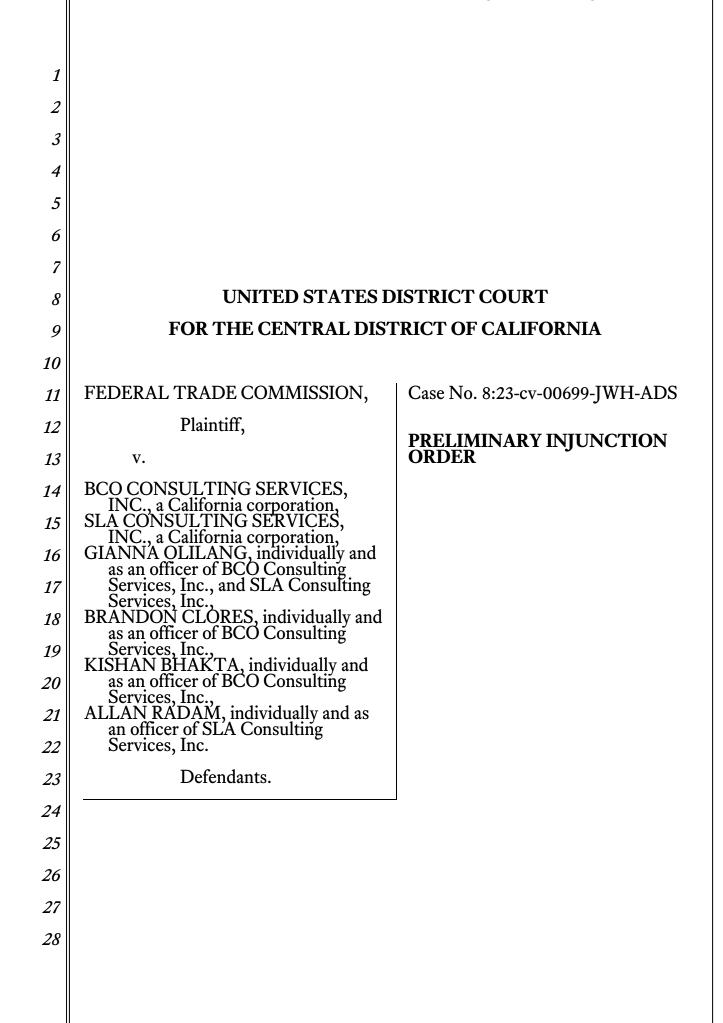
Case 8:23-cv-00699-JWH-ADS Document 54 Filed 05/22/23 Page 1 of 28 Page ID #:2432



Plaintiff Federal Trade Commission (the "FTC") commenced this civil 1 2 action on April 24, 2023, pursuant to Sections 13(b) and 19 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (the "FTC Act"), 15 U.S.C. §§ 53(b) and 57b, the 3 Telemarketing and Consumer Fraud and Abuse Prevention Act (the 4 "Telemarketing Act"), 15 U.S.C. §§ 6101-6108, and Section 522(a) of the 5 Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (the "GLB Act"), 15 U.S.C. § 6822(a). On motion by 6 the FTC, this Court entered an ex parte temporary restraining order (the 7 "TRO") on May 3, 2023, with an asset freeze, the appointment of a receiver, 8 and other equitable relief against Defendants. Defendants SLA Consulting 9 Services Inc. f/k/a Student Loan Advocates LLC, Gianni Olilang, Brandon 10 Clores, Kishan Bhakta, and Allan Radam have stipulated to entry of a 11 preliminary injunction. The Court now enters a preliminary injunction as to 12 13 BCO Consulting Services, Inc. ("BCO"). I. FINDINGS OF FACT 14 The Court finds as follows: 15 This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this case, and A. 16 there is good cause to believe that it will have jurisdiction over all parties hereto 17 and that venue in this district is proper. 18 B. There is good cause to believe that in numerous instances, BCO has 19 made material misrepresentations regarding its student loan debt relief services; 20 taken advance fees; engaged in illegal telemarketing; and obtained customer 21 information of a financial institution relating to another person by making false, 22 fictitious, or fraudulent statements. 23 C. 24 There is good cause to believe that BCO has engaged in and is likely to engage in acts or practices that violate Section 5(a) of the FTC Act, 25 15 U.S.C. § 45(a), the Telemarketing Sales Rule (the "TSR"), 16 C.F.R. 26 Part 310, and Section 521 of the GLB Act, 15 U.S.C. § 6821, and that the FTC is 27 therefore likely to prevail on the merits of this action. As demonstrated by 28

consumer declarations, consumer complaints, and the additional documentation
 filed by the FTC, the FTC asserts that it has established a likelihood of success
 in showing that, in numerous instances BCO:

(1) has made deceptive representations in the marketing and sale of student debt relief services in violation of Section 5(a) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45(a) and the TSR, 16 C.F.R. § 310.3(a)(2)(x);

(2) collected unlawful advance fees from consumers in violation of the TSR, 16 C.F.R. § 310.4(a)(5)(i); and

(3) has obtained customer information of a financial institution relating to another person by making false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements, in violation of Section 521 of the GLB Act, 15 U.S.C. § 6821.

