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:

Lakemont Commercial Consulting, LLC, Larrick Holdings LLC, Richard A. Ames, Larry F. Allen,

Respondents

Order Number S-12-1042-13-SC01

STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER AN ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST, IMPOSE A FINE, AND CHARGE COSTS

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO:

Lakemont Commercial Consulting, LLC Larrick Holdings LLC Richard A. Ames Larry F. Allen

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Please take notice that the Securities Administrator of the state of Washington has reason to believe

that Respondents, Larrick Holdings, LLC; Lakemont Commercial Consulting, LLC; Richard A. Ames;

and Larry F. Allen, 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 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 follows:

TENTATIVE FINDINGS OF FACT

Respondents

1. Lakemont Commercial Consulting, LLC ("Lakemont") is a Washington limited liability

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company that was formed on March 22, 2007. Lakemont was a broker that solicited investor funding for

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commercial loans and was to be paid loan fees upon successful funding of the loans. Lakemont had its principal place of business in Bellevue, Washington.

2. Larrick Holdings LLC ("Larrick") is a Washington limited liability company that was formed on September 2, 2008. Larrick was a company that was to purchase investment holdings and that offered and sold its own investments. Larrick had its principal place of business in Bellevue, Washington.

3. Richard A. Ames ("Ames") is a Washington resident. Ames was a managing member of Lakemont and Larrick. From January 2005 until March 2010, Ames was a licensed real estate broker in Washington.

4. Larry F. Allen ("Allen") is a Washington resident. Allen was a managing member of Lakemont and Larrick.

Offering of Investments by Lakemont

5. During 2008, Respondents Ames, Allen, and Lakemont collectively offered and sold more than \$2 million worth of investments to at least five investors, four of whom were Washington residents. Two of the investors were retired. Ames, Allen, and Lakemont each falsely represented to the investors that they would receive a secure income from the investments.

6. The investments were evidenced by short-term promissory notes. The promissory notes had terms ranging from two weeks to approximately six months. The promissory notes had interest rates ranging from 15% annual interest to a 100% return on investment within approximately six weeks.

7. When offering and selling the investments, Ames, Allen, and Lakemont each failed to give the investors any written disclosure documents relating to the investments. Ames, Allen, and Lakemont each failed to give the investors background information about the companies that were issuing the investments and the principals of those companies. Ames, Allen, and Lakemont each failed to disclose the risks of the investments. Ames, Allen, and Lakemont each failed to give the investors any financial

information, including financial statements, for the issuer of the investments. When offering and selling later investments, Ames and Lakemont each failed to disclose the non-performance and the delinquent payment history for prior investments that were sold by Ames and Lakemont.

DiFresco Imports LLC Investments

8. In June 2008, Ames and Lakemont solicited a Washington investor to make an investment totaling \$225,000. Ames and Lakemont each represented to the investor that the investments would be used to finance a business loan to DiFresco Imports LLC. Ames and Lakemont each represented that the investment would be repaid within less than four months with 15% annual interest. Ames and Lakemont represented that the investment would be secured by a deed of trust against real property located in Idaho. Ames falsely represented to the investor that the property was valued at over \$800,000. Ames and Lakemont each failed to give the investor any title documents or valuation information for the real property that purportedly secured the investment. The investor never received any repayment of the investment.

9. In June 2008, Ames and Lakemont solicited a second Washington investor to make a \$100,000 investment with DiFresco Imports LLC. Ames and Lakemont each represented to the investor that the investment would generate monthly payments of \$1,250 and would be repaid six months later with 15% annual interest. Ames and Lakemont represented that the investment would be secured by a second deed of trust against real property located in Idaho. Ames falsely represented to the investor that the property was worth somewhere between \$300,000 and \$400,000 and that it was more than adequate to secure the investment. Ames and Lakemont each failed to give the investor any title documents or valuation information for the real property that purportedly secured the investment. The investor later found that the property was only worth approximately \$30,000. The investor was repaid \$2,500, but never received any further payments for the investment.

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Babuski LLC Investments

10. In June 2008, Ames and Lakemont solicited a Washington investor to make a \$150,000 investment with Babuski LLC. Ames and Lakemont represented to the investor that the investment would be fully repaid within six weeks, together with a return of \$60,000, and that the investment proceeds would be used to pay loan extension fees for a commercial building in Las Vegas. Ames and Lakemont each represented that the investment would be secured by a deed of trust against the property. Ames and Lakemont each failed to give the investor any title documents or valuation information for the real property that purportedly secured the investment. The investor never received any repayment of the investment. Babuski LLC filed for chapter 7 bankruptcy in 2009 and the owner of Babuski LLC pleaded guilty in January 2010 to federal wire fraud charges.

11. In June 2008, Ames and Lakemont solicited another Washington investor to make a \$150,000 investment with Babuski LLC. Ames and Lakemont represented to the investor that the investment would be repaid within approximately six weeks, along with a 100% return on investment. Ames and Lakemont represented that the investment would be used to fund a "bridge loan" to Babuski LLC. Ames and Lakemont also represented that the investment would be secured by a deed of trust against a commercial building in Las Vegas. Ames and Lakemont each failed to give the investor any title documents or valuation information for the real property that purportedly secured the investment. The investor never received any repayment of the investment.

