STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SECURITIES DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING whether there has been a violation of the Securities Act of Washington by:

Malibu Development Corporation; The Meridian on Bainbridge Island, LLC; CMHCEH, L.L.C.; John M. Erickson; Bruce McCurdy; Christopher M. Heins; Michael B. Reetz, Order Number S-06-065-07-TO01

SUMMARY ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPOSE FINES AND CHARGE COSTS

Respondents.

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO:

Malibu Development Corporation
The Meridian on Bainbridge Island, LLC
CMHCEH, L.L.C.
John M. Erickson
Bruce McCurdy
Christopher M. Heins
Michael B. Reetz

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SUMMARY ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPOSE FINES AND CHARGE COSTS

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Please take notice that the Securities Administrator of the State of Washington has reason to believe that the Respondents, Malibu Development Corporation; The Meridian on Bainbridge Island, LLC; CMHCEH, L.L.C.; John M. Erickson; Bruce McCurdy; Christopher M. Heins; and Michael B. Reetz, have violated the Securities Act of Washington. The Securities Administrator believes those violations justify the entry of an order of the Securities Administrator against the Respondents to cease and desist from such violations pursuant to RCW 21.20.390. The Securities Administrator believes these are grounds for imposing fines pursuant to RCW 21.20.395, and charging costs pursuant to RCW 21.20.390(5). The Securities Administrator finds that delay in ordering the Respondents, Malibu Development Corporation;

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DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS Securities Division PO Box 9033 Olympia, WA 98507-9033 360-902-8760

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The Meridian on Bainbridge Island, LLC; CMHCEH, L.L.C.; John M. Erickson; Bruce McCurdy; Christopher M. Heins; and Michael B. Reetz to cease and desist from such violations would be hazardous to investors and to the public and that a Summary Order to Cease and Desist should be entered immediately.

The Securities Administrator finds as follows:

TENTATIVE FINDINGS OF FACT

Respondents

- Malibu Development Corporation ("Malibu Development"), a Washington corporation, 1. was incorporated on July 31, 1997 and is currently conducting business at 360 Knechtel Way NE #406 Bainbridge Island, WA 98110. Malibu is a construction development company that has purportedly been involved with the development, building and management of real estate for 26 years.
- 2. The Meridian on Bainbridge Island, LLC, ("Meridian") a Washington limited liability company, was formed on October 15, 1998 and is currently conducting business at 360 Knechtel Way NE #406 Bainbridge Island, WA 98110. The Meridian is a luxury condominium and commercial use construction development project on Bainbridge Island. Malibu Development is the managing member of Meridian.
- 3. John M. Erickson ("Erickson") is a resident of Poulsbo, Washington. Erickson is the President of Malibu Development, which is the managing member of Meridian.
- 4. Bruce McCurdy ("McCurdy") is a resident of Poulsbo, Washington. McCurdy is the founder and CEO of Malibu Development, which is the managing member of the Meridian.

- 5. CMHCEH, L.L.C. ("CMHCEH") a Washington limited liability company, was formed on July 15, 2006 and is currently conducting business at 20714 State Hwy 305 Suite 2A Poulsbo, WA 98370.
- 6. Christopher Heins ("Heins") is a resident of Poulsbo, Washington. Heins is the member manager and registered agent of CMHCEH.
 - 7. Michael Reetz ("Reetz") is a resident of Port Angeles.

Background Information

- 8. Heins was licensed as a securities salesperson in Washington State from April of 1994 until September of 1997. He is not currently licensed.
- 9. Heins is currently licensed to sell insurance in Washington State with the Office of Insurance Commissioner. He has held an insurance license since December 26, 1989.
- Preferred Benefit Services, Inc. is a Washington corporation incorporated on March 18, 1996 and is currently conducting business at 20714 State Hwy 305 Suite 2A Poulsbo, WA 98370. Heins is the registered agent of the corporation and is affiliated with the company for the purpose of selling insurance.
- 11. Michael Reetz is currently licensed to sell insurance in Washington State with the Office of Insurance Commissioner. He has held an insurance license since December 21, 1988.
- 12. Reetz Insurance Services, Inc. is a Washington corporation incorporated on December 11, 2000 and is currently conducting business at 835 East 2nd Street Port Angeles, WA 98362. Reetz is the registered agent of the corporation and is affiliated with the company for the purpose of selling insurance. Reetz is also affiliated with Preferred Benefit Services.