D. There is good cause to believe that BCO has taken in gross
revenues of approximately \$5.5 million as a result of its unlawful practices.

E. There is good cause to believe that immediate and irreparable harm
will result from BCO's ongoing violations of the FTC Act, the TSR, and the
GLB Act, unless BCO is restrained and enjoined by order of this Court.

F. There is good cause to believe that immediate and irreparable
damage to the Court's ability to grant effective final relief for consumers—
including monetary restitution, rescission, disgorgement, or refunds—will occur
from the sale, transfer, destruction or other disposition or concealment by BCO
of its assets or records, unless BCO is restrained and enjoined by order of this
Court.

G. Good cause exists for continuing the receivership over the
Receivership Entities, continuing the freeze imposed on BCO's assets pursuant
to the TRO issued in this case, and continuing to permit the FTC and the
Receiver to take expedited discovery.

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H. Entry of this Order is in the public interest.

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This Court has authority to issue this Order pursuant to I. 1 Section 13(b) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 53(b); Section 19 of the FTC Act, 2 15 U.S.C. § 57b(b); Rule 65 of the Federal Rule of Civil Procedure; and the All 3 Writs Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1651. 4 J. No security is required of any agency of the United States for 5 issuance of a preliminary injunction order. Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(c). 6 **II. DEFINITIONS** 7 For the purpose of this Order, the following definitions shall apply: 8 "Asset" means any legal or equitable interest in, right to, or claim A. 9 to, any property, wherever located and by whomever held. 10 B. "Assisting Others" includes: 11 (1)performing customer service functions, including receiving 12 13 or responding to consumer complaints performing customer service functions, including receiving or responding to consumer complaints; 14 formulating or providing, or arranging for the formulation or (2)15 provision of, any advertising or marketing material, including any 16 telephone sales script, direct mail solicitation, or the design, text, or use of 17 images of any Internet website, email, or other electronic communication; 18 formulating or providing, or arranging for the formulation or (3)19 provision of, any marketing support material or service, including web or 20 Internet Protocol addresses or domain name registration for any Internet 21 websites, affiliate marketing services, or media placement services; 22 providing names of, or assisting in the generation of, (4)23 potential customers; 24 performing marketing, billing, payment processing, or (5)25 payment services of any kind; or 26 acting or serving as an owner, officer, director, manager, or 27 (6)28 principal of any entity.

C. "BCO" means BCO Consulting Services, Inc., also d/b/a Students
 Loan Services LLC.

B D. "Corporate Defendants" means BCO Consulting Services, Inc., *also d/b/a Students Loan Services LLC, and SLA Consulting Services Inc., f/k/a Student Loan Advocates LLC, and each of their subsidiaries, affiliates, successors, and assigns.*

7 E. "Defendant(s)" means Corporate Defendants and Individual *8* Defendants individually, collectively, or in any combination.

9 F. "Debt Relief Service" means any program or service represented, *10* directly or by implication, to renegotiate, settle, or in any way alter the terms of *11* payment or other terms of the debt between a person and one or more unsecured *12* creditors or debt collectors, including, but not limited to, a reduction in the *13* balance, interest rate, or fees owed by a person to an unsecured creditor or debt *14* collector.

"Document" is synonymous in meaning and equal in scope to the 15 G. usage of "document" and "electronically stored information" in Rule 34(a), 16 and includes writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, sound and video 17 recordings, images, Internet sites, web pages, websites, electronic 18 correspondence, including e-mail and instant messages, contracts, accounting 19 data, advertisements, FTP Logs, Server Access Logs, books, written or printed 20 records, handwritten notes, telephone logs, telephone scripts, receipt books, 21 ledgers, personal and business canceled checks and check registers, bank 22 statements, appointment books, computer records, customer or sales databases 23 and any other electronically stored information, including Documents located on 24 remote servers or cloud computing systems, and other data or data compilations 25 from which information can be obtained directly or, if necessary, after 26 translation into a reasonably usable form. A draft or non-identical copy is a 27 28 separate document within the meaning of the term.

H. "Electronic Data Host" means any person or entity in the business
 of storing, hosting, or otherwise maintaining electronically stored information.
 This includes, but is not limited to, any entity hosting a website or server, and
 any entity providing "cloud based" electronic storage.

