Christine Ryall, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice) 1 crvall@cftc.gov 2 John Dunfee, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice) jdunfee@cftc.gov FILED Commodity Futures Trading Commission CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT Division of Enforcement 1155 21st Street, N.W. MAY 1 7 2007 Washington, D.C. 20581 202-418-5318 (Ryall) 202-418-5396 (Dunfee) LIFORUJA DEPUTY 202-418-5523 (fax) 6 Kent Kawakami (CA Bar #149803) 7 Priority kent.kawakami@usdoj.gov Send U.S. Attorney's Office, Civil Division 8 Enter 300 N. Los Angeles Street Closed Los Angeles, California 90012 JS-5/JS-6 213-894-4858 JS-2/JS-3 213-894-2380 (fax) 10 Scan Only 11 Attorneys for Plai Commodity Future's Tading Commission 12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA Case No. CV03-8339 AHM (Ex) ading . 15 ENTERED CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT 16 Plaintiff, 17 MAY | 8 2007 18 Emerald Worldwide Holdings, Inc., CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 19 et al., Defendants. 20 41S CONSTITUTES NOTICE OF ENTRY 3S REQUIRED BY FRCP, RULE 77(d). 21 22 ORDER FOR DISTRIBUTION OF RESTITUTION AND APPOINTMENT OF FUND ADMINISTRATOR 23 This matter came before the Court on Plaintiff Commodity Futures 24 Trading Commission's ("Commission") Motion for Order of Distribution 25 of Restitution and Appointment of Fund Administrator. The Court, 26

having considered the Plaintiff's motion and its proposed distribution plan, orders as follows:

I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. On November 29, 2006, the Court entered a Consent Order of Disgorgement Against Relief Defendants ACE Capital Advisory Group Inc., Lynnwood Jen and Esther Pranolo ("Relief Defendants Consent Order"), requiring these relief defendants to disgorge \$39,194.96, \$10,000 and \$55,897.79, respectively.
- 2. On November 30, 2006, the Court entered a Consent Order of Permanent Injunction, Monetary Penalty and Equitable Relief Against Defendants Jian Zhuang and Emerald Worldwide Holdings Inc.

 ("Emerald/Zhuang Consent Order"), which requires Emerald and Zhuang to pay restitution totaling \$3,433,722.61.
- 3. Pursuant to paragraph 31 of the Relief Defendants Consent Order, and paragraph 51 of the Emerald/Zhuang Consent Order, the Court Registry Investment System ("CRIS") currently holds \$1,514,859.75 in proceeds attributable to the defendants' offer and sale of illegal off-exchange futures contracts and misappropriation of customers' investment funds, and any interest accrued thereon ("Restitution Fund").

II. DEFINITIONS

- 4. As used herein, the following definitions shall apply:
- a. "Available Distribution" shall mean the amount of money in the Restitution Fund (including accumulated interest and earnings thereon), less the costs of administering the fund, taxes,

and the fees and expenses of the Fund Administrator, who is appointed in Paragraph 5 below, for carrying out its duties as provided herein.

- b. "Claimant" shall mean any individual and/or entity, other than a defendant or relief defendant, that deposited investment funds directly into a U.S. bank account of defendant Emerald Worldwide Holdings Inc. ("Emerald"), relief defendant ACE Capital Advisory Group Inc. ("ACE Capital") and/or relief defendant ACE Emerald W. Holding Inc. ("ACE Emerald") during the period of March 2002 through April 2004.
- c. "Eligible Claimant" shall mean any Claimant who provided to the Fund Administrator the statement requested pursuant to Paragraph 11 herein, and who the Fund Administrator has determined, by an analysis of relevant financial and other records provided to it by the Commission and/or the Claimant, suffered a net loss. Claimants whose withdrawals were greater than their deposits are not eligible to receive any distribution.
- d. "Net Loss" shall mean the amount of restitution owed by the defendants to a Claimant, which is determined by a simple calculation of all deposits by the Claimant into the U.S. bank accounts of Emerald, ACE Capital and/or ACE Emerald minus all withdrawals or payments to the Claimant from the U.S. bank accounts of Emerald, ACE Capital and/or ACE Emerald, without any adjustment for purported trading results or other account activity.

III. APPOINTMENT OF FUND ADMINISTRATOR

Robb Evans & Associates LLC, 11450 Sheldon Street, Sun
 Valley, CA 91352-1121, is hereby appointed as Fund Administrator for a

period beginning with the date of entry of this Order and continuing in until final distribution of the Restitution Fund. The Fund

Administrator is authorized to collect and distribute the Restitution Fund to Eligible Claimants. The Fund Administrator shall create and manage the administration of the claims procedures and distribution of the Restitution Fund, in accordance with the provisions in this Order.