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Nature of the Offering

Introduction

- 13. Heins has offered and sold investments in various construction projects to Washington residents from at least 2003 to present. These investments include those in Malibu, Meridian, CMHCEH, and with himself personally. The terms of the investments are similar and were usually memorialized in the form of a promissory note with a guaranteed interest rate and one year term. Investors are told that their investment is secure because their interest is recorded on the deed of trust.
- 14. Between April 2003 and to present, Heins, Reetz, Erickson and McCurdy offered and sold investments in Malibu Development and Meridian to at least 57 investors. The majority of the investors are Washington residents. Some of the investors are not accredited or sophisticated. The investments were in the form of a promissory note with a one year term and were represented to have a guaranteed interest rate to be paid monthly or at the end of the term; however, the investors were not told who guaranteed the interest. The investments were purportedly secured by an interest in the property. Purchasers were told that they would be in first position on a deed of trust and that the deed would be recorded. The investment amounts ranged from \$1,200 to \$200,000. The investments total at least \$2,800,000.
- 15. In addition, from 2006 to present, Heins offered and sold investments in CMHCEH and with him personally to at least 4 investors. Some of the investors are not accredited or sophisticated. The investments were in the form of a promissory note with a one year term and were represented to have guaranteed interest rate to be paid at the end of the term; however, the investors were not told who guaranteed the interest. The investments were purportedly secured by an interest in the property. Purchasers were told that they would be in first position or second position on the deed of trust and the

deed would be recorded. The investment amounts ranged from \$10,000 to \$100,000. The investments made total at least \$270,000.

Malibu Development Corporation and The Meridian on Bainbridge, LLC

16. In July of 2003, Malibu obtained a \$4.5 million construction loan to build a luxury condominium project on Bainbridge Island from a local credit union. The loan was secured by the entire land parcel owned by Meridian for the future Meridian condominium development on Bainbridge, including the future condominium development itself. The loan amount represented approximately 75% of the value of the entire project once completed. The credit union took first position on the deed of trust on the entire property. Prior to obtaining the funding from the credit union, Malibu had received \$1.5 million from a private lender who initially held a deed of trust representing a first position lien on the property. The lender agreed to subordinate his lien to that of the credit union. In addition, shortly after obtaining the construction loan, Malibu secured a one million dollar line of credit with another private lender who took a junior position behind the credit union and the first private lender.

17. On July 23, 2004, Heins entered into a "Finder's Agreement" with Malibu. The Finders Agreement stated: "If one or more potential Investor(s) invest in the Company or provide a financial guarantee for the Company, then the finder shall be entitled to a fee. The Fee shall be based on a percentage of the aggregate investment or financial guarantee made by all such Investor(s) in the Company to be paid in cash to the Finders under the following schedule: 15.0% of all amounts." Initially the agreement specified that the investors had to be accredited; however, Malibu later waived that requirement with an addendum. Erickson and McCurdy signed both the agreement and the later addendum on behalf of Malibu.

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SUMMARY ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPOSE FINES AND CHARGE COSTS

From at least 2003 to present, there has been sign posted outside of Heins' Preferred Benefit Services office. The sign states "EARN 8% APR 12 Month Maturity Fully Secured" and listed a telephone number to call which connected the caller to Heins. There are several identical signs posted in and around Port Angeles, including one on State Route 101. There was an identical sign outside the insurance office of Reetz that has been removed within the past year.

- 19. Beginning July 2004 at least twenty-four Washington residents contacted Heins about the sign advising the investment opportunity outside of his office.
- 20. Beginning March 2005 at least four Washington residents contacted Reetz about the sign outside of his office advising the investment opportunity. Reetz put them in contact with Heins by either setting up meetings at his office in Port Angeles with the residents and Heins or setting up appointments with Heins in the residents' homes. Reetz told at least two of the residents that Heins paid him \$100 for every referral that he made to Heins.
- During meetings with Heins, the residents were offered different interest rates based on 21. different investment amounts. Heins offered an 8% interest rate on an investment of \$20,000 to \$50,000, a 10% interest rate on an investment of \$50,000 to \$100,000, and a 12% interest rate on any investment amount greater than \$100,000. Heins told potential investors that the interest rates were guaranteed but he did not explain what that meant or who was guaranteeing the interest. All of the investments were in the form of promissory note with a one year term.
- 22. Heins had a number of different projects available to choose from for potential investors. One of those projects was the Meridian on Bainbridge, a project run by Malibu Development Group. Heins said that Malibu had been around for years and had been successful with other similar projects on Bainbridge. Heins provided the residents with real estate advertising