WNS Holdings, LLC Investment

12. In August 2008, Allen and Lakemont solicited a Washington investor to make a \$150,000 investment with WNS Holdings, LLC. Allen and Lakemont represented to the investor that the investment would be repaid within less than six months, along with \$30,000 of interest. Allen and Lakemont each represented that the investment would be secured by five different patents for airline flight

technology. Allen and Lakemont each falsely represented that the patents were extremely valuable, although the investor discovered after investing that the patents were worthless. The investor received four interest payments of \$5,000, for a total of \$20,000. After that, the investor never received any further payments on the investment.

Sims Properties Development & Management, Inc. Investment

13. In August 2008, Ames and Lakemont solicited a Washington investor to make a \$500,000 investment with Sims Properties Development & Management, Inc. Ames and Lakemont represented that the company was a Chicago real estate development firm with hundreds of millions of dollars in real estate holdings. Ames and Lakemont each represented that Sims Properties Development & Management, Inc. needed a two-week "bridge loan" and that the investor would be repaid \$540,000 two weeks after investing. Ames and Lakemont falsely represented to the investor that the investment would have "no risk" because it was insured. Ames gave the investor a copy of an insurance policy that purportedly insured the investment. Ames later told the investor, after they had invested, that the insurance policy had never been effective. The investor never received any repayment of the investment.

Global Green Holdings, LLC Investments

14. In July 2008, Ames and Lakemont solicited a Washington investor to make a \$45,000 investment with Global Green Holdings, LLC. Ames and Lakemont each represented to the investor that the loan would be repaid within sixty days, along with an \$18,000 return on investment. Ames and Lakemont also represented that the investment would be secured by a standby letter of credit. Ames and Lakemont each represented that Global Green Holdings, LLC was in the business of producing "clean-burning" coal and that they needed some short-term financing to complete a business transaction. The investor never received any repayment of the investment.

15. In July 2008, Ames and Lakemont solicited another Washington investor to make an \$80,000 investment with Global Green Holdings, LLC. Ames and Lakemont each represented to the investor that the loan would be repaid within sixty days, along with a \$32,000 return on investment. Ames and Lakemont also represented that the investment would be secured by a standby letter of credit. The investor never received any repayment of the investment.

In July 2008, Ames and Lakemont solicited another Washington investor to make a \$375,000 investment with Global Green Holdings, LLC. Ames and Lakemont each represented to the investor that the loan would be repaid within sixty days, along with a \$150,000 return on investment. Ames and Lakemont also represented that the investment would be secured by a standby letter of credit. The investor never received any repayment of the investment.

In August 2008, Ames and Lakemont solicited another Washington investor to make a \$110,000 investment with Global Green Holdings, LLC. Ames and Lakemont each represented to the investor that they would receive a repayment of \$130,000 within two weeks after investing. Ames gave the investor documents showing that real property purportedly worth more than \$1 million would secure the investment. Sometime after the investment was made, Ames admitted to the investor that there did not appear to be any real property security for the investment. The investor never received any repayment of the investment.

In October 2008, Allen and Lakemont solicited an out-of-state investor to make a \$60,000 investment with Global Green Holdings, LLC. Allen and Lakemont each represented that the investor would receive a return of principal plus \$15,000 within sixty days after investing. Allen and Lakemont also represented that the investment would be secured by a standby letter of credit. The investor never received any repayment of the investment.

The Retreat in Palm Canyon Investment

19. In October 2008, Ames and Lakemont solicited a Washington investor to make a \$70,000 investment with The Retreat in Palm Canyon, in order to fund a real estate development project near Palm Springs, California. Ames and Lakemont each represented that the investor would receive a return of principal plus \$50,000 within thirty days after investing. Ames and Lakemont each failed to disclose to the investor that the projected start-up costs for the development project were approximately \$100 million and that the financing had not been secured. The investor never received any repayment of the investment.

Offering of Investments by Larrick

20. From 2008 through 2010, Respondents Ames, Allen, and Larrick collectively offered and sold more than \$1 million worth of investments to at least seven Washington investors, one of whom had also invested with Lakemont. Ames, Allen, and Larrick each falsely represented to the investors that they would receive a secure income from the investments.

21. The investments were evidenced by short-term promissory notes. The promissory notes had terms ranging from 30 days to approximately 150 days. The promissory notes had interest rates ranging from approximately 5% per month to approximately 35% per month.

22. When offering and selling the investments, Ames, Allen, and Larrick each failed to give the investors any written disclosure documents relating to the investments. Ames, Allen, and Larrick each failed to disclose the risks of the investments. Ames, Allen, and Larrick each failed to give the investors any financial information, including financial statements, for the issuers of the investments. When offering and selling later investments, Ames, Allen, and Lakemont each failed to disclose the non-performance and the delinquent payment history for prior investments that were sold by Ames and Allen.