6. The Fund Administrator shall have the following rights and

The Fund Administrator shall use its

best efforts to identify the names ar

a. It is the Fund Administrator's responsibility, in confact (Assumation of Consultation with the Commission, to distribute funds in accordance Customers with the provisions of this Order.

b. The Fund Administrator, on behalf of the Restitution Fund, shall take all necessary steps to enable the Restitution Fund to be a "qualified settlement fund" (the "Fund") within the meaning of the regulations issued under section 468B(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. The Fund Administrator shall be designated the administrator of the Fund, pursuant to Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-2(k)(3)(i), and shall satisfy the administrative requirements imposed by Treas. Reg. § 1.468B-2, including but not limited to (i) obtaining a taxpayer identification number, (ii) timely filing applicable federal, state, and local tax returns and paying taxes reported thereon, and (iii) satisfying any information, reporting or withholding requirements imposed on distributions from the Fund.

c. The Fund Administrator is entitled to pay from the Restitution Fund all reasonable costs, fees and other expenses incurred in the performance of its duties, and shall be further

entitled to be compensated for its services at an hourly rate ranging from \$28 to \$288 per hour from the Restitution Fund as provided herein; provided, however, (i) that before any amounts are paid by the Fund Administrator to itself, its members or its associates, or to any other person, the Commission shall be given a copy of each request by the Fund Administrator to make such payment ten days before submission of such request to the Court and the Commission shall be permitted to submit to the Court for consideration its position as to the reasonableness of the Fund Administrator's request; (ii) that all requests for payment of fees or other expenses to itself, its members or its associates, must be approved by the Court before payment from the Restitution Fund shall be made and the Court shall review the reasonableness of such fees and expenses in determining whether, in its discretion, such payment will be approved; and (iii) the Fund Administrator may, but is not required to, follow the procedures set out in sections (i) and (ii) above, before paying from the Restitution Fund all other costs, fees, and expenses (including payment of amounts due to taxing authorities on behalf of the Restitution Fund).

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- d. The Fund Administrator is excused from all legal requirements to post a bond or give an undertaking of any type in connection with his fiduciary duties and obligations as Fund Administrator under the terms of this Order.
- e. The Fund Administrator is entitled to rely on all outstanding rules of law and court orders, and shall not be liable to anyone for its own good faith compliance with any order, rule, law, judgment or decree. Nor shall it be liable to any person for

Administrator be liable to any defendant in this action for its good faith compliance with its duties and responsibilities under this

Order, nor shall it be liable to anyone for any action taken or omitted by it except upon a finding by this Court that it acted or failed to act as a result of misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence, or in reckless disregard of its duties.

f. In the event the Fund Administrator decides to resign, it shall first give written notice to the parties and the Court of its intention, and its resignation shall not be effective until the Court has appointed a successor. The Fund Administrator shall then follow such instructions as its successor or the Court gives it in turning over custody and control of the Restitution Fund.

IV. TRANSFER OF RESTITUTION FUND TO FUND ADMINISTRATOR

- 7. This Order provides authority for, and the Clerk is hereby ordered, upon the joint request of the Commission and the Fund Administrator, to:
- a. retrieve from the Restitution Fund those monies deposited, together with interest and earnings thereon; and
- b. transfer those monies to the Fund Administrator for payment or distribution as provided in this Order.
- 8. Upon receipt of the monies from the Restitution Fund, the Fund Administrator shall sign a receipt acknowledging the receipt of the funds. The Fund Administrator shall then file the signed receipt with the Court and serve a copy of that receipt to the Commission.

9. The Fund Administrator shall hold the Restitution Fund in an ill interest-bearing account, except for funds necessary to pay expenses, it which funds may be held in a non-interest-bearing account.

V. ADMINISTRATION OF THE CLAIMS PROCEDURE

- 10. The Fund Administrator shall make determinations under the criteria established herein as to the eligibility of Claimants to recover monies and the amount of money to be distributed from the Restitution Fund to each Eligible Claimant. The Fund Administrator may rely upon records and calculations provided by the Commission without independent verification and may complete other investigation and calculations as needed.
- 11. After receipt of Restitution Fund from the Court Registry
 Investment System, the Fund Administrator shall send a letter to each
 known Claimant at his/her last known address. The letter shall
 identify all known deposits and withdrawals by the Claimant and the
 Claimant's resulting Net Loss. The letter will direct the Claimant to
 provide a statement, in a form acceptable to the Fund Administrator,
 which confirms the deposits, withdrawals and Net Loss stated in the
 letter.
- 12. The letter shall also state that any Claimant who disputes the deposits, withdrawals and Net Loss stated in the letter must submit to the Fund Administrator records substantiating any claim of additional losses. The Fund Administrator will specify a deadline for submission of substantiating records, if any. The deadline shall be

²⁶ The letter will provide identical information in English, Chinese and Japanese.

no less than ninety (90) calendar days and no more than one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date when the letter is first sent by the Fund Administrator to the known Claimants.