materials about the project. Heins did not disclose the value of the property or any of the units but did show potential investors a list of other investors' addresses and investment amounts (but not their names).

- 23. Heins also told the potential investors that the investment was fully secured because all of the investors would be in first position on the deed of trust and title. Heins told the investors that he personally had control of the deed of trust and the investment would be secured because he would record the investor's interest and send them a copy of the recorded deed. The investors were not sure how the priority among the individual investors was going to work, but were told that the group as whole would be in first position.
- 24. Both Erickson and McCurdy signed the Promissory Notes and the Deeds of Trust on behalf of Malibu, as the managing member of Meridian.
- 25. At least twenty-eight investors invested a total of at least \$1,258,000 into unit 101. Unit 101 is an open commercial space on the first floor of the building without any walls.
- 26. At least thirty-three investors invested a total of at least \$1,598,000 into units 401,402,405 and 406. Three of these units are owned by the Meridian Homeowner's Association (HOA) and are part of the limited common area and include an exercise room and two guest suites for guests of the HOA.
- 27. Although Heins told investors that their interests would be recorded and they would receive a copy of the recorded deed of trust, many of the interests were not recorded until months after the investment was made, and the investors were not provided with a copy of the recorded deed of trust.

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- 28. When many of the promissory notes came due in 2006 Heins offered the investors an increased interest rate if they elected to extend the note for an additional term. For instance, some investors who were initially offered 8% interest were offered 10% interest if they extended the term of their note. Heins told the investors Malibu needed the additional funds because not all of the condominium units had sold. Heins did not disclose any additional information about the Malibu, the project, or other investors. He also did not disclose why the units were not sold and why Malibu and/or the Meridian needed additional funds. Heins reiterated that the investment was secure because the investors were in first position and that the return based on the interest rate was guaranteed. Based on this information, many of the investors decided to reinvest both their principal and interest in Malibu and entered into new promissory note agreements.
- 29. In April of 2007, investors received a foreclosure notice from the credit union indicating there would be a sale of all units except 401, 402, 405, and 406 but including 101 on July 6, 2007. The notice did not include units 401, 402, 405 and 406 because 406 has been sold and 401, 402, and 405 belong to the Meridian Homeowners Association.
- 30. To date, many of the investors have not been repaid and the promissory notes are still outstanding.

Christopher Heins and CMHCEH L.L.C.

As early as March 2003 and to present, Heins approached previous construction project 31. investors with another investment opportunity, this time in his own personal venture. Heins explained to potential investors he raised funds to purchase, renovate and sell real estate. He offered what he represented to be a guaranteed 12% interest rate on the investment upon completion of the project plus

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a secured interest in the property. He did not explain who guaranteed the interest rate. The investment was a promissory note with a one year term.

- 32. At least two investors made investments into at least two different properties owned by Heins. One property was located in Sequim, Washington. The investments were both in the amount of \$50,000. With both of the properties, Heins did not disclose when the projects would be completed, the value of the properties, how many other investors were involved, or what position the investors would be on the deed of trust. He also did not discuss his experience in the real estate business or his rate of success.
- 33. As early as March 2006 and to present, Heins approached investors who had previously invested in Malibu and/or with Heins personally with another investment opportunity, this time in a company Heins formed named CMHCEH, LLC. Heins told potential investors the company composed of him, his wife, and his son-in-law. He explained CMHCEH borrowed money from investors to purchase and renovate real estate projects. He offered the investors a guaranteed 10% to 12% interest rate on the investments when the project was completed plus a secured interest in the property. The investment was a promissory note with a one year term.
- 34. At least four investors made investments into at least two different CMHCEH properties. One property was located in Kingston, Washington and the other was located in Indianola, Washington. The investment amounts ranged from \$10,000 to \$100,000. With both of the properties, Heins did not disclose when the projects would be completed, the value of the properties, how many other investors were involved, or what position the investors would be on the deed of trust. He also did not discuss his experience in the real estate business or his rate of success.

