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:

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

Order No. S-20-3000-20-CO01

CONSENT ORDER

Trademining, Inc., a/k/a Trademining.io, Devon T. Shigaki,

Respondents.

INTRODUCTION

On September 30, 2020, the Securities Administrator of the Securities Division of the Department of Financial Institutions ("Securities Division") issued a Summary Order to Cease and Desist and Notice of Intent to Impose a Fine and Charge Costs ("Summary Order"), Order Number S-20-3000-20-TO01, against Respondents Trademining, Inc., a/k/a Trademining.io, and Devon T. Shigaki. Pursuant to the Securities Act of Washington, Chapter 21.20 RCW, the Securities Division and Respondents Trademining, Inc., a/k/a Trademining.io, and Devon T. Shigaki do hereby enter into this Consent Order in settlement of the matters set forth in the Summary Order and as alleged below. Respondents Trademining, Inc., a/k/a Trademining.io, and Devon T. Shigaki neither admit, nor deny the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as stated below.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Respondents

- 1. TradeMining, Inc., a/k/a Trademining.io, (TradeMining) is a Washington State company that was incorporated on June 22, 2020. Its principal place of business is in Bellevue, Washington. TradeMining is in the business of offering and selling licenses to the Infinity Trade Engine, which trades in cryptocurrency.
- 2. Devon T. Shigaki (Shigaki) is a resident of Bellevue, Washington. He is Chairman and CEO of TradeMining.

Nature of the Conduct

The Offering

- 3. Through a website at https://trademining.io, Shigaki and TradeMining generally solicited investors to purchase unregistered securities in the form of licenses for the Infinity Trade Engine, which purportedly used mathematics to trade cryptocurrency. In addition, TradeMining and Shigaki publicly advertised the investment on social media platforms such as Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram. In July 2020, TradeMining and Shigaki also generally solicited investors by placing Craigslist ads in multiple regions of Texas.
- 4. TradeMining and Shigaki represented to investors that the Trade Engine was "100% handsfree" and resulted in a "passive flow of income" for investors. Shigaki represented to at least one prospective investor that the Trade Engine, and Shigaki's business partner who was managing the Trade Engine, was based in the Netherlands.
- 5. On or around September 30, 2020, TradeMining and Shigaki offered three license investment options with varying setup costs and profit splits. The details of these options had changed since TradeMining and Shigaki started offering the investments in or around June 2020, but the substance of the securities offer remained the same.
- 6. To earn a profit from their license investment, an investor signed up for one or more trading accounts on a cryptocurrency exchange. The investor then purchased Bitcoin and deposited the cryptocurrency into their exchange accounts. Depending on the investment option they chose, investors were required to deposit one or three Bitcoin to begin trading. In the exchange account, the investor connected API keys¹ that restricted withdrawals from the exchange accounts while allowing the Trade Engine to trade in the

¹ An application programming interface (API) key is code that can establish permissions or authenticate users of an application.

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

7

9

11

12 13

14

15

16

17

18

19

2021

22

23

investor's accounts. A connection to the Trade Engine was then established. When the Trade Engine earned a certain profit for the investor, TradeMining would send an invoice to the investor for TradeMining's portion of the profit. The profit split was 50/50, 60/40, or 70/30. TradeMining and Shigaki represented to investors that, in the current bear market, the Trade Engine averaged gains of 0.53% to 2.73% compounded daily and that, in a previous bull market, the Trade Engine made total gains of 3,700%.

- 7. Once the Trade Engine was allowed access to the investor's exchange accounts, the investor relied on the Trade Engine to trade for a profit. The investor did not have any additional role in earning a profit on their investment.
- 8. On https://trademining.io, TradeMining and Shigaki also solicited people to sell the Trade Engine licenses under a Software Reseller program. In the program, resellers applied to be resellers and were then provided with a certain number of licenses to sell. Resellers received a commission of 5% of the profit that TradeMining received from the licenses that the reseller sells.

Liens, Civil Judgments, and Criminal Convictions Entered Against Shigaki

Federal Tax Liens

- 9. On March 23, 2015, a federal tax lien totaling \$38,027.93 was filed against Shigaki in Pierce County, Washington.
- 10. On June 19, 2017, a federal tax lien totaling \$55,069.37 was filed against Shigaki in Pierce County, Washington.

Child Support Liens

- 11. On September 8, 2014, a lien for unpaid child support totaling \$1,768.28 was filed against Shigaki in Pierce County, Washington.
- 12. On January 24, 2017, a lien for unpaid child supporting totaling \$9,977.28 was filed against Shigaki in Pierce County, Washington.

