## STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

1 **SECURITIES DIVISION** 2 3 4 IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING SDO - 88 - 00 Whether there has been a violation 5 of the Securities Act of the State ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACT AND of Washington by: CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND FINAL ORDER 6 CEASE AND DESIST American Freedom International, Jim Lake, 7 their agents and employees, Case No. 99-03-087 Respondents 8 9 THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO: James E. Lake 26137 104<sup>th</sup> SE Ste 197 10 Kent, WA 98031 11 American Freedom International 26137 104<sup>th</sup> SE Ste 197 12 Kent, WA 98031 13 14 15 On March 29, 2000, the Securities Administrator of the State of Washington issued Summary Order to Cease and 16 Desist SDO-37-00 hereinafter referred to as the Order to James E. Lake and American Freedom International. 17 The Order, together with a Notice of Opportunity to Defend and Opportunity for Hearing (, hereinafter referred to 18 as "Notice of Opportunity for Hearing") and an Application for Adjudicative Hearing (, hereinafter referred to as 19 "Application for Hearing") thereon, were received by James E. Lake and American Freedom International on or before 20 July 20, 2000. The Notice of Opportunity for Hearing advised Lake and American Freedom International that each had 21 twenty days from the date he received the notice to file a written application for an administrative hearing on the 22 Statement of Charges. 2.3 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS 1 24 **Securities Division** ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACT AND PO Box 9033

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James E. Lake and American Freedom International each failed to request an administrative hearing within twenty days of his receipt of the Statement of Charges and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing, either on the Application for hearing provided or otherwise.

The Securities Administrator therefore will adopt as final the findings of fact and conclusions of law as set forth in the Statement of Charges.

The Securities Administrator makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

I.

American Freedom International is a Washington business entity with a principal business address of 26137 104<sup>th</sup> Ave SE Ste 197, Kent, WA 98031. American Freedom International is not incorporated in Washington nor has it qualified to do business as a foreign corporation in Washington. American Freedom International's address is a post office box at PostNet, a mailbox service.

II.

James E. Lake is president and chief executive officer of American Freedom International.

III.

American Freedom International is in the business of reselling long distance telephone services through a multilevel marketing organization. In late August 1998, Jim Lake, as president and chief executive officer of American Freedom International, sent a letter to the customers, distributors, and representatives, offering them an opportunity to purchase stock in American Freedom International at \$2.50 a share. The letter said that the stock of American Freedom International would go public at \$5 a share within 30 days, allowing purchasers in the members only offering to double their money in a short time. The letter says that the company was anticipating phenomenal growth in the next 90 days and expected that growth to be reflected in the stock price.

The letter also stated that friends or family members of American Freedom International members could

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participate in the members only offering if the friends or family members become customers of American Freedom International. The proceeds of the sales of stock to members, the letter said, would be reinvested in the company to upgrade its systems, develop marketing materials, and make strategic investments. The letter included instructions on how to purchase stock. Purchasers were instructed to send their checks to American Security Transfer Agency at a post office box on Bainbridge Island or to wire funds to ASTA Capital Corp.'s account at Wells Fargo Bank. Lake's letter was not accompanied by any additional written materials, such as financial statements or other information on the financial condition of the company, information on the prior business experience of Lake, or information concerning the risks of investing in a startup company. It did not explain that the only efforts American Freedom International had made to take its stock public were to negotiate with John Wachsmith of ASTA Capital to purchase the outstanding stock in a shell corporation or that American Freedom International had not completed the purchase of the stock in the shell corporation. It did not explain that funds invested would be deposited in an account maintained by John Wachsmith for various business and household purposes and would not be held in an escrow or trust account.

IV.

At least forty persons responded to American Freedom International's offer. They collectively invested about \$80,000. About \$23,000 of the funds from investors were remitted by ASTA to Lake. None of the funds were deposited to any bank account held in the name of American Freedom International. No shares were ever issued to the investors. American Freedom International never "went public." It never received acquired the shares of any shell corporation from ASTA. The Securities Administrator has already entered another administrative order, SDO 11-00, against ASTA Capital Corp., American Securities Transfer Agency, and John Wachsmith in connection with their roles in the American Freedom International offering.

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American Freedom International is not currently registered to sell its securities in the state of Washington and has not previously been so registered.

VI.

The Securities Administrator finds that the continued offering of American Freedom International stock in the manner described in Tentative Finding of Fact III presents a threat to the investing public.

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

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

I.

The offer and/or sale of American Freedom International stock described above constitutes the offer and/or sale of a security as defined in RCW 21.20.005(10) and (12).

II.

The offer and/or sale of said securities is in violation of RCW 21.20.140 because no registration or for such offer and/or sale is on file with the Securities Administrator, state of Washington.

III.

The offer and/or sale of said securities was made in violation of RCW 21.20.010 because it contained misleading statements of material fact including that the company was about to go public, that the proceeds of the offering would be invested in the company, and that investors could expect to double their money in a month, as described in Tentative Findings of Fact Paragraphs III and IV.

V.

The Securities Administrator finds that an emergency exists, that the continued violations of RCW 21.20.010 and RCW 21.20. constitutes a threat to the investing public, and that a summary order to cease and desist from those violations is in the public interest and necessary for the protection of the investing public.

Based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law it is hereby

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ORDERED that respondents American Freedom International and James E. Lake, their agents, and 1 employees each cease and desist from offering and/or selling securities in any manner in violation of RCW 2 21.20.140, the section of the Securities Act of Washington requiring registration. 3 It is further ORDERED that American Freedom International and James E. Lake, their agents, and 4 employees each cease and desist from violation of RCW 21.20.010, the anti-fraud section of the Securities Act. 5 This Order is entered pursuant to RCW 21.20.390 and is subject to the provisions of ch. 34.05 RCW. 6 WILLFUL VIOLATION OF THIS ORDER IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE. 7 DATED this 24th day of August, 2000. 8 9 Debark R Brhen 10 11 DEBORAH R. BORTNER 12 Securities Administrator 13 Approved By: Presented By: 14 15 Michael E. Stevenson Suzanne E. Sarason Chief of Enforcement Senior Enforcement Attorney 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS 5 24 **Securities Division** ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACT AND PO Box 9033 25 CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND FINAL Olympia, WA 98507-9033 360-902-8760 ORDER CEASE AND DESIST

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