5 I. "Individual Defendant(s)" means Gianni Olilang, Brandon Clores,
6 Kishan Bhakta, and Allan Radam, individually, or jointly.

J. "Receiver" means the temporary receiver appointed in Section
8 III.12 of this Order and any deputy receivers that shall be named by the
9 temporary receiver.

10 K. "Receivership Entities" means BCO as well as any other entity that
11 has conducted any business related to BCO's marketing of Debt Relief Services,
12 including receipt of Assets derived from any activity that is the subject of the
13 Complaint in this matter, and that the Receiver determines is controlled or
14 owned by BCO.

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III. ORDER

It is hereby **ORDERED** as follows:

Prohibition on Deceptive Representations. BCO, its officers,
 agents, employees, and attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or
 participation with them, who receive actual notice of this Order by personal
 service or otherwise, whether acting directly or indirectly, in connection with
 the advertising, marketing, promoting, or offering for sale of any goods or
 services, are **RESTRAINED** and **ENJOINED** from:

a. misrepresenting or Assisting Others in misrepresenting,
expressly or by implication, any material fact, including, but not limited
to:

i. that consumers who pay for BCO's program will be *enrolled* in a loan repayment program and have their loan balances *forgiven* in whole or in part;

that most or all of consumers' monthly payments to ii. 1 BCO will be applied to their loan balances; 2 that BCO is contracted by, or otherwise affiliated with, 3 iii. the Department of Education; 4 iv. that BCO will assume responsibility for the servicing 5 of consumers' student loans; and 6 any other fact material to consumers concerning any 7 v. good or service, such as: the total costs; any material restrictions, 8 limitations, or conditions; or any material aspect of its performance, 9 efficacy, nature, or central characteristics; and 10 making or Assisting Others in making, any representation, b. 11 expressly or by implication, about the benefits, performance, or efficacy of 12 13 any product or service, unless the representation is non-misleading and, at the time such representation is made, BCO possesses and relies upon 14 competent and reliable evidence that is sufficient in quality and quantity 15 based on standards generally accepted in the relevant fields, when 16 considered in light of the entire body of relevant and reliable evidence, to 17 substantiate that the representation is true. 18 Prohibition on Collection of Advance Fees. BCO and its officers, 2. 19 agents, employees, and those persons or entities in active concert or 20 participation with any of them who receive actual notice of this Order, whether 21 acting directly or indirectly, are hereby **RESTRAINED** and **ENJOINED** from 22 providing, offering to provide, or arranging for others to provide any Debt Relief 23 Service and requesting or receiving payment of any fees or consideration for any 24 Debt Relief Service, until and unless: 25 the seller or telemarketer has renegotiated, settled, reduced, 26 a. or otherwise altered the terms of at least one debt pursuant to a settlement 27 28

agreement, debt management plan, or other such valid contractual 1 agreement executed by the customer; 2 3 b. the customer has made at least one payment pursuant to that settlement agreement, debt management plan, or other valid contractual 4 agreement between the customer and the creditor or debt collector; and 5 to the extent that debts enrolled in a service are renegotiated, 6 c. settled, reduced, or otherwise altered individually, the fee or 7 consideration either: 8 i. bears the same proportional relationship to the total 9 10 fee for renegotiating, settling, reducing, or altering the terms of the entire debt balance as the individual debt amount bears to the entire 11 debt amount. The individual debt amount and the entire debt 12 amount are those owed at the time the debt was enrolled in the 13 service; or 14 is a percentage of the amount saved as a result of the ii. 15 renegotiation, settlement, reduction, or alteration. The percentage 16 charged cannot change from one individual debt to another. The 17 amount saved is the difference between the amount owed at the 18 time the debt was enrolled in the service and the amount actually 19 paid to satisfy the debt. 20 Prohibition on Release of Customer Information. BCO, its officers, 3. 21 agents, employees, and attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or 22 participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, whether 23 acting directly or indirectly, are hereby **RESTRAINED** and **ENJOINED** from: 24 Selling, renting, leasing, transferring, or otherwise disclosing, 25 a. the name, address, birth date, telephone number, email address, credit 26 card number, bank account number, Social Security number, or other 27 28 financial or identifying information of any person that any Defendant

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obtained in connection with any activity that pertains to the subject matter of this Order; and

b. Benefitting from or using the name, address, birth date,
telephone number, email address, credit card number, bank account
number, Social Security number, or other financial or identifying
information of any person that any Defendant obtained in connection with
any activity that pertains to the subject matter of this Order.

8 Provided, however, that BCO may disclose such identifying information to a law
9 enforcement agency, to its attorneys as required for its defense, as required by
10 any law, regulation, or court order, or in any filings, pleadings, or discovery in
11 this action in the manner required by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and
12 by any protective order in the case.