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	

22

23

13. On December 25, 2018, a lien for unpaid child support totaling \$2,064.28 was filed against Shigaki in Pierce County, Washington.

Civil Actions

- 14. On January 2, 2015, a lawsuit was filed against Shigaki and additional defendants in King County Superior Court by Scott McKinley and Gold Services Seattle LLC. In the complaint, McKinley alleged that he owned an established medical cannabis business that used certain trademarks. McKinley alleged that Shigaki and the additional defendants attempted to steal the plaintiff's business and established brand by making false and misleading statements to trademark authorities, to administrators of certain websites and social media sites, and in postings on public websites.
- 15. On July 13, 2015, a lawsuit was filed against Shigaki in Pierce County Superior Court. In the complaint, the plaintiff alleged that Shigaki and the plaintiff were partners in Cardvo LLC, a gift card selling business, and that they had agreed to split the profits from the business evenly. The plaintiff alleged that Shigaki refused to split the revenue that Shigaki collected, that Shigaki refused to equally share in the costs of the business, and that Shigaki blocked the plaintiff's access to Cardvo LLC's bank account.
- 16. On March 25, 2016, a default judgement was entered against Shigaki in the Cardvo LLC case. The judgment judicially dissolved Cardvo LLC, required that Shigaki provide the plaintiff with an accounting of all financial transactions that Shigaki undertook on behalf of Cardvo LLC, restrained Shigaki from representing himself as a member or manager of Cardvo LLC, and awarded \$7,691 in costs to the plaintiff.
- 17. On November 18, 2016, a default judgement was entered against Shigaki and the additional defendants in the McKinley case. The judgment enjoined Shigaki and the additional defendants from using certain trademarks related to a cannabis business owned by McKinley, from making false or misleading statements about cannabis products owned by McKinley, and from using or following certain social media

sites belonging to McKinley. In addition, a judgment was entered against Shigaki and the additional defendants totaling \$3,069,901.

Criminal Actions

- 18. On August 7, 2008, an Information was filed against Shigaki in King County Superior Court. The Information alleged that Shigaki had committed burglary in the second degree and theft in the first degree by unlawfully entering Northgate Mall in Seattle, Washington and stealing 11 Rosetta Stone software packages from a kiosk. It was alleged that Shigaki attempted to sell the Rosetta Stone software by, among other things, posting an ad on Craigslist. On December 3, 2008, Shigaki pleaded guilty to burglary in the second degree and was subsequently sentenced to 30 days of confinement and 240 hours of community service and ordered to pay \$533.37 in restitution.
- 19. On April 14, 2009, an Information was filed against Shigaki in Snohomish County Superior Court. The Information alleged that Shigaki had committed second degree burglary by unlawfully entering Alderwood Mall in Lynnwood, Washington and stealing 13 Rosetta Stone software packages from a kiosk. On September 9, 2009, Shigaki pleaded guilty to second degree burglary and was subsequently sentenced to four months confinement and ordered to pay \$3,294 in restitution.
- 20. On May 4, 2017, an Information was filed against Shigaki in King County Superior Court. The Information alleged that Shigaki had violated the Uniform Controlled Substances Act by unlawfully manufacturing THC, conspiring to unlawfully manufacture DMT, and using a building for drug purposes in Renton, Washington. On December 1, 2017, Shigaki pleaded guilty to the solicitation to commit a violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act by manufacturing THC. Shigaki was sentenced to a suspended sentence of 364 days, 40 hours of community service, and 24 months of probation. He was also ordered to not manufacture, refine, or grow marijuana in the state.

Misrepresentations and Omissions

21. TradeMining and Shigaki failed to disclose material information related to the offer and sale of the Trade Engine licenses, including Shigaki's financial background, the background of the person managing the Trade Engine, and specifics regarding the Trade Engine. TradeMining and Shigaki also failed to disclose material information related to the Software Reseller program.

- 22. TradeMining and Shigaki failed to disclose material information related to Shigaki's financial background, including but not limited to the federal tax liens totaling more than \$93,000 entered against Shigaki, the child support liens totaling more than \$13,600 entered against Shigaki, the outstanding civil judgements totaling more than \$3,000,000 entered against Shigaki for defrauding a former business partner and sabotaging a third party's business, and the criminal convictions of Shigaki for burglary and soliciting the manufacture of a controlled substance.
- 23. TradeMining and Shigaki failed to disclose material information related to Shigaki's business partner, including but not limited to the partner's identity and experience with cryptocurrency, trading in cryptocurrency, and developing or managing a cryptocurrency trade engine.
- 24. TradeMining and Shigaki failed to disclose material information related to the ownership of the Trade Engine. TradeMining and Shigaki failed to disclose who owned the Trade Engine, whether TradeMining had an ownership interest in the Trade Engine, and whether there were remedies available to investors if Shigaki's partner restricts access to the Trade Engine.
- 25. TradeMining and Shigaki failed to disclose material information related to the function of the Trade Engine, including but not limited to what cryptocurrencies it traded in, the assumptions and parameters used to program the Trade Engine, whether the assumptions and parameters could change, whether a person could ever override the Trade Engine, the mistakes or malfunctions that could impact the function of the Trade Engine, and whether an investor had a remedy if the Trade Engine did not function as expected. TradeMining

