UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Before the SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 Release No. 97003 / March 1, 2023

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING File No. 3-21316

In the Matter of

MARK L. HOPKINS,

Respondent.

ORDER INSTITUTING ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(b) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, MAKING FINDINGS, AND IMPOSING REMEDIAL SANCTIONS

I.

The Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") deems it appropriate and in the public interest that public administrative proceedings be, and hereby are, instituted pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") against Mark L. Hopkins ("Respondent" or "Hopkins").

II.

In anticipation of the institution of these proceedings, Respondent has submitted an Offer of Settlement (the "Offer") which the Commission has determined to accept. Solely for the purpose of these proceedings and any other proceedings brought by or on behalf of the Commission, or to which the Commission is a party, and without admitting or denying the findings herein, except as to the Commission's jurisdiction over him and the subject matter of these proceedings, and the findings contained in paragraph III.2 below, and consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Making Findings, and Imposing Remedial Sanctions ("Order"), as set forth below.

III.

On the basis of this Order and Respondent's Offer, the Commission finds that:

- 1. Mark L. Hopkins is 55 years old and a resident of Clarkston, Michigan. He was a registered representative associated with a broker-dealer registered with the Commission. Hopkins operated a branch office of the brokerage in Grand Blanc, Michigan. On December 14, 2018, Hopkins resigned from the broker-dealer at its request.
- 2. On May 26, 2022, Hopkins pled guilty to one count of wire fraud in violation of Title 18 United States Code, Section 1343, before the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, in *v. United States v. Mark L. Hopkins*, Crim. No. 21-cr-20066. On January 10, 2023, a judgment in the criminal case was entered against Hopkins. He was sentenced to a prison term of 12 months and a day followed by two years of supervised release and ordered to forfeit \$882,500.
- 3. The count of the superceding indictment to which Hopkins pled guilty alleged, *inter alia*, that Hopkins knowingly devised a scheme to defraud investors in order to obtain money or property by means of material misrepresentations or concealments of material fact, that he had the intent to defraud, and that he used wire communications in interstate commerce in furtherance of the scheme.

IV.

In view of the foregoing, the Commission deems it appropriate and in the public interest to impose the sanctions agreed to in Respondent's Offer.

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED pursuant to Section 15(b)(6) of the Exchange Act, that Respondent be, and hereby is barred from association with any broker, dealer, investment adviser, municipal securities dealer, municipal advisor, transfer agent, or nationally recognized statistical rating organization; and

Pursuant to Section 15(b)(6) of the Exchange Act Respondent be, and hereby is barred from participating in any offering of a penny stock, including: acting as a promoter, finder, consultant, agent or other person who engages in activities with a

broker, dealer or issuer for purposes of the issuance or trading in any penny stock, or inducing or attempting to induce the purchase or sale of any penny stock.

Any reapplication for association by the Respondent will be subject to the applicable laws and regulations governing the reentry process, and reentry may be conditioned upon a number of factors, including, but not limited to, compliance with the Commission's order and payment of any or all of the following: (a) any disgorgement or civil penalties ordered by a Court against the Respondent in any action brought by the Commission; (b) any disgorgement amounts ordered against the Respondent for which the Commission waived payment; (c) any arbitration award related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order; (d) any self-regulatory organization arbitration award to a customer, whether or not related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order; and (e) any restitution order by a self-regulatory organization, whether or not related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order.

By the Commission.

Vanessa A. Countryman Secretary