# STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SECURITIES DIVISION

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO:		iCooper, Inc.; Ken Hines; Christopher Clark.
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Respondents.	)	
iCooper, Inc.; Ken Hines; and Christopher Clark,	)	IMPOSE FINES AND TO CHARGE COSTS
	)	TO ENTER ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST, TO
Securities Act of Washington by:	)	STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND NOTICE OF INTENT
Whether there has been a violation of the	)	
IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING	)	Order No.: S-11-0593-13-SC01

## STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Please take notice that the Securities Administrator of the state of Washington has reason to believe that Respondents, iCooper, Inc.; Ken Hines; and Christopher Clark, have each violated the Securities Act of Washington and that their violations justify the entry of an order of the Securities Administrator under RCW 21.20.390 against each to cease and desist from such violations and to charge costs, and under RCW 21.20.395 to impose a fine. The Securities Administrator finds as follow:

# TENTATIVE FINDINGS OF FACT

## Respondents

- iCooper, Inc. ("iCooper") is an inactive Washington corporation with its principal place of business in Washougal, WA. The company was in the business of developing applications for handheld mobile devices, with an initial focus on data collection applications for trucking operators. The company was founded in July 2008.
- 2. Ken Hines ("Hines") was the president, CEO, and a promoter of iCooper. Hines was also a member of iCooper's Board of Directors. Hines is a Washington resident.
- Christopher Clark ("Clark") was iCooper's Sales Director. Clark is a Washington resident. 3.

#### Nature of the Offering

Between 2008 and 2011, Respondents offered and sold over \$985,000 of iCooper stock to over 25 investors, of whom at least 21 were Washington residents. Respondents also sold iCooper stock to residents of Tennessee and Oregon. At least 5 investors were not accredited. Respondents offered investors up to \$1,000,000 in Series A restricted stock with a \$10,000 minimum purchase amount.

STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST AND TO IMPOSE FINES AND TO CHARGE COSTS

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

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- 5. Respondents presented iCooper as a startup technology company focused on developing and selling applications for the Apple iPhone. The company's core product was an electronic daily log for truck drivers. Respondents represented to prospective investors that iCooper would use their investment funds to develop, program, and market its products.
- 6. To find prospective investors, Hines and Clark contacted their friends, family, and acquaintances. Several prospective investors then referred Respondents to their friends and associates as additional prospective investors. On at least one occasion, Hines requested an investor to identify other prospective investors. Some prospective investors made referrals that led to iCooper investments. Hines and Clark typically disseminated offering materials to prospective investors in person and over email. Generally, after Respondents provided offering materials to prospective investors for review, they had prospective investors sign and return the documents with a check for the investment funds.
- 7. For their investment, Respondents represented that investors were getting in at the ground floor of a company bound for success before going public. Respondents also represented that investors could reap profits of many times their principal investments after an initial public offering. Further, Hines represented to prospective investors that an increase in iCooper's stock value was imminent due to expectations of substantial investments and negotiated arrangements with interested companies, including Apple, Inc. and prospective consumers of iCooper's products.
- 8. Besides the predicted rise in stock value, Respondents projected to prospective investors that iCooper would generate total annual revenues of over \$27.6 million by 2012. Respondents also projected that iCooper's cash balance would, after 4 years, grow from a negative balance to over \$58 million. Respondents further projected that their core application would produce nearly \$5 million in sales by 2010 and would grow more than 10% each year, up to \$8 million by 2014.
- 9. In addition to profits and revenues, Respondents told prospective investors that proprietary information was a means for iCooper to "secure a prominent place in society." As early as September 2008, Respondents claimed that iCooper had a patented iPhone application process, that it owned patents, and that it held a patent pending.
- 10. As another investment incentive, Hines offered prospective investors additional shares at no extra cost for

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early or large investments. In one case, Hines convinced an investor ready to purchase 10,000 shares for \$10,000 to invest an additional \$10,000 for 25,000 shares. For the additional investment, Hines promised not only that the investor would receive 5,000 bonus shares, but that iCooper would, within one year, repurchase \$10,000 worth of the investor's stock. Hines made similar promises to other investors, but later reneged on these promises. Similarly, Hines offered at least one investor a position on the board of directors for an additional investment.

- 11. In another case, Hines agreed that iCooper would repurchase \$25,000 worth of stock once an investor's stock value increased to \$35,000. The investor specifically requested this repurchase agreement because he had been saving the investment funds to remodel his house and build a barn. Hines also told this investor that, within six months, he would recoup his full investment, that the value of his investment would at least double, and that he would not lose money. Hines told the investor that multiple companies were ready to purchase iCooper's application upon its release, including local hospitals, United Parcel Service of America, Inc., and Apple, Inc.
- 12. In early 2010, iCooper decided to take out a loan to cover its capital needs. As collateral for the loan, iCooper pledged all of its assets. The company later defaulted on the loan and lost all of its assets. Afterward, iCooper became inactive and never repaid its investors.

