UNITED STATES OF AMERICA before the SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 Release No. 61383 / January 20, 2010

ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING ENFORCEMENT Release No. 3105 / January 20, 2010

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING File No. 3-13754

In the Matter of : ORDER INSTITUTING PUBLIC

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS

PURSUANT TO RULE 102(e)

THEODORE P. NONCEK, CPA: OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES

OF PRACTICE, MAKING FINDINGS,

AND IMPOSING REMEDIAL

Respondent. : 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 against Theodore P. Noncek, CPA ("Respondent" or "Noncek") pursuant to Rule 102(e)(3)(i) of the Commission's Rules of Practice.¹

The Commission, with due regard to the public interest and without preliminary hearing, may, by order, . . . suspend from appearing or practicing before it any . . . accountant . . . who has been by name:

(A) permanently enjoined by any court of competent jurisdiction, by reason of his or her misconduct in an action brought by the Commission, from violating or aiding and abetting the violation of any provision of the Federal securities laws or of the rules and regulations thereunder.

¹ Rule 102(e)(3)(i) provides, in relevant part, that:

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.3 below, which are admitted, Respondent consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Public Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Rule 102(e) of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 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. Noncek, age 51, was Vice-President and Controller of Bally Total Fitness Holding Corporation ("Bally") from 2001 to February 2005, when he was terminated. Prior to his employment at Bally, Noncek was an auditor with Ernst & Young LLP. At all relevant times, Noncek was a certified public accountant.
- 2. Bally purported to be the largest, and only nationwide, commercial operator of fitness centers. At all relevant times, Bally's common stock was registered with the Commission pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") and traded on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"). The NYSE delisted Bally's common stock on June 8, 2007. After filing for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, on September 17, 2007, Bally emerged as a privately held reorganized entity.
- 3. On December 17, 2009, the Commission filed a complaint against Noncek in <u>SEC v. Theodore P. Noncek</u>, 09-CV-2387 (CKK)(D.D.C.). On December 22, 2009, the court entered an order permanently enjoining Noncek, by consent, from violating Sections 17(a)(2) and (3) of the Securities Act of 1933, and from aiding and abetting violations of Sections 13(a), 13(b)(2)(A) and 13(b)(2)(B) of the Exchange Act and Rules 12b-20, 13a-1, 13a-11 and 13a-13 thereunder.
- 4. The Commission's complaint alleges, among other things, that during the relevant time period, Noncek violated various provisions of the federal securities laws. The complaint also alleges that Noncek, with others, was responsible for Bally's materially false and misleading statements about its financial condition in filings with the Commission and in other public statements. These materially false and misleading statements portrayed Bally's financial condition (its net worth) and its performance (its income) as being materially better than they actually were during the relevant period.

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

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED, effective immediately, that:

- A. Respondent is suspended from appearing or practicing before the Commission as an accountant.
- B. After two years from the date of this order, Respondent may request that the Commission consider his reinstatement by submitting an application (attention: Office of the Chief Accountant) to resume appearing or practicing before the Commission as:
- 1. a preparer or reviewer, or a person responsible for the preparation or review, of any public company's financial statements that are filed with the Commission. Such an application must satisfy the Commission that Respondent's work in his practice before the Commission will be reviewed either by the independent audit committee of the public company for which he works or in some other acceptable manner, as long as he practices before the Commission in this capacity; and/or
- 2. an independent accountant. Such an application must satisfy the Commission that:
- (a) Respondent, or the public accounting firm with which he is associated, is registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board ("Board") in accordance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, and such registration continues to be effective;
- (b) Respondent, or the registered public accounting firm with which he is associated, has been inspected by the Board and that inspection did not identify any criticisms of or potential defects in the Respondent's or the firm's quality control system that would indicate that the Respondent will not receive appropriate supervision;
- (c) Respondent has resolved all disciplinary issues with the Board, and has complied with all terms and conditions of any sanctions imposed by the Board (other than reinstatement by the Commission); and
- (d) Respondent acknowledges his responsibility, as long as Respondent appears or practices before the Commission as an independent accountant, to comply with all requirements of the Commission and the Board, including, but not limited to, all requirements relating to registration, inspections, concurring partner reviews and quality control standards.
- C. The Commission will consider an application by Respondent to resume appearing or practicing before the Commission provided that his state CPA license is

current and he has resolved all other disciplinary issues with the applicable state boards of accountancy. However, if state licensure is dependent on reinstatement by the Commission, the Commission will consider an application on its other merits. The Commission's review may include consideration of, in addition to the matters referenced above, any other matters relating to Respondent's character, integrity, professional conduct, or qualifications to appear or practice before the Commission.

By the Commission.

Elizabeth M. Murphy Secretary