4. <u>Asset Freeze</u>. BCO and its officers, agents, employees, and
attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of
them, who receive actual notice of this Order, whether acting directly or
indirectly, are hereby **RESTRAINED** and **ENJOINED** from:

a. Transferring, liquidating, converting, encumbering,
pledging, loaning, selling, concealing, dissipating, disbursing, assigning,
relinquishing, spending, withdrawing, granting a lien or security interest
or other interest in, or otherwise disposing of any Assets that are:

i. owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by any *Defendant*;

23 ii. held, in part or in whole, for the benefit of any
24 Defendant;

25 iii. in the actual or constructive possession of any
26 Defendant; or

iv. 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.

Opening or causing to be opened any safe deposit boxes, b. commercial mailboxes, or storage facilities titled in the name of any Defendant or subject to access by any Defendant, except as necessary to comply with written requests from the Receiver acting pursuant to its authority under this Order;

Incurring charges or cash advances on any credit, debit, or c. ATM card issued in the name, individually or jointly, of any Corporate Defendant or any corporation, partnership, or other entity directly or indirectly owned, managed, or controlled by any Defendant or of which any Defendant is an officer, director, member, or manager. This includes any corporate bankcard or corporate credit card account for which any Defendant is, or was on the date that this Order was signed, an authorized signor; or

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d. Cashing any checks or depositing any money orders or cash received from consumers, clients, or customers of any Defendant. 17 The Assets affected by this Section shall include: (1) all Assets of Defendants as 18 of the time this Order is entered; and (2) Assets obtained by Defendants after 19 this Order is entered if those Assets are derived from any activity that is the 20 subject of the Complaint in this matter or that is prohibited by this Order. This 21 Section does not prohibit any transfers to the Receiver or repatriation of foreign 22 Assets specifically required by this order. 23

Duties of Asset Holders and Other Third Parties. Any financial or 24 5. brokerage institution, Electronic Data Host, credit card processor, payment 25 processor, merchant bank, acquiring bank, independent sales organization, third 26 party processor, payment gateway, insurance company, business entity, or 27 person who receives actual notice of this Order (by service or otherwise) that 28

(1) has held, controlled, or maintained custody, through an account or 1 2 otherwise, of BCO, on behalf of BCO, or any Asset that has been owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by BCO; held, in part or in whole, for the 3 benefit of BCO; in the actual or constructive possession of BCO; or owned or 4 controlled by, in the actual or constructive possession of, or otherwise held for 5 the benefit of, any corporation, partnership, asset protection trust, or other 6 entity that is directly or indirectly owned, managed or controlled by BCO; 7 8 (2) has held, controlled, or maintained custody, through an account or otherwise, of any Document or Asset associated with credits, debits, or charges 9 10 made on behalf of BCO, including reserve funds held by payment processors, credit card processors, merchant banks, acquiring banks, independent sales 11 organizations, third party processors, payment gateways, insurance companies, 12 13 or other entities; or (3) has extended credit to BCO, including through a credit card account, shall: 14

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;

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b. Deny any person, except the Receiver, access to any safe deposit box, commercial mailbox, or storage facility that is titled in the name of BCO, either individually or jointly, or otherwise subject to access by BCO;

c. Provide the FTC and the Receiver, within three (3) days of receiving a copy of this Order, a sworn statement setting forth, for each Asset or account covered by this Section:

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The identification number of each such account or i. 1 2 Asset; ii. 3 The balance of each such account, or a description of the nature and value of each such Asset as of the close of business 4 on the day on which this Order is served, and, if the account or 5 other Asset has been closed or removed, the date closed or 6 removed, the total funds removed in order to close the account, and 7 the name of the person or entity to whom such account or other 8 Asset was remitted; and 9 The identification of any safe deposit box, commercial 10 iii. mailbox, or storage facility that is either titled in the name, 11 individually or jointly, of BCO, or is otherwise subject to access by 12 BCO; and 13 Upon the request of the FTC or the Receiver, promptly d. 14 provide the FTC and the Receiver with copies of all records or other 15 Documents pertaining to any account covered by this Section or Asset, 16 including originals or copies of account applications, account statements, 17 signature cards, checks, drafts, deposit tickets, transfers to and from the 18 accounts, including wire transfers and wire transfer instructions, all other 19 debit and credit instruments or slips, currency transaction reports, 1099 20 forms, and all logs and records pertaining to safe deposit boxes, 21 commercial mail boxes, and storage facilities. 22 Provided, however, that this Section does not prohibit any transfers to the 23 Receiver or repatriation of foreign Assets specifically required by this order. 24 Financial Disclosures. BCO, to the extent it has not done so 25 6. pursuant to the TRO, within three (3) days of service of this Order upon it, shall 26 prepare and deliver to the FTC and the Receiver: 27

