# 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:  David Patrick Thomas,	Order No. S-12-0974-13-SC01  STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER AN ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST, TO DENY FUTURE REGISTRATIONS, TO IMPOSE A FINE, AND TO CHARGE COSTS
Respondent	) )
THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO:	David Patrick Thomas (CRD #2853166)

## STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Please take notice that the Securities Administrator of the state of Washington has reason to believe that Respondent, David Patrick Thomas, has violated the Securities Act of Washington and has engaged in dishonest or unethical practices in the securities business. The Securities Administrator believes that these violations justify the entry of an order of the Securities Administrator under RCW 21.20.390 to cease and desist from such violations, under RCW 21.20.110 to deny future securities registration applications, under RCW 21.20.110 and RCW 21.20.395 to impose a fine, and under RCW 21.20.390 to charge costs. The Securities Administrator finds as follows:

## TENTATIVE FINDINGS OF FACT

## Respondent

1. During 2010, David Patrick Thomas ("Thomas") was a Washington resident. From September 27, 2007 until December 15, 2010, Thomas was a registered securities salesperson and a registered investment adviser representative for SII Investments, Inc. From 1997 through 2007, Thomas was employed as a registered representative for other securities broker-dealer firms. Thomas

is not currently registered with the Washington Securities Division in any capacity. Thomas has Central Registration Depository ("CRD") number 2853166.

## Offering of LLC Membership Interests

- 2. From at least March 2010 through October 2010, Thomas offered and sold LLC membership interests totaling \$235,000 to at least four Washington investors. The membership interests were issued by Chadbourn Partners, LLC ("Chadbourn Partners"), a Florida limited liability company that was formed on April 15, 2010. The membership interests were never distributed through and were not recorded on the books and records of SII Investments, Inc., Mr. Thomas's registered securities broker-dealer.
- 3. When soliciting the LLC investments, Thomas represented to investors that their funds would be pooled together and used by Chadbourn Partners to acquire a securities broker-dealer firm. Thomas represented that the broker-dealer would expand its operations and be very profitable. Thomas gave investors a private placement memorandum which showed that Chadbourn was offering \$1,500,000 worth of LLC membership interests, for a 30% ownership interest in Chadbourn Partners, in order to finance the acquisition and the operation of the securities broker-dealer. Thomas gave investors a written subscription agreement for the investment. In some cases, Thomas gave investors income projections which showed that Chadbourn Partners would have a net income of \$1,949,000 for 2010.
- 4. When soliciting the LLC investments, Thomas represented that the investors' only role was to supply capital for the company's business operations. Thomas represented to investors that Chadbourn Partner's management team would be solely responsible for operating the business and generating the return on the investment. Thomas represented to investors that Thomas would be in charge of directing Chadbourn Partner's investment adviser activities and that he would be

compensated for that activity. The investors were brokerage and investment adviser clients of Thomas who trusted him and relied upon his advice and purported expertise when making their investment decisions. To date, the investors have not received any return on their LLC membership interest investments.

## Offering of Debentures

- 5. During 2010, Thomas offered and sold debentures totaling more than \$200,000 to at least four Washington investors. The debentures were issued by Chadbourn Partners, LLC. The debentures had a term of approximately five years. The debentures had a stated annual interest rate of 8.25%, with interest payments due semi-annually. The debentures were never distributed through and were not recorded on the books and records of SII Investments, Inc., Mr. Thomas's registered securities broker-dealer.
- 6. When soliciting the debenture investments, Thomas represented to investors that the investors' only role was to supply capital for the company's business operations. Thomas represented to investors that Chadbourn Partner's management team would be solely responsible for operating the business and generating the return on the investment. Thomas represented to investors that Thomas would be in charge of directing Chadbourn Partner's investment adviser activities and that he would be compensated for that activity. The investors were brokerage and investment adviser clients of Thomas who trusted him and relied upon his advice and purported expertise when making their investment decisions. To date, the investors have been receiving timely interest payments on their debenture investments.

