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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

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WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

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**Federal Trade Commission, and  
State of Ohio ex rel. Attorney General  
Dave Yost,**

No. \_\_\_\_:19-CV-\_\_\_\_

Plaintiffs,

**EP 19 CV 0195**

v.

**EX PARTE TEMPORARY  
RESTRAINING ORDER WITH ASSET  
FREEZE, APPOINTMENT OF A  
TEMPORARY RECEIVER, AND  
OTHER EQUITABLE RELIEF, AND  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE WHY A  
PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION  
SHOULD NOT ISSUE**

**Madera Merchant Services, LLC, dba E  
Check Processing and  
echeckprocessing.net, a Texas company,**

**(FILED UNDER SEAL)**

**B&P Enterprises, LLC, a Texas  
company,**

**Bruce C. Woods, individually and as an  
owner, officer, member, and/or manager  
of Madera Merchant Services, LLC and  
B&P Enterprises, LLC,**

**Patricia Woods, individually and as an  
owner, manager, and/or member of  
Madera Merchant Services, LLC and  
B&P Enterprises, LLC,**

and

**Victor Rodriguez, individually and as an  
officer, member, and/or manager of  
Madera Merchant Services, LLC and  
B&P Enterprises, LLC,**

Defendants.

Plaintiffs, Federal Trade Commission (“FTC”) and the State of Ohio (collectively, “Plaintiffs”), have filed their Complaint for Permanent Injunction and Other Equitable Relief under Section 13(b) and 19 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 53(b), 57b, the Telemarketing and Consumer Fraud and Abuse Prevention Act (“Telemarketing Act”), 15 U.S.C. §§ 6101-6108, and Ohio Consumer Sales Practices Act (“CSPA”), R.C.

1 1345.07 (Docket No. \_\_\_\_), and have moved, under Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b), for a  
2 temporary restraining order, asset freeze, other equitable relief, and an order to show  
3 cause why a preliminary injunction should not issue against Madera Merchant Services,  
4 LLC; B&P Enterprises, LLC; Bruce Woods; Patricia Woods; and Victor Rodriguez  
5 (collectively, “Defendants”) (Docket No. \_\_\_\_).  
6

7 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

8 The Court, having considered the Complaint, the *ex parte* Motion for a  
9 Temporary Restraining Order, declarations, exhibits, and the memorandum of points and  
10 authorities filed in support thereof, and being otherwise advised, finds that:

11 A. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this case, and there is  
12 good cause to believe that it will have jurisdiction over all parties hereto and that venue in  
13 this district is proper.  
14

15 B. Defendants operate a third-party payment processing scheme that uses  
16 remotely created payment orders or remotely created checks (“RCPOs”) to withdraw  
17 money from consumers’ accounts on behalf of third-party merchants. Defendants  
18 routinely withdraw funds from consumers for merchants engaged in fraud or deceptive  
19 marketing.  
20

21 C. Defendants routinely provide RCPO payment processing services to  
22 telemarketers in violation of the TSR, which expressly prohibits collecting payments  
23 through RCPOs in connection with telemarketing sales. 16 C.F.R. 310.4(a)(9). They  
24 have processed more than \$8.6 million in RCPO payments generated through  
25 telemarketing since June 13, 2016, the date when the TSR prohibition on the use of  
26 RCPOs in telemarketing transactions went into effect.  
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1 D. To execute their scheme, Defendants have opened numerous business  
2 checking accounts under various assumed names with numerous banks and credit unions.  
3 Defendants routinely fail to disclose to the financial institutions that the accounts will be  
4 used to process consumer payments for third-party merchants via RCPOs.

5 E. There is good cause to believe that Defendants have engaged in and are  
6 likely to engage in acts or practices that violate Section 5(a) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C.  
7 § 45(a), the TSR, 16 C.F.R. Part 310, and the Ohio CSPA, R.C. 1345.01 *et seq.*, and that  
8 Plaintiffs are therefore likely to prevail on the merits of this action. As demonstrated by  
9 the declarations of bank and credit union employees, declarations of investigators from  
10 the FTC and the Ohio Attorney General's Office, bank records, and other documentation  
11 filed by Plaintiffs, Plaintiffs have established a likelihood of success in showing that  
12 Defendants have unlawfully processed consumer payments through RCPOs in violation  
13 of the FTC Act, the TSR, and the Ohio CSPA.

14 F. There is good cause to believe that immediate and irreparable harm will  
15 result from Defendants' ongoing violations of the FTC Act, the TSR, and the Ohio CSPA  
16 unless Defendants are restrained and enjoined by order of this Court.

17 G. There is good cause to believe that immediate and irreparable damage to  
18 the Court's ability to grant effective final relief for consumers – including monetary  
19 restitution, rescission, disgorgement or refunds – will occur from the sale, transfer,  
20 destruction or other disposition or concealment by Defendants of their assets or records,  
21 unless Defendants are immediately restrained and enjoined by order of this Court; and  
22 that, in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b) the interests of justice require that this  
23 Order be granted without prior notice to Defendants. Thus, there is good cause for  
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1 relieving Plaintiffs of the duty to provide Defendants with prior notice of its Application  
2 for a Temporary Restraining Order.

3 H. Good cause exists for appointing a temporary receiver over the  
4 Receivership Entities, freezing Defendants' assets, permitting the Receiver immediate  
5 access to Defendants' business premises to obtain and take control of Defendants'  
6 business records wherever the records are stored, and permitting the Plaintiffs and the  
7 Receiver to take expedited discovery.  
8

9 I. Weighing the equities and considering Plaintiffs' likelihood of ultimate  
10 success on the merits, a temporary restraining order with an asset freeze, the appointment  
11 of a temporary receiver, immediate access to Defendants' business premises and records,  
12 expedited discovery, and other equitable relief is in the public interest.  
13

14 J. This Court has authority to issue this Order pursuant to Section 13(b) of  
15 the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 53(b); Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65; and the All Writs  
16 Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1651.  
17

18 K. No security is required of any agency of the United States for issuance of a  
19 temporary restraining order. Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(c).