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completed Attachment B (Financial Statement of Corporate 1 a. 2 Defendant) for BCO; and completed Attachment C (IRS Form 4506, Request for Copy 3 b. of a Tax Return) for BCO. 4 Foreign Asset Repatriation. To the extent not already done 5 7. pursuant to the TRO, within five (5) days following the service of this Order, 6 BCO shall: 7 Provide the FTC and the Receiver with a full accounting, 8 a. verified under oath and accurate as of the date of this Order, of all Assets, 9 Documents, and accounts outside of the United States which are: 10 titled in the name, individually or jointly, of BCO; i. 11 held by any person or entity for the benefit of BCO or ii. 12 13 for the benefit of, any corporation, partnership, asset protection trust, or other entity that is directly or indirectly owned, managed, 14 or controlled by BCO; or 15 iii. under the direct or indirect control, whether jointly or 16 singly, of BCO; 17 Take all steps necessary to provide the FTC and Receiver 18 b. access to all Documents and records that may be held by third parties 19 located outside of the territorial United States of America, including 20 signing the Consent to Release of Financial Records appended to this 21 Order as Attachment D; 22 Transfer to the territory of the United States all Documents 23 c. and Assets located in foreign countries which are: 24 titled in the name, individually or jointly, of BCO; i. 25 held by any person or entity for the benefit of BCO or ii. 26 for the benefit of, any corporation, partnership, asset protection 27 28

| 1 | trust, or other entity that is directly or indirectly owned, managed, | | |
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| 2 | or controlled by BCO; or | | |
| 3 | iii. under the direct or indirect control, whether jointly or | | |
| 4 | singly, of BCO; and | | |
| 5 | d. The same business day as any repatriation: | | |
| 6 | i. notify the Receiver and the FTC of the name and | | |
| 7 | location of the financial institution or other entity that is the | | |
| 8 | recipient of such Documents or Assets; and | | |
| 9 | ii. serve this Order on any such financial institution or | | |
| 10 | other entity. | | |
| 11 | 8. <u>Non-Interference with Repatriation</u> . BCO, its officers, agents, | | |
| 12 | employees, and attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation | | |
| 13 | with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, whether acting | | |
| 14 | directly or indirectly, are hereby RESTRAINED and ENJOINED from taking | | |
| 15 | any action, directly or indirectly, which may result in the encumbrance or | | |
| 16 | dissipation of foreign Assets, or in the hindrance of the repatriation required by | | |
| 17 | this Order, including, but not limited to: | | |
| 18 | a. Sending any communication or engaging in any other act, | | |
| 19 | directly or indirectly, that results in a determination by a foreign trustee or | | |
| 20 | other entity that a "duress" event has occurred under the terms of a | | |
| 21 | foreign trust agreement until such time that all Defendants' Assets have | | |
| 22 | been fully repatriated pursuant to this Order; or | | |
| 23 | b. Notifying any trustee, protector or other agent of any foreign | | |
| 24 | trust or other related entities of either the existence of this Order, or of | | |
| 25 | the fact that repatriation is required pursuant to a court order, until such | | |
| 26 | time that all Defendants' Assets have been fully repatriated pursuant to | | |
| 27 | this Order. | | |
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Preservation of Records. BCO, its officers, agents, employees, and 9. 1 2 attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of 3 them, who receive actual notice of this Order, whether acting directly or indirectly, are hereby **RESTRAINED** and **ENJOINED** from: 4 Destroying, erasing, falsifying, writing over, mutilating, 5 a. concealing, altering, transferring, or otherwise disposing of, in any 6 manner, directly or indirectly, Documents that relate to: 7 the business, business practices, Assets, or business or 8 i. personal finances of any Defendant; 9 the business practices or finances of entities directly or 10 ii. indirectly under the control of any Defendant; or 11 the business practices or finances of entities directly or iii. 12 13 indirectly under common control with any other Defendant; and Failing to create and maintain Documents that, in reasonable b. 14 detail, accurately, fairly, and completely reflect BCO's incomes, 15 disbursements, transactions, and use of BCO's Assets. 16 Report of New Business Activity. BCO, its officers, agents, 10. 17 employees, and attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation 18 with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, whether acting 19 directly or indirectly, are hereby **RESTRAINED** and **ENJOINED** from 20 creating, operating, or exercising any control over any business entity, whether 21 newly formed or previously inactive, including any partnership, limited 22 partnership, joint venture, sole proprietorship, or corporation, without first 23 providing the FTC and the Receiver with a written statement disclosing: 24 the name of the business entity; 25 a. the address and telephone number of the business entity; 26 b. the names of the business entity's officers, directors, 27 c. 28 principals, managers, and employees; and

d. a detailed description of the business entity's intended activities.

