

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Release No. 59226 / January 12, 2009

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING
File No. 3-13329

In the Matter of

Howard Graham,

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 Howard Graham (“Respondent”).

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 Section III.2 below, which are admitted, Respondent 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. At all relevant times, Graham was a sales agent of a Massachusetts-based corporation, Braintree Energy, Inc. (“Braintree”), which issued securities in the form of investment contracts and/or fractional interests in oil and gas leases. Graham, 48 years old, is a resident of Ontario, Canada.

2. On December 23, 2008, a final judgment was entered by consent against Graham permanently enjoining him from future violations of Sections 5(a), 5(c), and 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 (“Securities Act”), and Sections 10(b) and 15(a) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder in the civil action entitled Securities and Exchange Commission v. Braintree Energy, Inc. et al., Civil Action Number 3:07-CV-10307, in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

3. The Commission’s complaint, filed on February 20, 2007, alleged that Graham, a Canadian citizen, used Braintree to orchestrate an offering and sale of unregistered securities in the form of investment contracts and/or fractional interests in oil and gas leases. Graham made numerous oral and written misrepresentations between at least 2000 through 2006 to more than 200 investors nationwide and in foreign countries regarding the investors’ expected rate of return and their associated investment risks. Graham failed to disclose many material facts to the investors, including that Graham received up to 30% of investor funds. As a result of the scheme, Graham obtained at least \$9 million in investor funds and Graham and/or entities controlled by him received approximately \$3 million.

IV.

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

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED:

Pursuant to Section 15(b)(6) of the Exchange Act that Respondent Graham be, and hereby is barred from association with any broker or dealer.

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, the satisfaction of any or all of the following: (a) any disgorgement ordered against the Respondent, whether or not the Commission has fully or partially waived payment of such disgorgement; (b) any arbitration award related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order; (c) 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 (d) 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.

Elizabeth M. Murphy
Secretary