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	

and Shigaki also failed to disclose material information related to the security of the Trade Engine, including but not limited to who had access to the Trade Engine and the systems used to protect the Trade Engine.

26. TradeMining and Shigaki failed to disclose material information related to the Software Reseller program offered on the website. TradeMining and Shigaki failed to disclose to investors that the Trade Engine licenses are securities, and that anyone who offered or sold securities must be registered or exempt from registration.

Registration Status

- 27. TradeMining, Inc., a/k/a Trademining.io, is not currently registered to sell its securities in the state of Washington and has not previously been so registered. Nor has it filed a claim of exemption from registration.
- 28. Devon T. Shigaki is not currently registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the state of Washington and has not previously been so registered.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The offer and/or sale of the Trade Engine licenses as described above constitutes the offer and/or sale of a security as defined in RCW 21.20.005(14) and (17).
- 2. TradeMining, Inc., a/k/a Trademining.io, and Devon T. Shigaki each violated RCW 21.20.140 because, as set forth in the Findings of Fact, Respondents offered and/or sold securities for which no registration is on file with the Securities Administrator.
- 3. Devon T. Shigaki violated RCW 21.20.040 because, as set forth the in the Findings of Fact, Shigaki offered and/or sold securities while not being registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the state of Washington.

	1
	2
	3
	4
	5
	6
	7
	8
	9
1	0
1	1
1	2
1	3
1	4
1	5
1	6
1	7
1	8
1	9
2	0
2	1
2	2

4. TradeMining, Inc., a/k/a Trademining.io, and Devon T. Shigaki each violated RCW 21.20.010 because, as set forth in the Findings of Fact, Respondents made untrue statements of material fact or omitting to state material facts necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances in which they were made, not misleading.

Based upon the foregoing and finding it in the public interest:

CONSENT ORDER

IT IS AGREED AND ORDERED that Respondents Trademining, Inc., a/k/a Trademining.io, and Devon T. Shigaki, and their agents and employees, shall each cease and desist from violating RCW 21.20.140,

the securities registration section of the Securities Act of Washington.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED AND ORDERED that Respondent Devon T. Shigaki, and his agents and employees, shall cease and desist from violating RCW 21.20.040, the securities salesperson and broker-dealer

registration section of the Securities Act of Washington.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED AND ORDERED that Respondents Trademining, Inc., a/k/a Trademining.io, and Devon T. Shigaki, and their agents and employees, shall each cease and desist from

violating RCW 21.20.010, the anti-fraud section of the Securities Act of Washington.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that the Securities Division has jurisdiction to enter this Consent Order.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that Respondents Trademining, Inc., a/k/a Trademining.io, and Devon T. Shigaki entered into this Consent Order freely and voluntarily and with a full understanding of its terms and

significance.

a/k/a Trademining.io, and Devon T. Shigaki waive their right to a hearing and to judicial review of this matter

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that in consideration of the foregoing, Respondents Trademining, Inc.,

23

pursuant to RCW 21.20.440 and Chapter 34.05 RCW.

CONSENT ORDER

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS **Securities Division** PO Box 9033 Olympia, WA 98507-9033 360-902-8760

WILLFUL VIOLATION OF THIS ORDER IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE. 1 2 Signed this 11th day of April 2021. 3 4 Signed by: Signed by: 5 Trademining, Inc., a/k/a Trademining.io 6 7 Devon T. Shigaki Devon T. Shigaki 8 Chairman and CEO Individually 9 10 SIGNED and ENTERED this 6th 2021. 11 12 13 William M. Beatty Securities Administrator 14 15 Approved by: Presented by: 16 In Son 17 18 Suzanne Sarason Holly Mack-Kretzler Financial Legal Examiner 19 Chief of Enforcement 20 Reviewed by: 21 22 Brian Guerard 23 Financial Legal Examiner Supervisor

CONSENT ORDER

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS Securities Division PO Box 9033 Olympia, WA 98507-9033 360-902-8760