3 11. <u>Receiver</u>. Thomas W. McNamara shall continue to serve as
4 Receiver of the Receivership Entities with full powers of an equity receiver. The
5 Receiver shall be solely the agent of this Court in acting as Receiver under this
6 Order.

7 12. Duties and Authorities of Receiver. The Receiver is directed and
8 authorized to accomplish the following:

9 a. Assume full control of Receivership Entities by removing, as
10 the Receiver deems necessary or advisable, any director, officer,
11 independent contractor, employee, attorney, or agent of any Receivership
12 Entity from control of, management of, or participation in, the affairs of
13 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 or entities 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;

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

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

g. Make payments and disbursements from the receivership
estate that are necessary or advisable for carrying out the directions of, or
exercising the authority granted by, this Order, and to incur, or authorize
the making of, such agreements as may be necessary and advisable in
discharging his or her duties as Receiver. The Receiver shall apply to the

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Court for prior approval of any payment of any debt or obligation incurred by the Receivership Entities prior to the date of entry of this Order, except payments that the Receiver deems necessary or advisable to secure Assets of the Receivership Entities, such as rental payments;

h. Take all steps necessary to secure and take exclusive custody
of each location from which the Receivership Entities operate their
businesses. Such steps may include, but are not limited to, any of the
following, as the Receiver deems necessary or advisable:

i. securing the location by changing the locks and alarm codes and disconnecting any internet access or other means of access to the computers, servers, internal networks, or other records maintained at that location; and

ii. requiring any persons present at the location to leave the premises, to provide the Receiver with proof of identification, and/or to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Receiver that such persons are not removing from the premises Documents or Assets of the Receivership Entities. Law enforcement personnel, including, but not limited to, police or sheriffs, may assist the Receiver in implementing these provisions in order to keep the peace and maintain security. If requested by the Receiver, the United States Marshal will provide appropriate and necessary assistance to the Receiver to implement this Order and is authorized to use any necessary and reasonable force to do so;

i. Take all steps necessary to prevent the modification,
destruction, or erasure of any web page or website registered to and
operated, in whole or in part, by BCO, and to provide access to all such
web page or websites to the FTC's representatives, agents, and assistants,
as well as Defendants and their representatives;

j. Enter into and cancel contracts and purchase insurance as advisable or necessary;

k. Prevent the inequitable distribution of Assets and determine,
adjust, and protect the interests of consumers who have transacted
business with the Receivership Entities;

 Make an accounting, as soon as practicable, of the Assets and financial condition of the receivership and file the accounting with the Court and deliver copies thereof to all parties;

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

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

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

p. Maintain accurate records of all receipts and expenditures incurred as Receiver;

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q. Allow the FTC's representatives, agents, and assistants, as well as Defendants' representatives and Defendants themselves, reasonable access to the premises of the Receivership Entities, or any other premises where the Receivership Entities conduct business. The purpose of this access shall be to inspect and copy any and all books, records, Documents, accounts, and other property owned by, or in the possession of, the Receivership Entities or their agents. The Receiver shall have the discretion to determine the time, manner, and reasonable conditions of such access;

r. Allow the FTC's representatives, agents, and assistants, as well as Defendants and their representatives reasonable access to all Documents in the possession, custody, or control of the Receivership Entities;

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

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

u. If the Receiver identifies a nonparty entity as a Receivership
Entity, promptly notify the entity as well as the parties, and inform the
entity that it can challenge the Receiver's determination by filing a motion
with the Court. Provided, however, that the Receiver may delay
providing such notice until the Receiver has established control of the
nonparty entity and its assets and records, if the Receiver determines that
notice to the entity or the parties before the Receiver establishes control
over the entity may result in the destruction of records, dissipation of
assets, or any other obstruction of the Receiver's control of the entity; and

If in the Receiver's judgment the business operations cannot 1 v. be continued legally and profitably, take all steps necessary to ensure that 2 any of the Receivership Entities' web pages or websites relating to the 3 activities alleged in the Complaint cannot be accessed by the public, or are 4 modified for consumer education and/or informational purposes, and take 5 all steps necessary to ensure that any telephone numbers associated with 6 the Receivership Entities cannot be accessed by the public, or are 7 answered solely to provide consumer education or information regarding 8 the status of operations. 9

10 13. Transfer of Receivership Property to Receiver. To the extent not already done so pursuant to the TRO, BCO and any other person, with 11 possession, custody or control of property of, or records relating to, the 12 13 Receivership Entities shall, upon notice of this Order by personal service or otherwise, fully cooperate with and assist the Receiver in taking and maintaining 14 possession, custody, or control of the Assets and Documents of the Receivership 15 Entities and immediately transfer or deliver to the Receiver possession, custody, 16 and control of, the following: 17