- 13. After the deadline for submission of substantiating records has passed, the Fund Administrator shall notify in writing all Claimants who have submitted additional documents and whose claims for additional funds have been denied by the Funds Administrator under the criteria established under this Order. The Fund Administrator shall advise each such Claimant of the basis for the rejection of the claim. Any Claimant who objects to the Funds Administrator's determination of eligibility or wishes it to reconsider its denial of the claims, must so advise the Fund Administrator in writing within twenty-one (21) calendar days after the date of the Fund Administrator's initial denial of the claim. The Fund Administrator shall promptly consider any such objection or request for reconsideration and shall notify the Claimant in writing of its decision.
- 14. To carry out the purposes of this Order, the Fund

 Administrator is authorized to make such adjustments consistent with

 the purposes of this Order as may be agreed upon between the Fund

 Administrator and the Commission.
- 15. All determinations of the Fund Administrator that are made in accordance with the provisions of this Order shall be final.

V. PAYMENT OF RESTITUTION TO ELIGIBLE CLAIMANTS

16. After the notification to Claimants of denied claims, as provided in Paragraph 13 above, the Fund Administrator shall apply to the Court for an order approving the payment to it of all reasonable

- 17. Upon the approval by the Court of the payment to the Fund Administrator of its fees and other expenses, as provided in Paragraph 16, above, the Fund Administrator shall disburse the Available Distribution among the Eligible Claimants in proportion to each such Eligible Claimant's share of the total losses of all Eligible Claimants (i.e. pro rata).
- 18. No individual claim in an amount determined to result in a distribution of less than \$75.00 shall be paid.
- 19. Contemporaneously with each distribution of funds, the Fund Administrator shall notify the Commission of the names of the Eligible Claimants to whom funds were distributed and the amount distributed to each.
- 20. To the extent there remain funds in the Available
 Distribution that are not utilized for the payment of the Fund
 Administrator's fees and expenses, the payment of taxes, or the
 distribution to Eligible Claimants, the unused balance shall be paid
 to the United States Treasury as soon as practicable after the final
 tax return for the Restitution Fund has been filed. Any such unused
 funds shall not be credited to the defendants' obligations to pay civil
 monetary penalties.
- 21. As soon as practicable after the final tax return for the Restitution Fund has been filed, the Fund Administrator shall

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additionally file with the Court, and serve a copy to the Commission,

22. Upon any subsequent payment of funds to the CRIS by any defendant or relief defendant, the Commission shall apply to the Court for further distributions.

VI. PLAN COMMENT PERIOD

- 23. Any person wishing to comment on or object to the plan set forth in this Order must do so in writing by filing their comments with the Court within thirty (30) calendar days from the date this Order is issued, with a copy of their comments to be served, by first-class mail, upon the Fund Administrator and the Commission.
- 24. Any comments so filed shall be available for inspection upon reasonable notice by any interested person during normal business hours at the offices of the Fund Administrator.
- 25. The Commission may respond to any comments or objections so filed within thirty (30) calendar days from the last date a comment or objection may be filed, with copies of any such response to be filed with the Court and served by first-class mail or private carrier upon counsel for the defendants, the Fund Administrator, and all persons who submitted comments or objections pursuant to Paragraph 12 above.

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26. If the Court deems it necessary or appropriate, it will hold a hearing on any timely filed comment and/or objection to the plan set forth in this Order.

so ordered, in Los Angeles, California, on this \(\sum_{\text{N}} \) day of \(\sum_{\text{N}} \), 2007.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

1	Respectfully submitted,	مم الله	
2	Christine M. Ryall (Pro Hac V	L H	
3	John Dunfee (Pro Hac Vice)	r P3	
4	Commodity Futures Trading Commission 1155 21st Street NW Washington, DC 20581 202-418-5318/cryall@cftc.gov 202-418-5396/jdunfee@cftc.gov 202-418-5523 (fax)		
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7	Attorneys for Plaintiff COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION		
8	1	MI3310N	
9	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE		
10			
11	of the PLAINTIFF'S PROPOSED ORDER FOR DISTRIBUTION OF RESTITUTION AND APPOINTMENT OF FUND ADMINISTRATOR was served by U.S. Mail, pre-paid,		
7.0	on the following persons:		
12	Paul Cass David Weichert	7 A	
13	Los Angeles, CA 90010 San Clemente, CA 92672		
14	Jan Lu Emerald Worldwide Holding		
15	5 and Jian Zhuang	•	
16	6 Steven Krongold Robb Evans & Associates I	.LC	
17	7 Bienert & Krongold 11450 Sheldon Street 115 Avenida Miramar Sun Valley, CA 91352-1121		
18	Can Clemente CA 02672		
19	2 Lynnwood Jen, Ester Pranolo and ACE Capital Advisory Group Inc.	•	
20	0	\wedge	
21	1 By: Chustinen	· Pyall	
22	2 Christine M. Ryall	Ø	
23	3		