#### 20 DEFINITIONS

21 For the purpose of this Order, the following definitions shall apply:

22 A. **"Corporate Defendants"** means Madera Merchant Services, LLC, B&P  
23 Enterprises, LLC, and each of their subsidiaries, affiliates, successors, and assigns.  
24

25 B. **"Defendants"** means the Corporate Defendants and the Individual  
26 Defendants, individually, collectively, or in any combination.  
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1 C. **“Document”** is synonymous in meaning and equal in scope to the usage of  
2 “document” and “electronically stored information” in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure  
3 34(a), Fed. R. Civ. P. 34(a), and includes writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs,  
4 sound and video recordings, images, Internet sites, web pages, websites, electronic  
5 correspondence, including e-mail and instant messages, contracts, accounting data,  
6 advertisements, FTP Logs, Server Access Logs, books, written or printed records,  
7 handwritten notes, telephone logs, telephone scripts, receipt books, ledgers, personal and  
8 business canceled checks and check registers, bank statements, appointment books,  
9 computer records, customer or sales databases and any other electronically stored  
10 information, including Documents located on remote servers or cloud computing  
11 systems, and other data or data compilations from which information can be obtained  
12 directly or, if necessary, after translation into a reasonably usable form. A draft or non-  
13 identical copy is a separate Document within the meaning of the term.

16 D. **“Electronic Data Host”** means any Person in the business of storing,  
17 hosting, or otherwise maintaining electronically stored information. This includes, but is  
18 not limited to, any entity hosting a website or server, and any entity providing “cloud  
19 based” electronic storage.

21 E. **“Individual Defendants”** means Bruce Woods, Patricia Woods, and  
22 Victor Rodriguez, individually, collectively, or in any combination.

23 F. **“Payment Processing”** means providing a Person, directly or indirectly,  
24 with means or service used to charge or debit financial accounts through the use of any  
25 payment method or mechanism, including, but not limited to, credit cards, debit cards,  
26 prepaid cards, stored value cards, ACH Debits, Remotely Created Payment Orders, and  
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1 Remotely Created Checks. Whether accomplished through the use of software or  
2 otherwise, Payment Processing includes, among other things: (a) reviewing and  
3 approving Merchant applications for payment processing services; (b) providing the  
4 means to transmit sales transaction data from third-party merchants to banks, credit  
5 unions, Payment Processors, independent sales organizations, payment facilitators or  
6 other financial institutions; (c) clearing, settling, or distributing proceeds of sales  
7 transactions from banks, credit unions, or other financial institutions to third-oary  
8 merchants; or (d) processing chargebacks or returned Remotely Created Payment Orders,  
9 checks or Automated Clearing House (ACH) transactions on behalf of third-party  
10 merchants.  
11

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13 G. **“Payment Processor”** means any Person providing Payment Processing  
14 services in connection with another Person’s sale of goods or services, or in connection  
15 with any charitable donation.

16 H. **“Person”** means any natural person or any entity, corporation, partnership,  
17 or association of persons.

18  
19 I. **“Remotely Created Payment Order”** or **“RCPO”** means a payment  
20 instruction or order, whether created in electronic or paper format, drawn on a payor’s  
21 account that is initiated or created by or on behalf of the payee, and which is deposited  
22 into or cleared through the check clearing system. For purposes of this definition, an  
23 account includes any financial account or credit or other arrangement that allows checks,  
24 payment instructions, or orders to be drawn against it that are payable by, through, or at a  
25 bank.  
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1 J. “**Receiver**” means the temporary receiver appointed in Section XII of this  
2 Order and any deputy receivers that shall be named by the temporary receiver.

3 K. “**Receivership Entities**” means the Corporate Defendants as well as any  
4 other entity that has conducted any business related to the Defendants’ RCPO payment  
5 processing scheme, including receipt of assets or funds derived from any activity that is  
6 the subject of the Complaint in this matter, and that the Receiver determines is controlled  
7 or owned by any Defendant.  
8

9 L. “**Seller**” means any Person who, in connection with a Telemarketing  
10 transaction, provides, offers to provide, or arranges for others to provide goods or  
11 services to a customers in exchange for consideration.  
12

13 M. “**Telemarketer**” means any Person who, in connection with  
14 Telemarketing, initiates or receives telephone calls to or from a customer or donor.

15 N. “**Telemarketing**” means any plan, program, or campaign that is  
16 conducted to induce the purchase of goods or services or a charitable contribution by use  
17 of one or more telephones.  
18

19 **ORDER**

20 **I. PROHIBITION REGARDING PAYMENT PROCESSING**

21 **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that Defendants, Defendants’ officers, agents,  
22 employees, and attorneys, and all other Persons in active concert or participation with  
23 them, who receive actual notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, whether  
24 acting directly or indirectly, are temporarily restrained and enjoined from Payment  
25 Processing.  
26





1 any law, regulation, or court order, or in any filings, pleadings or discovery in this action  
2 in the manner required by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and by any protective  
3 order in the case.

4 **IV. ASSET FREEZE**

5 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants and Defendants' officers, agents,  
6 employees, and attorneys, and all other Persons in active concert or participation with any  
7 of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, whether acting directly or indirectly, are  
8 hereby temporarily restrained and enjoined from:  
9

10 A. Transferring, liquidating, converting, encumbering, pledging, loaning,  
11 selling, concealing, dissipating, disbursing, assigning, relinquishing, spending,  
12 withdrawing, granting a lien or security interest or other interest in, or otherwise  
13 disposing of any assets that are:  
14

- 15 1. owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by any Defendant;
- 16 2. held, in part or in whole, for the benefit of any Defendant;
- 17 3. in the actual or constructive possession of any Defendant; or
- 18 4. owned or controlled by, in the actual or constructive possession of, or  
19 otherwise held for the benefit of, any corporation, partnership, asset  
20 protection trust, or other entity that is directly or indirectly owned,  
21 managed or controlled by any Defendant.  
22

23 B. Opening or causing to be opened any safe deposit boxes, commercial mail  
24 boxes, or storage facilities titled in the name of any Defendant or subject to access by any  
25 Defendant, except as necessary to comply with written requests from the Receiver acting  
26 pursuant to its authority under this Order;  
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1 C. Incurring charges or cash advances on any credit, debit, or ATM card  
2 issued in the name, individually or jointly, of any corporate defendant or any corporation,  
3 partnership, or other entity directly or indirectly owned, managed, or controlled by any  
4 Defendant or of which any Defendant is an officer, director, member, or manager. This  
5 includes any corporate bankcard or corporate credit card account for which any  
6 Defendant is, or was on the date that this Order was signed, an authorized signor; or  
7

8 D. Cashing any checks or depositing any money orders or cash received from  
9 consumers, clients, or customers of any Defendant.