35. To date, some investors have received repayment of the promissory notes and others have extended their promissory note terms because the properties have not been completed or sold.

<u>Misrepresentations and Omissions in</u> Connection with the Offer and Sale of Securities

- 36. Malibu Development, Meridian, and Heins misrepresented that the investors would be in first position on the deed of trust and the investment was fully secured by the property. In fact, the credit union's construction loan was in the senior position on the entire property, and the two private lenders were in junior positions on the entire property, ahead of the investors whose investments were not fully secured by the property.
- 37. Malibu Development, Meridian, and Heins failed to disclose to investors the material risks involved with the investment opportunity, including, but not limited to: the value of the property, the amount of outstanding debt owed on the property, the number of other investors involved with the project including amounts invested, how much money was being raised to fund the project, how much money was necessary to complete the project, what the limit on total investment amounts was, why the units were not being completed and sold, and the position of the individual investors within the group in the event of Malibu and/or Meridian's default on the construction loan.
- 38. Malibu Development and Meridian failed to provide material information regarding the companies including, but not limited to: financial statements; use of proceeds; general risk factors related to construction projects; business background of Ericksen and McCurdy; and operational history of Malibu Development.
- 39. CMHCEH and Heins failed to disclose to investors the material risks involved with the investment opportunities, including, but not limited to the value of the property, the amount of

outstanding debt owed on the property, the number of other investors involved with the project including amounts invested, how much money was being raised to fund the project, how much money was necessary to complete the project, and what the limit on total investment amounts was.

CMHCEH failed to provide material information regarding the company including, but not limited to: financial statements; use of proceeds; general risk factors related to construction projects; business background of Heins; and operational history of CMHCEH.

Registration Status

- 41. Malibu Development Corporation is currently not registered to sell its securities in the State of Washington and has not previously been so registered.
- Malibu Development Corporation is currently not registered as a broker-dealer in the State of Washington and has not previously been so registered.
- 43. The Meridian on Bainbridge, LLC is currently not registered to sell its securities in the State of Washington and has not previously been so registered.
- CMHCEH, L.L.C. is currently not registered to sell its securities in the State of 44. Washington and has not previously been so registered.
- 45. Heins is currently not registered to sell his securities in the State of Washington and has not previously been so registered.
- Erickson is not currently registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the State of Washington and has not previously been so registered.
- 47. McCurdy is not currently registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the State of Washington and has not previously been so registered.

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- Heins is not currently registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the State of Washington.
- 49. Reetz is not currently registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the State of Washington and has not previously been so registered.

Based upon the above Findings of Fact, the following Conclusions of Law are made:

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SUMMARY ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPOSE FINES AND CHARGE COSTS

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The offer and/or sale of the promissory notes described above each constitute the offer and/or sale of a security as defined in RCW 21.20.005(10) and (12).
- 2. John M. Ericksen violated RCW 21.20.140, by offering and selling unregistered securities.
- 3. John M. Ericksen violated RCW 21.20.040, by offering and selling said securities while not registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the State of Washington.
 - 4. Bruce McCurdy violated RCW 21.20.140, by offering and selling unregistered securities.
- 5. Bruce McCurdy violated RCW 21.20.040, by offering and selling said securities while not registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the State of Washington.
- 6. Christopher M. Heins violated RCW 21.20.140, by offering and selling unregistered securities.
- 7. Christopher M. Heins violated RCW 21.20.040, by offering and selling said securities while not registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the State of Washington.