All Assets held by or for the benefit of the Receivership 18 a. Entities;

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All Documents or Assets associated with credits, debits, or 20 b. charges made on behalf of any Receivership Entity, wherever situated, 21 including reserve funds held by payment processors, credit card 22 processors, merchant banks, acquiring banks, independent sales 23 24 organizations, third party processors, payment gateways, insurance companies, or other entities; 25

All Documents of or pertaining to the Receivership Entities; 26 c. All computers, electronic devices, mobile devices, and d. 27 machines used to conduct the business of the Receivership Entities; 28

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e. All Assets and Documents belonging to other persons or entities whose interests are under the direction, possession, custody, or control of the Receivership Entities; and

f. All keys, codes, usernames, and passwords necessary to gain or to secure access to any Assets or Documents of or pertaining to the Receivership Entities, including access to their business premises, means of communication, accounts, computer systems (onsite and remote), Electronic Data Hosts, or other property.

9 In the event that any person or entity fails to deliver or transfer any Asset or
10 Document, or otherwise fails to comply with any provision of this Section, the
11 Receiver may file an Affidavit of Non-Compliance regarding the failure and a
12 motion seeking compliance or a contempt citation.

- *13* 14. Provision of Information to Receiver. To the extent not already *14* done so pursuant to the TRO, BCO shall immediately provide to the Receiver:
 - a. A list of all Assets and accounts of the Receivership Entities that are held in any name other than the name of a Receivership Entity, or by any person or entity other than a Receivership Entity;

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

- c. A description of any documents covered by attorney-client
 privilege or attorney work product, including files where such documents
 are likely to be located, authors or recipients of such documents, and
 search terms likely to identify such electronic documents.
- 26 15. <u>Cooperation with the Receiver</u>. BCO; Receivership Entities;
 27 BCO's or Receivership Entities' officers, agents, employees, and attorneys, all
 28 other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, and any other

person with possession, custody, or control of property of or records relating to 1 the Receivership entities who receive actual notice of this Order shall fully 2 cooperate with and assist the Receiver. This cooperation and assistance shall 3 include, but is not limited to, providing information to the Receiver that the 4 Receiver deems necessary to exercise the authority and discharge the 5 6 responsibilities of the Receiver under this Order; providing any keys, codes, user names and passwords required to access any computers, electronic devices, 7 mobile devices, and machines (onsite or remotely) and any cloud account 8 (including specific method to access account) or electronic file in any medium; 9 advising all persons who owe money to any Receivership Entity that all debts 10 should be paid directly to the Receiver; and transferring funds at the Receiver's 11 direction and producing records related to the Assets and sales of the 12 13 **Receivership Entities.**

Non-Interference with the Receiver. BCO; Receivership Entities; 16. 14 BCO's or Receivership Entities' officers, agents, employees, attorneys, and all 15 other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive 16 actual notice of this Order, and any other person served with a copy of this 17 Order, are hereby **RESTRAINED** and **ENJOINED** from directly or indirectly: 18 Interfering with the Receiver's efforts to manage, or take 19 a. custody, control, or possession of, the Assets or Documents subject to the 20 receivership; 21

b. Transacting any of the business of the Receivership Entities;
c. Transferring, receiving, altering, selling, encumbering,
pledging, assigning, liquidating, or otherwise disposing of any Assets
owned, controlled, or in the possession or custody of, or in which an
interest is held or claimed by, the Receivership Entities; or

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

Stay of Actions. Except by leave of this Court, during the pendency 17. 4 of the receivership ordered herein, BCO, its officers, agents, employees, 5 attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of 6 them, who receive actual notice of this Order, and their corporations, 7 subsidiaries, divisions, or affiliates, and all investors, creditors, stockholders, 8 lessors, customers and other persons seeking to establish or enforce any claim, 9 right, or interest against or on behalf of BCO, and all others acting for or on 10 behalf of such persons, are hereby enjoined from taking action that would 11 interfere with the exclusive jurisdiction of this Court over the Assets or 12 13 Documents of the Receivership Entities, including, but not limited to:

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

b. Commencing, prosecuting, or continuing a judicial, administrative, or other action or proceeding against the Receivership Entities, including the issuance or employment of process against the Receivership Entities, except that such actions may be commenced if necessary to toll any applicable statute of limitations; or

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

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

18. Compensation of Receiver. The Receiver and all personnel hired 8 by the Receiver as herein authorized, including counsel to the Receiver and 9 accountants, are entitled to reasonable compensation for the performance of 10 duties pursuant to this Order and for the cost of actual out-of-pocket expenses 11 incurred by them, from the Assets now held by, in the possession or control of, 12 13 or which may be received by, the Receivership Entities. The Receiver shall file with the Court and serve on the parties periodic requests for the payment of 14 such reasonable compensation, with the first such request filed no more than 15 sixty (60) days after the date of entry of this Order. The Receiver shall not 16 increase the hourly rates used as the bases for such fee applications without prior 17 approval of the Court. 18

19 19. <u>Receiver's Bond</u>. The bond in the sum of \$15,000 previously filed
20 by the Receiver with the Clerk of this Court shall remain in effect, conditioned
21 that the Receiver will well and truly perform the duties of the office and abide by
22 and perform all acts the Court directs. 28 U.S.C. § 754.