10 The assets covered by this Section shall include: (1) all assets of Defendants as of  
11 the time this Order is entered; and (2) assets obtained by Defendants after this Order is  
12 entered if those assets are derived from any activity that is the subject of the Complaint in  
13 this matter or that is prohibited by this Order. This Section does not prohibit any transfer  
14 of assets to the Receiver or repatriation of assets specifically required by this Order, and  
15 does not freeze JPMorgan Bank account X2365.  
16

17 **V. DUTIES OF ASSET HOLDERS AND OTHER THIRD PARTIES**

18 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any financial or brokerage institution,  
19 Electronic Data Host, credit card processor, Payment Processor, merchant bank,  
20 acquiring bank, independent sales organization, third party processor, payment gateway,  
21 insurance company, business entity, or Person who receives actual notice of this Order  
22 (by service or otherwise) that:  
23

24 (a) has held, controlled, or maintained custody, through an account or  
25 otherwise, of any Document on behalf of any Defendant or any asset that has been  
26 owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by any Defendant; held, in part or in  
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whole, for the benefit of any Defendant; in the actual or constructive possession of any Defendant; or owned or controlled by, in the actual or constructive possession of, or otherwise held for the benefit of, any corporation, partnership, asset protection trust, or other entity that is directly or indirectly owned, managed or controlled by any Defendant;

(b) has held, controlled, or maintained custody, through an account or otherwise, of any Document or asset associated with credits, debits, or charges made on behalf of any Defendant, including reserve funds held by payment processors, credit card processors, merchant banks, acquiring banks, independent sales organizations, third party processors, payment gateways, insurance companies, or other entities; or

(c) has extended credit to any Defendant, including through a credit card account, shall:

A. Hold, preserve, and retain within its control and prohibit the withdrawal, removal, alteration, assignment, transfer, pledge, encumbrance, disbursement, dissipation, relinquishment, conversion, sale, or other disposal of any such Document or asset, as well as all Documents or other property related to such assets, except by further order of this Court; provided, however, that this provision does not prohibit an individual defendant from incurring charges on a personal credit card established prior to entry of this Order, up to the pre-existing credit limit;

B. Deny any Person, except the Receiver, access to any safe deposit box, commercial mail box, or storage facility that is titled in the name of any Defendant, either individually or jointly, or otherwise subject to access by any Defendant;

1 C. Provide Plaintiffs' counsel and the Receiver, within three (3) days of  
2 receiving a copy of this Order, a sworn statement setting forth, for each asset or account  
3 covered by this Section:

- 4 1. The identification number of each such account or asset;
- 5 2. The balance of each such account, or a description of the nature and  
6 value of each such asset as of the close of business on the day on  
7 which this Order is served, and, if the account or other asset has been  
8 closed or removed, the date closed or removed, the total funds  
9 removed in order to close the account, and the name of the Person  
10 whom such account or other asset was remitted; and
- 11 3. The identification of any safe deposit box, commercial mail box, or  
12 storage facility that is either titled in the name, individually or jointly,  
13 of any Defendant, or is otherwise subject to access by any Defendant;  
14 and  
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17 D. Upon the request of Plaintiffs' counsel or the Receiver, promptly provide  
18 Plaintiffs' counsel and the Receiver with copies of all records or other Documents  
19 pertaining to any account covered by this Section or asset, including originals or copies  
20 of account applications, account statements, signature cards, checks, drafts, deposit  
21 tickets, transfers to and from the accounts, including wire transfers and wire transfer  
22 instructions, all other debit and credit instruments or slips, currency transaction reports,  
23 1099 forms, and all logs and records pertaining to safe deposit boxes, commercial mail  
24 boxes, and storage facilities.  
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1 This Section does not prohibit any transfer of assets to the Receiver or repatriation  
2 of assets specifically required by this Order.

3 **VI. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES**

4 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that each Defendant, within five (5) days of  
5 service of this Order upon them, shall prepare and deliver to Plaintiffs' counsel and the  
6 Receiver:  
7

8 A. Completed financial statements on the forms attached to this Order as  
9 **Attachment B** (Financial Statement of Individual Defendant) for each Individual  
10 Defendant, and **Attachment C** (Financial Statement of Corporate Defendant) for each  
11 Corporate Defendant; and

12 B. Completed **Attachment D** (IRS Form 4506, Request for Copy of a Tax  
13 Return) for each Defendant.  
14

15 **VII. FOREIGN ASSET REPATRIATION**

16 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that within five (5) days following the service of  
17 this Order, each Defendant shall:

18 A. Provide Plaintiffs' counsel and the Receiver with a full accounting,  
19 verified under oath and accurate as of the date of this Order, of all assets, Documents, and  
20 accounts outside of the United States which are: (1) titled in the name, individually or  
21 jointly, of any Defendant; (2) held by any Person for the benefit of any Defendant or for  
22 the benefit of, any corporation, partnership, asset protection trust, or other entity that is  
23 directly or indirectly owned, managed or controlled by any Defendant; or (3) under the  
24 direct or indirect control, whether jointly or singly, of any Defendant;  
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1           B.       Take all steps necessary to provide Plaintiffs' counsel and the Receiver  
2 access to all Documents and records that may be held by third parties located outside of  
3 the territorial United States of America, including signing the Consent to Release of  
4 Financial Records appended to this Order as **Attachment E**.