## Misrepresentations and Omissions

- 13. When soliciting investment in iCooper, Respondents failed to adequately disclose material information to prospective investors regarding the risks associated with the investment, including the risk of dilution from the issuance of additional or bonus shares of stock. Respondents also failed to disclose that iCooper could pledge its assets as collateral in loan agreements and that such loans create risks of default and loss of company assets.
- 14. Respondents' claims and projections regarding an initial public offering, as described in paragraph seven above, were misleading because Respondents failed to provide a reasonable basis for the claims and projections.
- 15. Respondents' claims regarding an imminent increase in iCooper's stock value due to expected investments and agreements with large companies, as described in paragraph seven above, were misleading because Respondents failed to provide a reasonable basis for the claims.
- 16. Respondents' revenue projections, as described in paragraph eight above, were misleading because

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Respondents failed to provide a reasonable basis for the projections.

- 17. Respondents' intellectual property rights claims, as described in paragraph nine above, were false and misleading because Respondents falsely represented the extent of their intellectual property rights. Namely, iCooper filed its patent applications over one year after it first made the claims and later abandoned its applications.
- 18. Respondents' representations regarding their ability to repurchase stock from investors, as described in paragraphs ten and eleven above, were misleading because Respondents failed to provide a reasonable basis for the representations.
- 19. Respondents' claims regarding investment time horizon, risk of loss, growth potential, and popularity of iCooper's product among large organizations were misleading because Respondents failed to provide a reasonable basis for the claims.

# Failure to Comply With Regulation D Rule 504

20. iCooper claimed an exemption from registration for its stock offering under federal Regulation D, Rule 504. Respondents failed to comply with conditions of Rule 504 by, among other things, generally soliciting prospective investors and failing to adequately screen investors for investment suitability.

# Registration Status

- 21. Respondent, iCooper, Inc., is not currently registered to sell its securities in the state of Washington and has not previously been so registered.
- 22. Respondent, Ken Hines, is not currently registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer, or to otherwise sell securities in the state of Washington, and has not previously been so registered.
- 23. Respondent, Christopher Clark, is not currently registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer, or to otherwise sell securities 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:

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The offer or sale of stock as described above constitute the offer and/or sale of a security as defined in RCW 21.20.005(14) and (17).

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- 2. Ken Hines violated RCW 21.20.040 by offering and/or selling said securities while not registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the state of Washington.
- Christopher Clark violated RCW 21.20.040 by offering and/or selling said securities while not registered as a 3. securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the state of Washington.
- 4. The offer and/or sale of said securities is in violation of RCW 21.20.140 because no registration for such an offer and/or sale is on file with the Securities Administrator, state of Washington.
- 5. The offer and/or sale of said securities were in violation of RCW 21.20.010 because Respondents made untrue statements of material fact or omitted to state material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

# NOTICE OF INTENT TO ORDER THE RESPONDENT TO CEASE AND DESIST

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.390(1) and based upon the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that Respondents, iCooper, Inc.; Ken Hines; and Christopher Clark, each shall cease and desist from violations of RCW 21.20.010, RCW 21.20.040, and RCW 21.20.140.

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPOSE A FINE

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

- Respondent Ken Hines shall be liable for and shall pay a fine of \$5,000; and
- Respondent Christopher Clark shall be liable for and shall pay a fine of \$3,000.

# NOTICE OF INTENT TO CHARGE COSTS

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.390, and based upon the Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that Respondents Ken Hines and Christopher Clark shall be jointly and severally liable for and shall pay investigative costs of at least \$1,000.

#### AUTHORITY AND PROCEDURE

This Statement of Charges is entered pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 21.20 RCW and is subject to the provisions of Chapter 34.05 RCW. The Respondents, iCooper, Inc.; Ken Hines; and Christopher Clark, may each

Approved by:

Reviewed by:

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make a written request for a hearing as set forth in the NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO DEFEND AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING accompanying this Order. If a respondent does not make a hearing request in the time allowed, the Securities Administrator intends to adopt the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as final and to enter a permanent order to cease and desist as to that respondent, to impose any fines sought against that respondent, and to charge any costs sought against that respondent.

Signed and Entered this <u>17th</u> day of <u>September</u> 2013.

William M. Beatty Securities Administrator

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Presented by:

Suzanne Sarason Drew Stillman

Chief of Enforcement Enforcement Attorney

Jack McClellan
Financial Legal Examiner Supervisor