platinum to withdraw his funds

JP and MT invested in Bitcoin through Platinum as an investment, with the

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manner from investors to Platinum at Platinum's direction.

Page 3 of 8 – CONSENT ORDER

Lisa L. Scott – S-18-0098

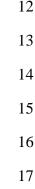
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23.	At no relevant time did Platinum register any securities with the State of
Oregon.	

24. At no relevant time did Respondent hold a license as a broker-dealer or salesperson in Oregon.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Director CONCLUDES that:

- 25. Under ORS 59.015(19)(a), a "security" is defined to include an investment contract.
- 26. The sale of cryptocurrency for investment purposes in the manner described above, in which individuals invest money in a common enterprise with the expectation of profit to be made through the management or control of Platinum, constitutes an investment contract and thus is a "security" under ORS 59.015(19)(a).
- 27. Under ORS 59.055, it is unlawful to offer or sell any security in Oregon unless the security is registered, the security or the sale is exempt from registration, or the security is a federal covered security for which a notice has been filed and a fee has been paid.
- 28. The securities which Platinum sold, as described above, were not registered for sale in Oregon, were not exempt from registration, and were not federal covered securities.
- 29. By offering and selling the foregoing securities in Oregon without the securities being registered or exempt from registration, Platinum violated ORS 59.055.
- 30. Under ORS 59.165(1), it is unlawful for any person to transact business in this state as a broker-dealer or salesperson unless the person is licensed under the Oregon Securities Law.
- 31. Respondent has never been licensed in Oregon as a broker-dealer or salesperson.

32.	By transacting business as a broker-dealer or salesperson without being licensed
under the	Oregon Securities Law, Respondent violated ORS 59.165(1).

- 33. Under ORS 59.135(1), it is unlawful for any person, directly or indirectly, in connection with the purchase or sale of any security or the conduct of a securities business to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud.
- 34. By funneling investors' funds through her bank account to Platinum and by assisting Platinum in selling unregistered securities, Respondent directly or indirectly, in connection with the purchase or sale of a security, employed a device, scheme, or artifice to defraud, in violation of ORS 59.135(1).
- 35. Under ORS 59.135(3), it is unlawful for any person, directly or indirectly, in connection with the purchase or sale of any security or the conduct of a securities business to engage in any act, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon any person.
- 36. By funneling investors' funds through her bank account to Platinum and by assisting Platinum in selling unregistered securities, Respondent directly or indirectly, in connection with the purchase or sale of a security, engaged in an act, practice, or course of business which operates as a fraud or deceit upon investors, in violation of ORS 59.135(3).

## **ORDERS**

The Director ISSUES the following ORDERS:

## Order to Cease and Desist

37. Pursuant to ORS 59.245(4), the Director hereby ORDERS Respondent, and all entities owned or controlled by Respondent, its successors and assignees, to CEASE AND DESIST from violating any provision of the Oregon Securities Law, ORS 59.005 to 59.505, 59.991 and 59.995, or any administrative rule adopted by the Director under those statutes.

## Order Assessing Civil Penalties



38.	Pursuant to the authority of ORS 59.995(1), the Director may assess CIVIL
PENALT	IES of not more than \$20,000 for every violation against persons who violate or
who proc	ure, aid, or abet in the violation of ORS 59.005 to 59.505.

- 39. The Director hereby assesses CIVIL PENALTIES against Respondent in the amount of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) as follows:
  - A. A CIVIL PENALTY of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) for transacting business as a broker-dealer or salesperson without being licensed under the Oregon Securities Law, in violation of ORS 59.165(1).
  - B. A CIVIL PENALTY of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) for directly or indirectly, in connection with the purchase or sale of any security, employing a device, scheme, or artifice to defraud and engaging in an act, practice, or course of business which operates as a fraud or deceit upon investors, in violation of ORS 59.135(1) and (3).
- 40. The Director agrees to suspend the foregoing civil penalties of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) for a period of three years, provided that Respondent:
  - A. Agrees to refrain from engaging in any securities-related business activities, including but not limited to selling, offering to sell, soliciting, or advertising securities in the state of Oregon for a three-year period from the date that this Consent Order becomes a final order;
  - B. agrees to refrain from applying for any broker-dealer or salesperson license authorized by ORS chapter 59 for three years from the date that this Consent Order becomes a final order; and
  - C. otherwise complies with all provisions of this Consent Order.
- 41. If Respondent commits any further violation of the Oregon Securities Law or fails to abide by any terms of this Consent Order, the civil penalties of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) will become immediately due and payable. If Respondent does not