5           C.       Transfer to the territory of the United States any and all Documents and  
6 assets located in foreign countries which are: (1) titled in the name, individually or  
7 jointly, of any Defendant; (2) held by any Person for the benefit of any Defendant or for  
8 the benefit of, any corporation, partnership, asset protection trust, or other entity that is  
9 directly or indirectly owned, managed or controlled by any Defendant; or (3) under the  
10 direct or indirect control, whether jointly or singly, of any Defendant; and  
11

12           D.       The same business day as any repatriation, (1) notify the Receiver and  
13 counsel for Plaintiffs of the name and location of the financial institution or other entity  
14 that is the recipient of such Documents or assets; and (2) serve this Order on any such  
15 financial institution or other entity.  
16

17                           **VIII. NON-INTERFERENCE WITH REPATRIATION**

18           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants, Defendants' officers, agents,  
19 employees, and attorneys, and all other Persons in active concert or participation with any  
20 of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, whether acting directly or indirectly, are  
21 hereby temporarily restrained and enjoined from taking any action, directly or indirectly,  
22 which may result in the encumbrance or dissipation of foreign assets, or in the hindrance  
23 of the repatriation required by this Order, including, but not limited to:  
24

25           A.       Sending any communication or engaging in any other act, directly or  
26 indirectly, that results in a determination by a foreign trustee or other entity that a  
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1 “duress” event has occurred under the terms of a foreign trust agreement until such time  
2 that all Defendants’ assets have been fully repatriated pursuant to this Order; or

3 B. Notifying any trustee, protector or other agent of any foreign trust or other  
4 related entities of either the existence of this Order, or of the fact that repatriation is  
5 required pursuant to a court order, until such time that all Defendants’ assets have been  
6 fully repatriated pursuant to this Order.  
7

8 **IX. CONSUMER CREDIT REPORTS**

9 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Plaintiffs may obtain credit reports  
10 concerning any Defendants pursuant to Section 604(a)(1) of the Fair Credit Reporting  
11 Act, 15 U.S.C. 1681b(a)(1), and that, upon written request, any credit reporting agency  
12 from which such reports are requested shall provide them to Plaintiffs.  
13

14 **X. PRESERVATION OF RECORDS**

15 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants, Defendants’ officers, agents,  
16 employees, and attorneys, and all other Persons in active concert or participation with any  
17 of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, whether acting directly or indirectly, are  
18 hereby temporarily restrained and enjoined from:  
19

20 A. Destroying, erasing, falsifying, writing over, mutilating, concealing,  
21 altering, transferring, or otherwise disposing of, in any manner, directly or indirectly,  
22 Documents that relate to: (1) the business, business practices, assets, or business or  
23 personal finances of any Defendant; (2) the business practices or finances of entities  
24 directly or indirectly under the control of any Defendant; or (3) the business practices or  
25 finances of entities directly or indirectly under common control with any other  
26 Defendant; and  
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1 B. Failing to create and maintain Documents that, in reasonable detail,  
2 accurately, fairly, and completely reflect Defendants' incomes, disbursements,  
3 transactions, and use of Defendants' assets.

4 **XI. REPORT OF NEW BUSINESS ACTIVITY**

5 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants, Defendants' officers, agents,  
6 employees, and attorneys, and all other Persons in active concert or participation with any  
7 of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, whether acting directly or indirectly, are  
8 hereby temporarily restrained and enjoined from creating, operating, or exercising any  
9 control over any business entity, whether newly formed or previously inactive, including  
10 any partnership, limited partnership, joint venture, sole proprietorship, or corporation,  
11 without first providing Plaintiffs' counsel and the Receiver with a written statement  
12 disclosing: (1) the name of the business entity; (2) the address and telephone number of  
13 the business entity; (3) the names of the business entity's officers, directors, principals,  
14 managers, and employees; and (4) a detailed description of the business entity's intended  
15 activities.  
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18 **XII. TEMPORARY RECEIVER**

19 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Susan M. Forbes is appointed as  
20 temporary receiver of the Receivership Entities with full powers of an equity receiver.  
21 The Receiver shall be solely the agent of this Court in acting as Receiver under this  
22 Order.  
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24 **XIII. DUTIES AND AUTHORITY OF RECEIVER**

25 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Receiver is directed and authorized to  
26 accomplish the following:  
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A. Assume full control of Receivership Entities by removing, as the Receiver deems necessary or advisable, any director, officer, independent contractor, employee, attorney, or agent of any Receivership Entity from control of, management of, or participation in, the affairs of the Receivership Entity;

B. Take exclusive custody, control, and possession of all assets and Documents of, or in the possession, custody, or under the control of, any Receivership Entity, wherever situated;

C. Take exclusive custody, control, and possession of all Documents or assets associated with credits, debits, or charges made on behalf of any Receivership Entity, wherever situated, including reserve funds held by payment processors, credit card processors, merchant banks, acquiring banks, independent sales organizations, third party processors, payment gateways, insurance companies, or other entities;

D. Conserve, hold, manage, and prevent the loss of all assets of the Receivership Entities, and perform all acts necessary or advisable to preserve the value of those assets. The Receiver shall assume control over the income and profits therefrom and all sums of money now or hereafter due or owing to the Receivership Entities. The Receiver shall have full power to sue for, collect, and receive, all assets of the Receivership Entities and of other Persons whose interests are now under the direction, possession, custody, or control of, the Receivership Entities. Provided, however, that the Receiver shall not attempt to collect any amount from a consumer if the Receiver believes the consumer's debt to the Receivership Entities has resulted from the deceptive acts or practices or other violations of law alleged in the Complaint in this matter, without prior Court approval;

1 E. Obtain, conserve, hold, manage, and prevent the loss of all Documents of  
2 the Receivership Entities, and perform all acts necessary or advisable to preserve such  
3 Documents. The Receiver shall: divert mail; preserve all Documents of the Receivership  
4 Entities that are accessible via electronic means (such as online access to financial  
5 accounts and access to electronic Documents held onsite or by Electronic Data Hosts, by  
6 changing usernames, passwords or other log-in credentials); take possession of all  
7 electronic Documents of the Receivership Entities stored onsite or remotely; take  
8 whatever steps necessary to preserve all such Documents; and obtain the assistance of the  
9 FTC's Digital Forensic Unit for the purpose of obtaining electronic Documents stored  
10 onsite or remotely.  
11

