

Notice of Hearing

-2-

maximum amount pursuant to Section 11 of the Act, payable within ten (10) days of the entry of the Order.

The grounds for such proposed action are as follows:

1. That Respondent, Trade Partners, is a purported business entity, with a last known address of Suite 570 Grand Plaza Place, 220 Lyons Court, NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503;
2. That Respondent, Lewis Dean McBride, is an individual with a last known address of 516 Mimosa Drive, Lee's Summit, MO 64086;
3. That during the month of January, 1999, Trade Partners, its Officers, Directors, Employees, Agents, Affiliates, Successors and Assigns, and Lewis Dean McBride, offered and sold to at least one (1) Illinois resident, shares or "interest(s)" in Trade Partners for an investment of \$40,000; furthermore, on or about June 8, 2000, Trade Partners, its Officers, Directors, Employees, Agents, Affiliates, Successors and Assigns, and Lewis Dean McBride, offered and sold to the aforesaid Illinois resident an additional "interest(s)" in Trade Partners, consisting of an assignment of a "secured income-producing note" which was represented to bear an annual yield of 13%, for an additional investment of \$40,000, amounting to a total investment of \$80,000;
4. That the above-referenced "interest(s)" or note is a security as that term is defined pursuant to Section 2.1. of the Illinois Securities Law of 1953 [815 ILCS 5/1 et seq.] (the "Act");
5. That Section 5 of the Act provides, inter alia, that all securities except those exempt under Section 3 of the Act or those offered and sold in transactions exempt under Section 4 of the Act shall be registered with the Secretary of State prior to their offer or sale in the State of Illinois;
6. That Section 12.A of the Act provides, inter alia, that it shall be a violation of the Act for any person to offer or sell securities except in accordance with the provisions of the Act;
7. That Section 12.D of the Act provides, inter alia, that it shall be a violation of the Act for any person to fail to

Notice of Hearing

-3-

file with the Secretary of State any document or application required to be filed under the provisions of the Act;

8. That at all times relevant hereto, Trade Partners, its Officers, Directors, Employees, Agents, Affiliates, Successors and Assigns, and Lewis Dean McBride, failed to file an application for registration of the above-referenced securities with the Secretary of State prior to their offer or sale in the State of Illinois;
9. That by virtue of the foregoing, Trade Partners, its Officers, Directors, Employees, Agents, Affiliates, Successors and Assigns, and Lewis Dean McBride, have violated Sections 12.A and 12.D of the Act;
10. That Section 11.E.(3) of the Act provides, inter alia, that if the Secretary of State shall find that any person is engaging or has engaged in the business of selling or offering for sale securities as a dealer or salesperson without prior thereto and at the time thereof having complied with the registration or notice filing requirements of this Act, the Secretary of State may by written order prohibit the person from offering or selling any securities in this State;
11. That Section 11.E(2) of the Act provides, inter alia, that if the Secretary of State shall find that any person has violated subsection D of Section 12 of the Act, the Secretary of State may by written order prohibit the person from offering or selling any securities in this State;
12. That Section 11.E(4) of the Act provides, inter alia, that if the Secretary of State, after finding that any provision of the Act has been violated, may impose a fine as provided by rule, regulation or order not to exceed \$10,000.00 for each violation of the Act, charge as costs of investigation all reasonable expenses, and issue an order of public censure;
13. That by virtue of the foregoing, the Respondents Trade Partners, its Officers, Directors, Employees, Agents, Affiliates, Successors and Assigns, and Lewis Dean McBride, are subject to a fine of up to \$ 10,000.00 per violation, costs of investigation, an order of public censure, and an order which permanently prohibits the Respondents from offering or selling securities in the State of Illinois.

Notice of Hearing

-4-

You are further notified that you are required pursuant to Section 130.1104 of the Rules and Regulations (14 Ill. Adm. Code 130) (the "Rules"), to file an answer to the allegations outlined above or a Special Appearance pursuant to Section 130.1107 of the Rules, or other responsive pleading within thirty days of the receipt of this notice. Your failure to do so within the prescribed time shall be deemed an admission of the allegations contained in the Notice of Hearing and waives your right to a hearing.

Furthermore, you may be represented by legal counsel; may present evidence; may cross-examine witnesses and otherwise participate. A failure to so appear shall constitute default.

A copy of the Rules, promulgated under the Act and pertaining to Hearings held by the Office of the Secretary of State, Securities Department, is included with this Notice.

Delivery of notice to the designated representative of any Respondent constitutes service upon such Respondents.

Dated this 23rd day of December, 2003.



Jesse White
Jesse White
Secretary of State
State of Illinois

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Notice of Hearing

-5-

Hearing Officer:

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