23 20. Distribution of Order by BCO. BCO shall immediately provide a
24 copy of this Order to each affiliate, telemarketer, marketer, sales entity,
25 successor, assign, member, officer, director, employee, agent, independent
26 contractor, client, attorney, spouse, subsidiary, division, and representative of
27 BCO, and shall, to the extent not already done so pursuant to the TRO, within
28 three (3) days from the date of entry of this Order, provide the FTC and the

Receiver with a sworn statement that this provision of the Order has been 1 2 satisfied, which statement shall include the names, physical addresses, phone number, and email addresses of each such person or entity who received a copy 3 of the Order. Furthermore, BCO shall not take any action that would encourage 4 officers, agents, members, directors, employees, salespersons, independent 5 contractors, attorneys, subsidiaries, affiliates, successors, assigns or other 6 persons or entities in active concert or participation with them to disregard this 7 8 Order or believe that they are not bound by its provisions.

Expedited Discovery. Notwithstanding the provisions of the 9 21. Rule 26(d) and (f) and 30(a)(2)(A)(iii), and pursuant to Rule 30(a), 33, 34, and 10 45, the FTC and the Receiver are granted leave, at any time after service of this 11 Order, to conduct limited expedited discovery for the purpose of discovering 12 13 (1) the nature, location, status, and extent of BCO's Assets; (2) the nature, location, and extent of BCO's business transactions and operations; 14 (3) Documents reflecting BCO's business transactions and operations; or 15 (4) compliance with this Order. The limited expedited discovery set forth in 16 this Section shall proceed as follows: 17

The FTC and the Receiver may take the deposition of parties 18 a. and non-parties. Forty-eight (48) hours' notice shall be sufficient notice 19 for such depositions. The limitations and conditions set forth in 20 Rules 30(a)(2)(A) and 31(a)(2)(A) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 21 regarding subsequent depositions of an individual shall not apply to 22 depositions taken pursuant to this Section. Any such deposition taken 23 pursuant to this Section shall not be counted towards the deposition limit 24 set forth in Rules 30(a)(2)(A) and 31(a)(2)(A) and depositions may be 25 taken by telephone or other remote electronic means; 26

b. The FTC and the Receiver may serve upon parties requests
for production of Documents or inspection that require production or

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inspection within five (5) days of service, provided, however, that three (3) days of notice shall be deemed sufficient for the production of any such Documents that are maintained or stored only in an electronic format.

c. The FTC and the Receiver may serve upon parties interrogatories that require response within five (5) days after the FTC serves such interrogatories;

d. The FTC and the Receiver may serve subpoenas upon nonparties that direct production or inspection within five (5) days of service.

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

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

g. The Parties are exempted from making initial disclosures
under Rule 26(a)(1) until further order of this Court.

Service of this Order. Copies of this Order may be served by any 20 22. means, including facsimile transmission, electronic mail or other electronic 21 messaging, personal or overnight delivery, U.S. Mail or FedEx, by agents and 22 employees of the FTC, by any law enforcement agency, or by private process 23 server, upon any Defendant or any person (including any financial institution) 24 that may have possession, custody or control of any Asset or Document of BCO, 25 or that may be subject to any provision of this Order pursuant to Rule 65(d)(2). 26 For purposes of this Section, service upon any branch, subsidiary, affiliate, or 27 office of any entity shall effect service upon the entire entity. 28

| 1 | 23. <u>(</u> | Correspondence and Service on the FTC. For the purpose of this | |
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| 2 | Order, all correspondence and service of pleadings on the FTC shall be | | |
| 3 | addressed to the FTC's counsel of record. | | |
| 4 | 24. <u>I</u> | Duration of the Order. This Order shall expire upon entry of a final | |
| 5 | judgment in this case. | | |
| 6 | 25. <u>R</u> | Retention of Jurisdiction. This Court shall retain jurisdiction of | |
| 7 | this matter for all purposes. | | |
| 8 | IT IS SO ORDERED. | | |
| 9 | | 19.700 | |
| 10 | Dated: May | y 22, 2023 | |
| 11 | | Joh N W. Holcomb UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE | |
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