12 F. Choose, engage, and employ attorneys, accountants, appraisers, and other  
13 independent contractors and technical specialists, as the Receiver deems advisable or  
14 necessary in the performance of duties and responsibilities under the authority granted by  
15 this Order;  
16

17 G. Make payments and disbursements from the receivership estate that are  
18 necessary or advisable for carrying out the directions of, or exercising the authority  
19 granted by, this Order, and to incur, or authorize the making of, such agreements as may  
20 be necessary and advisable in discharging his or her duties as Receiver. The Receiver  
21 shall apply to the Court for prior approval of any payment of any debt or obligation  
22 incurred by the Receivership Entities prior to the date of entry of this Order, except  
23 payments that the Receiver deems necessary or advisable to secure assets of the  
24 Receivership Entities, such as rental payments for business premises?;  
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1           H.       Take all steps necessary to secure and take exclusive custody of each non-  
2 residential location from which the Receivership Entities operate their businesses. Such  
3 steps may include, but are not limited to, any of the following, as the Receiver deems  
4 necessary or advisable: (1) securing the location by changing the locks and alarm codes  
5 and disconnecting any internet access or other means of access to the computers, servers,  
6 internal networks, or other records maintained at that location; and (2) requiring any  
7 persons present at the location to leave the premises, to provide the Receiver with proof  
8 of identification, and/or to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Receiver that such  
9 persons are not removing from the premises Documents or assets of the Receivership  
10 Entities. Law enforcement personnel, including, but not limited to, police or sheriffs,  
11 may assist the Receiver in implementing these provisions in order to keep the peace and  
12 maintain security. If requested by the Receiver, the United States Marshal will provide  
13 appropriate and necessary assistance to the Receiver to implement this Order and is  
14 authorized to use any necessary and reasonable force to do so;  
15  
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17           I.       Take all steps necessary to prevent the modification, destruction, or  
18 erasure of any web page or website registered to and operated, in whole or in part, by any  
19 Defendants, including echeckprocessing.net, and to provide access to all such web page  
20 or websites to Plaintiffs' representatives, agents, and assistants, as well as Defendants and  
21 their representatives;  
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23           J.       Enter into and cancel contracts and purchase insurance as advisable or  
24 necessary;  
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1           K.     Prevent the inequitable distribution of assets and determine, adjust, and  
2 protect the interests of consumers who have transacted business with the Receivership  
3 Entities;

4           L.     Make an accounting, as soon as practicable, of the assets and financial  
5 condition of the receivership and file the accounting with the Court and deliver copies  
6 thereof to all parties;

7           M.     Institute, compromise, adjust, appear in, intervene in, defend, dispose of,  
8 or otherwise become party to any legal action in state, federal or foreign courts or  
9 arbitration proceedings as the Receiver deems necessary and advisable to preserve or  
10 recover the assets of the Receivership Entities, or to carry out the Receiver's mandate  
11 under this Order, including but not limited to, actions challenging fraudulent or voidable  
12 transfers;

13           N.     Issue subpoenas to obtain Documents and records pertaining to the  
14 Receivership, and conduct discovery in this action on behalf of the receivership estate, in  
15 addition to obtaining other discovery as set forth in this Order;

16           O.     Open one or more bank accounts at designated depositories for funds of  
17 the Receivership Entities. The Receiver shall deposit all funds of the Receivership  
18 Entities in such designated accounts and shall make all payments and disbursements from  
19 the receivership estate from such accounts. The Receiver shall serve copies of monthly  
20 account statements on all parties;

21           P.     Maintain accurate records of all receipts and expenditures incurred as  
22 Receiver;

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1 Q. Allow the Plaintiffs' representatives, agents, and assistants, as well as  
2 Defendants and their representatives, reasonable access to all Documents in the  
3 possession, custody, or control of the Receivership Entities. The purpose of this access  
4 shall be to inspect and copy any and all books, records, Documents, accounts, and other  
5 property owned by, or in the possession of, the Receivership Entities or their agents. The  
6 Receiver shall have the discretion to determine the time, manner, and reasonable  
7 conditions of such access;

9 R. Cooperate with reasonable requests for information or assistance from any  
10 state or federal civil or criminal law enforcement agency;

11 S. Suspend business operations of the Receivership Entities if in the  
12 judgment of the Receiver such operations cannot be continued legally and profitably;

13 T. If the Receiver identifies a nonparty entity as a Receivership Entity,  
14 promptly notify the entity as well as the parties, and inform the entity that it can  
15 challenge the Receiver's determination by filing a motion with the Court. Provided,  
16 however, that the Receiver may delay providing such notice until the Receiver has  
17 established control of the nonparty entity and its assets and records, if the Receiver  
18 determines that notice to the entity or the parties before the Receiver establishes control  
19 over the entity may result in the destruction of records, dissipation of assets, or any other  
20 obstruction of the Receiver's control of the entity; and

21 U. If in the Receiver's judgment the business operations cannot be continued  
22 legally and profitably, take all steps necessary to ensure that any of the Receivership  
23 Entities' web pages or websites relating to the activities alleged in the Complaint,  
24 including **echeckprocessing.net**, cannot be accessed by the public, or are modified for  
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1 consumer education and/or informational purposes, and take all steps necessary to ensure  
2 that any telephone numbers associated with the Receivership Entities cannot be accessed  
3 by the public, or are answered solely to provide consumer education or information  
4 regarding the status of operations.

