# ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING BEFORE THE SECURITIES COMMISSIONER OF SOUTH CAROLINA

| IN THE MATTER OF:   |              |                           |
|---------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Nexo, Inc.; and     |              | ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST |
| Nexo Capital, Inc.; |              | Matter No. 20221615       |
|                     |              |                           |
|                     | Respondents. |                           |
|                     |              |                           |

# I. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

Pursuant to the authority granted to the Securities Commissioner of South Carolina (the "Securities Commissioner") under the South Carolina Uniform Securities Act of 2005, S.C. Code Ann. § 35-1-101, *et seq.*, and the regulations and rules promulgated thereunder (the "Act"), and delegated to the Securities Division of the Office of the Attorney General of the State of South Carolina (the "Division") by the Securities Commissioner, the Division conducted an investigation into the securities-related activities of Nexo, Inc. ("Nexo") and Nexo Capital, Inc. ("Nexo Capital") (collectively, the "Respondents"). In connection with its investigation, the Division has determined that evidence exists to support the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below, and the issuance of this Order to Cease and Desist.

# II. JURISDICTION

1. The Securities Commissioner has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 35-1-601(a).

#### III. RELEVANT PERIOD

2. Except as otherwise expressly stated, the conduct described herein occurred between January 1, 2018, and the present (the "Relevant Period").

- 8. During the Relevant Period, there were up to 1,190 South Carolina EIP accounts earning interest.
  - 9. Nexo has promoted their financial services, including the EIP, to South Carolina

#### iv. Material Misrepresentations and Omissions in Offer and Sale of EIPs

- 21. In offering the EIP to South Carolina investors, Nexo has failed to disclose material information related to interest generation. These omissions include, but are not limited to, the types of trading and investment activities that Nexo engages in while utilizing EIP Eligible Earn Assets, the identities and creditworthiness of those who borrow EIP Eligible Earn Assets, and the amount of EIP Eligible Earn Assets used in each income-generating activity.
- 22. Nexo has failed to disclose its lending agreements or the terms contained therein to EIP investors, and as such, Nexo's EIP investors are not provided with information as to who Nexo's institutional lending partners are, how long the term loan is, or whether these loans are over-collateralized, despite Nexo's assurances that all loans are provided in an over-collateralized fashion. Consequently, Nexo EIP investors cannot adequately evaluate the risk associated with their participation in the EIP prior to investing their Eligible Earn Assets with Nexo.
- 23. In offering the EIP to South Carolina investors, Nexo has failed to disclose material information related to Nexo's regulatory compliance as it pertains to the EIP offering.
- 24. Nexo's website represents to EIP investors that "Nexo has gone the extra mile in In ofog these0 TDou16.61 0 2.0008 Tc.1092 c.[(te th)6.p-oandentatringg infter4(J-23.2133.6 TD.0001 Tc-.0013

within the footer of Nexo's website, Nexo disp

All Nexo products are operating normally – Borrow, Earn, Exchange...Nexo is the first and only blockchain finance company to have a real-time audit of its custodial assets, showing that the company's assets exceed its liabilities at all times which attests to Nexo's liquidity and ability to meet all of its obligations...Nexo is in a solid liquidity and equity position to readily acquire any remaining qualifying

or artifice to defraud; (2) to make an untrue statement of a material fact or to omit to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; or (3) to engage in an act, practice, or course of business that operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon another person.

- 47. The conduct of Respondents, as alleged in paragraphs 21-37, *supra*, constitutes a violation of S.C. Code Ann. § 35-1-501.
- 48. The Respondents' violations of the Act set forth above provide the basis for this Order, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 35-1-604.
  - 49. This Order is appropriate and in the public interest, pursuant to the Act.

# VII. ORDER

**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 35-1-604(a)(1), it is hereby **ORDERED** that:

a. Each Respondent and every successor, affiliate, control person, agent, servant, and employee of each of the Respondents, and every entity owned, operated, or indirectly or directly controlled by or on behalf of each of the Respondents shall

operation of law, or, if a Respondent seeks a hearing and any legal authority resolves this matter, pay the actual costs associated with the investigation and legal proceeding in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 35-1-604(e).

# VIII. NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

Each of the Respondents is hereby notified that it has the right to a formal hearing on the matters contained herein. To schedule a hearing, a Respondent must file with the Division within thirty (30) days after the date of service of this Order, a written Answer specifically requesting a hearing. If any Respondent requests a hearing, the Division, within fifteen (15) days after receipt of a written request, will schedule a hearing for that Respondent. The written request shall be delivered to the Office of the Attorney General, 1000 Assembly Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201, or mailed to the Office of the Attorney General, Attention: Securities Division, P.O. Box 11549, Columbia, South Carolina, 29211-1549.

In the written Answer, a Respondent, in addition to requesting a hearing, shall admit or deny each factual allegation in this Order, shall set forth the specific facts on which the Respondent relies, and shall set forth concisely the matters of law and affirmative defenses upon which the Respondent relies. If the Respondent is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of an allegation, the Respondent shall so state.

Failure by a Respondent to file a written request for a hearing in this matter within the thirty-day (30) period stated above shall be deemed a waiver by that Respondent of the right to such a hearing. Failure by a Respondent to file an Answer, including a request for a hearing, shall result in this Order's becoming final by operation of law. The regulations governing the hearing process can be found at S.C. Code of Regulations § 13-604.

This Order doss not prevent the Division 1

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thoffers and sales of securities by the Respondent's set forth above