Global Green Holdings, LLC Investment

23. In March 2009, Ames, Allen, and Larrick solicited a Washington investor to make a \$30,000 investment in Global Green Holdings, LLC. Ames, Allen, and Larrick each represented that the investor would receive a return of principal plus 10% within sixty days after investing. Ames, Allen, and Larrick also represented to the investor that the investment would be secured by a standby letter of credit. The investor never received any repayment of the investment.

The Retreat in Palm Canyon Investment

24. In October 2008, Ames, Allen, and Larrick solicited a Washington investor to make a \$90,000 investment for The Retreat in Palm Canyon, in order to fund a real estate development project near Palm Springs, California. Ames, Allen, and Larrick each represented that the investor would receive a return of principal plus 50% within five months after investing. Ames, Allen, and Larrick each failed to disclose to the investor that the projected start-up costs for the development project were approximately \$100 million and that the financing had not been secured. The investor never received any repayment of the investment.

Brighton Investment

25. In March 2010, Ames, Allen, and Larrick solicited a Washington investor to make a \$100,000 investment to finance a Nevada company that would operate medical clinics. Ames, Allen, and Larrick each represented that the investor would receive a return of principal plus \$10,000 within sixty days after investing. Ames, Allen, and Larrick each failed to disclose to the investor the source of repayment for the investment and the amount of funds required to finance the clinics. The investor never received any repayment of the investment.

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Larrick Holdings LLC Investments

26. From October 2008 through March 2009, Ames and Larrick solicited three Washington investors to make investments totaling \$520,000 with Larrick. Ames and Larrick each represented that the investments would yield returns ranging from 10% to 70% within terms ranging from two weeks to ninety days. Ames and Larrick each represented that the investments would be secured by certificates of deposit issued by large commercial banks. Ames and Larrick each failed to disclose the intended use of the invested funds. Ames and Larrick each failed to disclose the source of repayment for the investments. None of the investments were ever repaid.

27. From October 2008 through December 2009, Ames and Larrick solicited three Washington investors to make investments totaling \$220,000 with Larrick. Ames and Larrick each represented that the investments would yield returns ranging from at least 20% to 50% within thirty to ninety days. Ames and Larrick each represented that the investments would be secured by standby letters of credit issued by large commercial banks. Ames and Larrick each failed to disclose the intended use of the invested funds. Ames and Larrick each failed to disclose the source of repayment for the investments. None of the investments were ever repaid.

28. In May 2009, Ames, Allen, and Larrick solicited a Washington investor to invest \$50,000 with Larrick. The investment funds came from a special needs trust and Ames, Allen, and Larrick each knew the source of the investment. Ames, Allen, and Larrick each represented that the investor would earn a 10% return every thirty days. Ames, Allen, and Larrick each represented that the investment would be secured by a certificate of deposit or by a letter of credit issued by a large commercial bank. Ames, Allen, and Larrick each failed to disclose the intended use of the invested funds. Ames, Allen, and Larrick each failed to disclose the source of repayment for the investment. The investment was never repaid.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The offer and sale of the investments described above constitute the offer and sale of a security, as defined in RCW 21.20.005(14) and RCW 21.20.005(17), in the form of an investment contract and a note.

2. As set forth in the Tentative Findings of Fact, Respondents, Lakemont Commercial Consulting, LLC; Larrick Holdings LLC; Richard A. Ames; and Larry F. Allen, have each violated RCW 21.20.010, the anti-fraud section of the Securities Act of Washington, because in connection with the offer and sale of said securities, Respondents each made untrue statements of a 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 were made, not misleading.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ORDER RESPONDENTS TO CEASE AND DESIST

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.390, and based on the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that Respondents, Lakemont Commercial Consulting, LLC; Larrick Holdings LLC; Richard A. Ames; and Larry F. Allen, shall each cease and desist from any violation of RCW 21.20.010.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPOSE A FINE

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.395, and based on the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that Respondent Richard A. Ames shall be liable for and shall pay a fine of \$20,000 and that Respondent Larry F. Allen shall be liable for and shall pay a fine of \$10,000.

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NOTICE OF INTENT TO CHARGE COSTS

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.390, and based on the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that Respondent Richard A. Ames and Larry F. Allen shall each be liable for and shall each pay the Securities Division at least \$5,000 for costs, fees, and other expenses incurred in the conduct of the administrative investigation and/or hearing for this matter.

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. Respondents, Lakemont Commercial Consulting, LLC; Larrick Holdings LLC; Richard A. Ames; and Larry F. Allen, may each make a written request for a hearing, as set forth in the NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO DEFEND AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING accompanying this Statement of Charges.

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, to enter a permanent cease and desist order as to the respondent, and to impose any fines and charge any costs that are sought against the respondent.

WILLFUL VIOLATION OF THIS ORER IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

Signed and Entered this <u>8th</u> day of <u>January</u>

, 2014

WILLIAM M. BEATTY Securities Administrator

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DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS Securities Division P.O. Box 9033 Olympia WA 98507-9033 360-902-8760

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