5 **XIV. TRANSFER OF RECEIVERSHIP PROPERTY TO RECEIVER**

6 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants and any other Person, with  
7 possession, custody or control of property of, or records relating to, the Receivership  
8 Entities shall, upon notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, fully cooperate  
9 with and assist the Receiver in taking and maintaining possession, custody, or control of  
10 the assets and Documents of the Receivership Entities and immediately transfer or deliver  
11 to the Receiver possession, custody, and control of, the following:  
12

13 A. All assets held by or for the benefit of the Receivership Entities;

14 B. All Documents or assets associated with credits, debits, or charges made  
15 on behalf of any Receivership Entity, wherever situated, including reserve funds held by  
16 payment processors, credit card processors, merchant banks, acquiring banks,  
17 independent sales organizations, third party processors, payment gateways, insurance  
18 companies, or other entities;

19 C. All Documents of or pertaining to the Receivership Entities;

20 D. All computers, electronic devices, mobile devices and machines used to  
21 conduct the business of the Receivership Entities;

22 E. All assets and Documents belonging to other Persons whose interests are  
23 under the direction, possession, custody, or control of the Receivership Entities; and  
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1 F. All keys, codes, user names and passwords necessary to gain or to secure  
2 access to any assets or Documents of or pertaining to the Receivership Entities, including  
3 access to their business premises, means of communication, accounts, computer systems  
4 (onsite and remote), Electronic Data Hosts, or other property.

5 In the event that any Person or entity fails to deliver or transfer any asset or  
6 Document, or otherwise fails to comply with any provision of this Section, the Receiver  
7 may file an Affidavit of Non-Compliance regarding the failure and a motion seeking  
8 compliance or a contempt citation.  
9

10 **XV. PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO RECEIVER**

11 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants shall immediately provide to the  
12 Receiver:  
13

14 A. A list of all assets and accounts of the Receivership Entities that are held  
15 in any name other than the name of a Receivership Entity, or by any Person other than a  
16 Receivership Entity;

17 B. A list of all agents, employees, officers, attorneys, servants and those  
18 Persons in active concert and participation with the Receivership Entities, or who have  
19 been associated or done business with the Receivership Entities; and  
20

21 C. A description of any Documents covered by attorney-client privilege or  
22 attorney work product, including files where such Documents are likely to be located,  
23 authors or recipients of such Documents, and search terms likely to identify such  
24 electronic Documents.  
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**XVI. COOPERATION WITH THE RECEIVER**

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2 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants; Receivership Entities;  
3 Defendants' or Receivership Entities' officers, agents, employees, and attorneys, all other  
4 Persons in active concert or participation with any of them, and any other Person with  
5 possession, custody, or control of property of or records relating to the Receivership  
6 entities who receive actual notice of this Order shall fully cooperate with and assist the  
7 Receiver. This cooperation and assistance shall include, but is not limited to, providing  
8 information to the Receiver that the Receiver deems necessary to exercise the authority  
9 and discharge the responsibilities of the Receiver under this Order; providing any keys,  
10 codes, user names and passwords required to access any computers, electronic devices,  
11 mobile devices, and machines (onsite or remotely) and any cloud account (including  
12 specific method to access account) or electronic file in any medium; advising all Persons  
13 who owe money to any Receivership Entity that all debts should be paid directly to the  
14 Receiver; and transferring funds at the Receiver's direction and producing records related  
15 to the assets and sales of the Receivership Entities.  
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19 **XVII. NON-INTERFERENCE WITH THE RECEIVER**

20 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants; Receivership Entities;  
21 Defendants' or Receivership Entities' officers, agents, employees, attorneys, and all other  
22 Persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of  
23 this Order, and any other Person served with a copy of this Order, are hereby restrained  
24 and enjoined from directly or indirectly:  
25

26 A. Interfering with the Receiver's efforts to manage, or take custody, control,  
27 or possession of, the assets or Documents subject to the receivership;  
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1 B. Transacting any of the business of the Receivership Entities;

2 C. Transferring, receiving, altering, selling, encumbering, pledging,  
3 assigning, liquidating, or otherwise disposing of any assets owned, controlled, or in the  
4 possession or custody of, or in which an interest is held or claimed by, the Receivership  
5 Entities; or

6  
7 D. Refusing to cooperate with the Receiver or the Receiver's duly authorized  
8 agents in the exercise of their duties or authority under any order of this Court.

9 **XVIII. STAY OF ACTIONS**

10 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, except by leave of this Court, during the  
11 pendency of the receivership ordered herein, Defendants, Defendants' officers, agents,  
12 employees, attorneys, and all other Persons in active concert or participation with any of  
13 them, who receive actual notice of this Order, and their corporations, subsidiaries,  
14 divisions, or affiliates, and all investors, creditors, stockholders, lessors, customers and  
15 other Persons seeking to establish or enforce any claim, right, or interest against or on  
16 behalf of Defendants, and all others acting for or on behalf of such Persons, are hereby  
17 enjoined from taking action that would interfere with the exclusive jurisdiction of this  
18 Court over the assets or Documents of the Receivership Entities, including, but not  
19 limited to:

22 A. Filing or assisting in the filing of a petition for relief under the Bankruptcy  
23 Code, 11 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.*, or of any similar insolvency proceeding on behalf of the  
24 Receivership Entities;

26 B. Commencing, prosecuting, or continuing a judicial, administrative, or  
27 other action or proceeding against the Receivership Entities, including the issuance or  
28

1 employment of process against the Receivership Entities, except that such actions may be  
2 commenced if necessary to toll any applicable statute of limitations;

3 C. Filing or enforcing any lien on any asset of the Receivership Entities,  
4 taking or attempting to take possession, custody, or control of any asset of the  
5 Receivership Entities; or attempting to foreclose, forfeit, alter, or terminate any interest in  
6 any asset of the Receivership Entities, whether such acts are part of a judicial proceeding,  
7 are acts of self-help, or otherwise.

9 Provided, however, that this Order does not stay: (1) the commencement or  
10 continuation of a criminal action or proceeding; (2) the commencement or continuation of  
11 an action or proceeding by a governmental unit to enforce such governmental unit's  
12 police or regulatory power; or (3) the enforcement of a judgment, other than a money  
13 judgment, obtained in an action or proceeding by a governmental unit to enforce such  
14 governmental unit's police or regulatory power.