## Misrepresentations or Omissions

7. When offering and selling the Chadbourn Partners, LLC membership interests and debentures, Thomas misrepresented or failed to disclose to investors material information about the

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investments. Thomas failed to disclose to investors that his securities broker-dealer, SII Investments, Inc., had never approved the offer or sale of any investments issued by Chadbourn Partners. Thomas failed to disclose to investors that the predecessor corporation for Chadbourn Partners, Chadbourn Securities, Inc., had failed to file quarterly reports on time and was subject to a 2001 disciplinary order from the National Association of Securities Dealers. Thomas failed to disclose to investors that Chadbourn Securities, Inc. was also subject to a 2003 disciplinary order from the National Association of Securities Dealers for a series of alleged rule violations, including the understatement of total assets and net capital, failing to make timely reports, and failing to maintain accurate books and records. Thomas failed to disclose to investors that Thomas had filed for bankruptcy in 2000. Thomas failed to disclose to investors that there was no minimum amount of required capital to ensure that there was adequate funding to acquire and to operate a securities broker-dealer. Thomas failed to disclose any reasonable basis for the projected net income for Chadbourn Partners. Thomas failed to provide financial statements for the specific broker-dealer that would be acquired. Thomas failed to disclose other material risks of the investment, including economic risks, market risks, competition, regulatory requirements, and legal risks associated with the operations of securities broker-dealers.

## Securities Registration Status

8. Chadbourn Partners, LLC is not now and never has been registered to sell its securities in the state of Washington.

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

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The offer or sale of the LLC membership interests and the debentures described above constitutes the offer or sale of a security as defined in RCW 21.20.005(14) and (17).
- 2. David Patrick Thomas offered and sold unregistered securities in violation of RCW 21.20.140, the securities registration section of the Securities Act of Washington. Such conduct is a ground, pursuant to RCW 21.20.110(1)(b), to deny any investment adviser, broker-dealer, investment adviser representative, or securities salesperson registrations that David Patrick Thomas may seek in the future.
- 3. David Patrick Thomas made untrue statements of material fact or omitted to state material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in the light of the circumstances under which they are made, not misleading, in violation of RCW 21.20.010, the anti-fraud section of the Securities Act of Washington. Such conduct is a ground, pursuant to RCW 21.20.110(1)(b), to deny any investment adviser, broker-dealer, investment adviser representative, or securities salesperson registrations that David Patrick Thomas may seek in the future.
- 4. By effecting securities transactions not recorded on the regular books or records of the broker-dealer that he represented, David Patrick Thomas has engaged in a dishonest or unethical practice as defined at WAC 460-22B-090(2). Such conduct is a ground, pursuant to RCW 21.20.110(1)(g), to deny any investment adviser, broker-dealer, investment adviser representative, or securities salesperson registrations that Thomas may seek in the future.

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

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 Respondent, David Patrick Thomas, and his

agents and employees, each shall cease and desist from any violation of RCW 21.20.010, RCW 21.20.110, and RCW 21.20.140.

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO DENY FUTURE REGISTRATIONS

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.110, and based upon the Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that any future securities registration applications of Respondent, David Patrick Thomas, as an investment adviser, broker-dealer, investment adviser representative, or securities salesperson, shall be denied.

#### NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPOSE A FINE

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.110 and RCW 21.20.395, and based upon the Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that Respondent, David Patrick Thomas, shall be liable for and shall pay a fine of \$40,000.

### 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 Respondent, David Patrick Thomas, shall be liable for and shall pay investigative costs of \$10,000.

### **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. Respondent, David Patrick Thomas, may make a written request for hearing as set forth in the NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO DEFEND AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING accompanying this Statement of Charges. If the respondent does not make a hearing request in the time allowed, the Securities Administrator intends to adopt the Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as final and to enter a permanent order to cease and desist against the respondent, to deny any future securities registration applications made by the

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