- 8. Michael B. Reetz violated RCW 21.20.140, by offering and selling unregistered securities.
- 9. Michael B. Reetz violated RCW 21.20.040, by offering and selling said securities while not registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the State of Washington.
- Malibu Development Corporation violated 21.20.140 by offering and selling unregistered securities.
- 11. Malibu Development Corporation violated RCW 21.20.040, by offering and selling said securities while not registered as a broker-dealer in the State of Washington.
- 12. The Meridian on Bainbridge, LLC violated 21.20.140 by offering and selling unregistered securities.
 - 13. CMHCEH, L.L.C. violated 21.20.140 by offering and selling unregistered securities.
- 14. The offer and/or sale of the Malibu Development Corporation; The Meridian on Bainbridge, LLC; and CMHCEH, L.L.C. securities by Respondents were made in violation of RCW 21.20.010 because, as set forth in the Findings of Fact, Respondents made misstatements of material fact or omitted to state material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

EMERGENCY

summary order to cease and desist from those violations is in the public interest and necessary for the

The Securities Administrator finds that an emergency exists, that continued violations of RCW 21.20.040, RCW 21.20.140, and RCW 21.20.010 constitute a threat to the investing public, and that a

protection of the investing public.

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SUMMARY ORDER

Based on the foregoing:

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS SUMMARILY ORDERED that Respondents, Malibu Development Corporation; The Meridian on Bainbridge Island, LLC; CMHCEH, L.L.C.; John M. Erickson; Bruce McCurdy; Christopher M. Heins; and Michael B. Reetz, and their agents and employees, shall each cease and desist from violations of RCW 21.20.140.

IT IS FURTHER SUMMARILY ORDERED that Respondents, Malibu Development Corporation; The Meridian on Bainbridge Island, LLC; CMHCEH, L.L.C.; John M. Erickson; Bruce McCurdy; Christopher M. Heins; and Michael B. Reetz, and their agents and employees, shall each cease and desist from violations of RCW 21.20.010.

IT IS FURTHER SUMMARILY ORDERED that Respondents, Malibu Development Corporation; CMHCEH, L.L.C.; John M. Erickson; Bruce McCurdy; Christopher M. Heins; and Michael B. Reetz, and their agents and employees, shall each cease and desist from violations of RCW 21.20.040.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPOSE FINES

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.395, and based upon the Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that:

- a. Respondents, Malibu Development Corporation and The Meridian on Bainbridge
 Island, LLC shall be jointly and severally liable for and pay a fine of a least \$50,000;
- b. Respondent CMHCEH, L.L.C. shall be liable for and pay a fine of at least \$10,000;

1	c. Respondent John M. Erickson shall be liable for and pay a fine of at least \$10,000;			
2	d. Respondent Bruce McCurdy shall be liable for and pay a fine of at least \$10,000;			
3	e. Respondent Christopher M. Heins shall be liable for and pay a fine of at least \$10,000;			
4	f. Respondent Michael B. Reetz shall be liable for and pay a fine of at least \$10,000.			
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6	NOTICE OF INTENT TO CHARGE COSTS			
7	Pursuant to RCW 21.20.390(5), and based upon the Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of			
8	Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that the Respondents, Malibu Development			
9	Corporation; The Meridian on Bainbridge Island, LLC; CMHCEH, L.L.C.; John M. Erickson; Bruce			
10	McCurdy; Christopher M. Heins; and Michael B. Reetz, shall be liable for and pay the Securities			
11	Division the costs, fees and other expenses incurred in the conduct of the administrative investigation and			
12	hearing of this matter.			
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14	AUTHORITY AND PROCEDURE			
15	This SUMMARY ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST, NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPOSE			
16	FINES, AND CHARGE COSTS is entered pursuant to the provisions of RCW 21.20.390 and RCW			
17	21.20.395 and is subject to the provisions of Chapter 34.05 RCW. Each Respondent may make a written			
18	request for a hearing as set forth in the NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO DEFEND AND			
19	OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING accompanying this Order.			
20	If a Respondent does not request a hearing, the Securities Administrator intends to adopt the above			
21	Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as final, enter a permanent order against that			
22				
23	SUMMARY ORDER TO CEASE AND 15 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS			
24	DESIST AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPOSE FINES AND CHARGE COSTS Securities Division PO Box 903			

1	Respondent to cease and desist from violations of the Securities Act, and enter an order imposing the fin		
2	and charging costs, as described above.		
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4	DATED AND ENTERED this day 8th of	June, 2007.	
5	Guidal E, Stevenson		
6	MICHAEL E. STEVENSON Securities Administrator		
7 8	Approved by:	Presented by:	
9	An Elm	agulyn	
10	Suzanne Sarason Chief of Compliance & Examinations	Angela R. Vogel Enforcement Attorney	
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