16 **XIX. COMPENSATION OF RECEIVER**

17 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Receiver and all personnel hired by the  
18 Receiver as herein authorized, including counsel to the Receiver and accountants, are  
19 entitled to reasonable compensation for the performance of duties pursuant to this Order  
20 and for the cost of actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred by them, from the assets now  
21 held by, in the possession or control of, or which may be received by, the Receivership  
22 Entities. The Receiver shall file with the Court and serve on the parties periodic requests  
23 for the payment of such reasonable compensation, with the first such request filed no  
24 more than sixty (60) days after the date of entry of this Order. The Receiver shall not  
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1 increase the hourly rates used as the bases for such fee applications without prior  
2 approval of the Court.

3 **XX. RECEIVER'S BOND**

4 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Receiver shall file with the Clerk of this  
5 Court a bond in the sum of \$ 10,000.00 with sureties to be approved by the Court,  
6 conditioned that the Receiver will well and truly perform the duties of the office and  
7 abide by and perform all acts the Court directs. 28 U.S.C. § 754.

9 **XXI. ACCESS TO BUSINESS RECORDS**

10 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants allow the Receiver and the  
11 Receiver's employees and agents immediate access to Corporate Defendants' business  
12 premises, including to Corporate Defendants' listed address at 12282 Eagle Heart Dr., El  
13 Paso, TX, for the purpose of serving the Order on Defendants and to take immediate  
14 possession of and inventory of all Documents that are business records of the Corporate  
15 Defendants.

17 A. The Receiver and the Receiver's employees and agents are authorized to  
18 employ the assistance of law enforcement officers, as they deem necessary to effect  
19 service of this Order and to ensure their safety when taking possession of and  
20 inventorying Documents at the Corporate Defendants' business premises, including at  
21 12282 Eagle Heart Dr., El Paso, TX. The United States Marshals Service is directed to  
22 assist the Receiver and the Receiver's employees and agents in carrying out the  
23 provisions of this Section.  
24

25 B. The Receiver shall take immediate possession of any electronic  
26 information storage device, personal or laptop computer, server, or tablet that holds  
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1 information of the Corporate Defendants. If Defendants maintain electronic business  
2 records with any Electronic Data Host, Defendants will immediately provide the Receiver  
3 with information sufficient to access and secure such electronic business records.  
4 Furthermore, the Receiver is allowed to request that FTC employees and agents to access,  
5 secure, copy, and download such business records on behalf of the Receiver.  
6

7 C. Immediately upon receiving notice of this Order, Defendants must provide  
8 the Receiver with the address of all business premises, mail drops, or other addresses  
9 used by the Corporate Defendants, including any addresses where employees of the  
10 Corporate Defendants work from. Furthermore, Defendants and all employees of the  
11 Corporate Defendants upon receiving notice of this Order shall provide the Receiver and  
12 the Receiver's employees and agents with immediate and unencumbered access to all  
13 business records at those locations for the purpose of taking possession of and  
14 inventorying the Corporate Defendants' business records, including all Documents that  
15 may be related to this action, including all records of the Corporate Defendants and all  
16 records of any payments or assets received by the Individual Defendants derived from the  
17 Corporate Defendants.  
18

19 D. After the Receiver has taken possession of, secured and taken inventory of  
20 Corporate Defendants business records, the Receiver shall allow Plaintiffs employees and  
21 agents to inspect and copy these records. If necessary, the Receiver may allow Plaintiffs  
22 to take possession of some Documents for copying. Plaintiffs shall return such  
23 documents within three (3) business days of completing said copying. Production of  
24 Documents to the Plaintiffs by the Receiver pursuant to this Order shall not provide  
25 grounds for any Defendant to object to any subsequent request for Documents served by  
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1 Plaintiffs.

2 **XXII. DISTRIBUTION OF ORDER BY DEFENDANTS**

3 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants shall immediately provide a copy  
4 of this Order to each affiliate, telemarketer, marketer, sales entity, successor, assign,  
5 member, officer, director, employee, agent, independent contractor, client, attorney,  
6 spouse, subsidiary, division, and representative of any Defendant, and shall, within ten  
7 (10) days from the date of entry of this Order, and provide Plaintiffs and the Receiver  
8 with a sworn statement that this provision of the Order has been satisfied, which  
9 statement shall include the names, physical addresses, phone number, and email  
10 addresses of each such Person who received a copy of the Order. Furthermore,  
11 Defendants shall not take any action that would encourage officers, agents, members,  
12 directors, employees, salespersons, independent contractors, attorneys, subsidiaries,  
13 affiliates, successors, assigns or other Persons in active concert or participation with them  
14 to disregard this Order or believe that they are not bound by its provisions.  
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16

17 **XXIII. EXPEDITED DISCOVERY**

18 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, notwithstanding the provisions of the Fed. R.  
19 Civ. P. 26(d) and (f) and 30(a)(2)(A)(iii), and pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 30(a), 34, and  
20 45, Plaintiffs and the Receiver are granted leave, at any time after service of this Order, to  
21 conduct limited expedited discovery for the purpose of discovering: (1) the nature,  
22 location, status, and extent of Defendants' assets; (2) the nature, location, and extent of  
23 Defendants' business transactions and operations; (3) Documents reflecting Defendants'  
24 business transactions and operations; or (4) compliance with this Order. The limited  
25 expedited discovery set forth in this Section shall proceed as follows:  
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1           A.     Plaintiffs and the Receiver may take the deposition of parties and non-  
2 parties. Forty-eight (48) hours' notice shall be sufficient notice for such depositions. The  
3 limitations and conditions set forth in Rules 30(a)(2)(B) and 31(a)(2)(B) of the Federal  
4 Rules of Civil Procedure regarding subsequent depositions of an individual shall not  
5 apply to depositions taken pursuant to this Section. Any such deposition taken pursuant  
6 to this Section shall not be counted towards the deposition limit set forth in Rules  
7 30(a)(2)(A) and 31(a)(2)(A) and depositions may be taken by telephone or other remote  
8 electronic means;  
9

10           B.     Plaintiffs and the Receiver may serve upon parties requests for production  
11 of Documents or inspection that require production or inspection within five (5) days of  
12 service, provided, however, that three (3) days of notice shall be deemed sufficient for the  
13 production of any such Documents that are maintained or stored only in an electronic  
14 format.  
15

16           C.     Plaintiffs and the Receiver may serve upon parties interrogatories that  
17 require response within five (5) days after Plaintiffs serves such interrogatories;  
18

19           D.     The Plaintiffs and the Receiver may serve subpoenas upon non-parties that  
20 direct production or inspection within five (5) days of service.

21           E.     Service of discovery upon a party to this action, taken pursuant to this  
22 Section, shall be sufficient if made by facsimile, email, or by overnight delivery.  
23

24           F.     Any expedited discovery taken pursuant to this Section is in addition to,  
25 and is not subject to, the limits on discovery set forth in the Federal Rules of Civil  
26 Procedure and the Local Rules of this Court. The expedited discovery permitted by this  
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1 Section does not require a meeting or conference of the parties, pursuant to Rules 26(d) &  
2 (f) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

3 G. The Parties are exempted from making initial disclosures under Fed. R.  
4 Civ. P. 26(a)(1) until further order of this Court.

5  
6 **XXIV. SERVICE OF THIS ORDER**

7 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that copies of this Order as well as the Motion for  
8 Temporary Restraining Order and all other pleadings, Documents, and exhibits filed  
9 contemporaneously with that Motion (other than the complaint and summons), may be  
10 served by any means, including facsimile transmission, electronic mail or other electronic  
11 messaging, personal or overnight delivery, U.S. Mail or FedEx, by agents and employees  
12 of Plaintiffs, by any law enforcement agency, or by private process server, upon any  
13 Defendant or any Person (including any financial institution) that may have possession,  
14 custody or control of any asset or Document of any Defendant, or that may be subject to  
15 any provision of this Order pursuant to Rule 65(d)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil  
16 Procedure. For purposes of this Section, service upon any branch, subsidiary, affiliate or  
17 office of any entity shall effect service upon the entire entity.  
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20 **XXV. CORRESPONDENCE AND SERVICE ON PLAINTIFFS**

21 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, for the purpose of this Order, all  
22 correspondence and service of pleadings on Plaintiffs shall be addressed to:

23 Christopher E. Brown  
24 J. Ronald Brooke, Jr.  
25 Federal Trade Commission  
26 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (CC-8528)  
27 Washington, DC 20580  
28 Fax: 202-326-3395  
Email: cbrown3@ftc.gov; jbrooke@ftc.gov

1 Jeffrey Loeser (Ohio Bar #82144)  
2 Erin Leahy (Ohio Bar #69509)  
3 Assistant Attorneys General  
4 Consumer Protection Section  
5 30 E. Broad Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
6 Columbus, Ohio 43215  
7 Email: jeff.loeser@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov;  
8 erin.leahy@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov

9  
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11 **XXVI. PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION HEARING**

12 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b), Defendants  
13 shall appear before this Court on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2019, at  
14 1:00 p.m., to show cause, if there is any, why this Court should not enter a  
15 preliminary injunction, pending final ruling on the Complaint against Defendants,  
16 enjoining the violations of the law alleged in the Complaint, continuing the freeze of their  
17 assets, continuing the receivership, and imposing such additional relief as may be  
18 appropriate.

19  
20 **XXVII. BRIEFS AND AFFIDAVITS CONCERNING**  
21 **PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

22 A. Defendants shall file with the Court and serve on Plaintiffs' counsel any  
23 answering pleadings, affidavits, motions, expert reports or declarations, or legal  
24 memoranda no later than four (4) days prior to the order to show cause hearing scheduled  
25 pursuant to this Order. Plaintiffs may file responsive or supplemental pleadings,  
26 materials, affidavits, or memoranda with the Court and serve the same on counsel for  
27 Defendants no later than one (1) day prior to the order to show Cause hearing. Provided  
28 that such affidavits, pleadings, motions, expert reports, declarations, legal memoranda or  
oppositions must be served by personal or overnight delivery, facsimile or email, and be



1 received by the other party or parties no later than 5:00 p.m. PST on the appropriate dates  
2 set forth in this Section.

3 B. An evidentiary hearing on Plaintiffs' request for a preliminary injunction  
4 is not necessary unless Defendants demonstrate that they have, and intend to introduce,  
5 evidence that raises a genuine and material factual issue. The question of whether this  
6 Court should enter a preliminary injunction shall be resolved on the pleadings,  
7 declarations, exhibits, and memoranda filed by, and oral argument of, the parties.  
8

9 C. Live testimony shall be heard only on further order of this Court. Any  
10 motion to permit such testimony shall be filed with the Court and served on counsel for  
11 the other parties at least five (5) days prior to the preliminary injunction hearing in this  
12 matter. Such motion shall set forth the name, address, and telephone number of each  
13 proposed witness, a detailed summary or affidavit revealing the substance of each  
14 proposed witness's expected testimony, and an explanation of why the taking of live  
15 testimony would be helpful to this Court. Any papers opposing a timely motion to  
16 present live testimony or to present live testimony in response to another party's timely  
17 motion to present live testimony shall be filed with this Court and served on the other  
18 parties at least three (3) days prior to the order to show cause hearing.  
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21 Provided, however, that service shall be performed by personal or overnight  
22 delivery, facsimile or email, and Documents shall be delivered so that they shall be  
23 received by the other parties no later than 5:00 p.m. MDT on the appropriate dates  
24 provided in this Section.  
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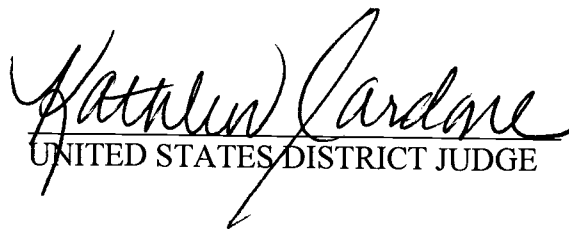
**XXVIII. DURATION OF THE ORDER**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this Order shall expire fourteen (14) days from the date of entry noted below, unless within such time, the Order is extended for an additional period pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b)(2).

**XXIX. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter for all purposes.

**SO ORDERED**, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2019, at 1:55p.m.

  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE