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Case 4:21-cv-01310-O-BP Document 4 File 1 12/01/21 Page 1 of 7 PageID 124

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION 2021 DEC

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,

Plaintiff,

v.

THE HEARTLAND GROUP VENTURES,
LLC; HEARTLAND PRODUCTION AND
RECOVERY LLC; HEARTLAND
PRODUCTION AND RECOVERY FUND LLC;
HEARTLAND PRODUCTION AND
RECOVERY FUND II LLC; THE
HEARTLAND GROUP FUND III, LLC;
HEARTLAND DRILLING FUND I, LP;
CARSON OIL FIELD DEVELOPMENT FUND
II, LP; ALTERNATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS,
LLC; ARCOOIL CORP.; BARRON
PETROLEUM LLC; JAMES IKEY; JOHN
MURATORE; THOMAS BRAD PEARSEY;
MANJIT SINGH (AKA ROGER) SAHOTA; and
RUSTIN BRUNSON,

4-21CV-1310-0

No.

8888

§

Defendants,

and

DODSON PRAIRIE OIL & GAS LLC, et al.

Relief Defendants.

FILED UNDER SEAL

RULE 65(b) CERTIFICATION IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AND ANCILLARY RELIEF

Jonathan S. Polish, being sworn on oath, deposes and states that if called upon to do so, he could competently and truthfully testify as follows:

- 1. I am a senior trial counsel employed by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission in the Chicago Regional Office, located at 175 W. Jackson Blvd., Suite 1450, Chicago, Illinois, 60604. I am a resident of, and licensed to practice law in, the State of Illinois.
- 2. This certification is based upon facts contained in the SEC's Complaint and the accompanying brief, declaration and exhibits filed contemporaneously therewith. These submissions demonstrate that the SEC has made a prima facie showing that defendants have participated in securities investment fraud that violates the federal securities laws.
- 3. For several reasons, the SEC maintains that *ex parte* relief is appropriate in this case with respect to the following defendants and relief defendants, whom are collectively referred to in this motion as the "Ex Parte Parties": Alternative Office Solutions, LLC; ArcoOil Corp.; Barron Petroleum LLC; James Ikey; Manjit Singh (aka "Roger") Sahota; Bridy Ikey; Encypher Bastion, LLC; IGroup Enterprises, LLC; Harprit Sahota; Monrose Sahota; Sunny Sahota; Barron Energy Corporation; Dallas Resources Inc.; Leading Edge Energy, LLC; Sahota Capital LLC; and 1178137 B.C. Ltd.
- 4. <u>First</u>, proceeding on an *ex parte* basis is warranted to increase the likelihood of freezing, and ultimately recovering, investor money or other assets in Ex Parte Parties' possession, custody or control. <u>Second</u>, filing under seal will help secure, and prevent the destruction of, documents or other evidence of the fraudulent scheme alleged in the complaint. If the Ex Parte Parties are given advance notice that the SEC is seeking emergency relief, they may dissipate or hide any remaining assets and destroy documents or evidence. As reflected in the SEC's complaint in this matter, the principals or affiliates of

these entities, defendants James Ikey and Manjit Singh "Roger" Sahota, have engaged in misconduct that reflects a willingness to destroy evidence and/or dissipate assets, if afforded the opportunity to do so.

- 5. Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above and in the SEC's supporting documents filed contemporaneously herewith, immediate and irreparable injury will result to the SEC and to investors unless this matter is heard *ex parte* with respect to the Ex Parte Parties. For these reasons, the undersigned counsel has not attempted to give advance notice to the aforementioned defendants and relief defendants, which advance notice should be excused in light of circumstances present.
- 6. As reflected in the list of cases set forth in Exhibit 1 hereto, on many occasions this Court has granted *ex parte* relief at the inception of SEC enforcement actions in light of the risks articulated herein for the protection of defrauded investors.

SIGNED this 1st day of December 2021 at Fort Worth, Texas.

/s/ Jonathan S. Polish

Jonathan S. Polish (IL Bar No. 6237890)

pro hac vice pending

Attorney for Plaintiff

U.S. SECURITIES AND

EXCHANGE COMMISSION

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EXHIBIT A

of

CERTIFICATION UNDER FED.R.CIV.P. 65(b)

- (1) SEC v. AriseBank, et al, No.18-cv-0186-M (N.D. Tex. 2018) (Lynn, B.G.) (granting TRO, asset freeze, passport surrender);
- (2) SEC v. Faulkner, et al., No. 3:17-cv-2405-B (N.D. Tex. 2017) (Boyle, J.) (granting freeze order, temporary restraining order, document preservation, interim accounting, alternative service and expedited discovery);
- (3) SEC v. Faulkner, et al., No. 3:16-cv-1735-D (N.D. Tex. 2017) (Fitzwater, S.) (granting freeze order, temporary restraining order, appointment of receiver, document preservation and expedited discovery);
- (4) SEC v. 4D Circle, LLC, et al., No. 4:17-cv-321-Y (N.D. Tex. 2017) (Means, J.) (granting preliminary injunction by consent and order appointing receiver);
- (5) SEC v. Patrick O. Howard, et al., No. 3:17-cv-420-L (N.D. Tex. 2017) (Lindsay, S.) (granting freeze order, temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, preservation of documents, accounting, expedited discovery, and order appointing, receiver);
- (6) SEC v. Ash Narayan, et al., No. 3:16-cv-1417-M (N.D. Tex. 2016) (Lynn, B.) (granting freeze order, temporary restraining order, preservation of documents, expedited discovery, and other emergency relief);
- (7) SEC v. Crumbley, Jr., et al., No. 3:16-cv-0172-L (N.D. Tex. 2016) (Lindsey, S.) (granting freeze order, document preservation, interim accounting, expedited discovery, alternate service and order appointing receiver);
- (8) SEC v. Bergin, et al, No. 3:13-cv-01940-M (N.D. Tex. 2013) (Lynn, B.) (granting order freezing assets, requiring preservation of documents and authorizing expedited discovery);
- (9) SEC v. Usee, Inc., et al., No. 3:12-cv-01325-M (N.D. Tex. 2012) (Lynn, B.) (granting order freezing assets, requiring accounting, requiring preservation of documents and authorizing expedited discovery),
- (10) SEC v. Blackwell, et al., No. 3:11-cv-234-L (N.D. Tex.) (Lindsay, S.) (granting temporary restraining order);
- (11) SEC v. Petrogas Overseas Trading, LP, et al., No. 4:10-cv-395-A (N.D. Tex. 2010) (McBryde, J.) (granting temporary restraining order, orders freezing assets, requiring and accounting of revenues, expenses and assets, requiring an accounting of revenues, expenses and assets, prohibiting the destruction and/or alteration of documents, requiring surrender of passports, requiring repatriation of assets and authorizing expedited discovery);
- (12) SEC v. Alan Todd May, et al., No. 3:10-cv-425-L (N.D. Tex. 2010) (Lindsey, S.) (granting order freezing assets and other emergency relief and order appointing receiver);

- (13) SEC v. Striker Petroleum, LLC, et al, No. 3:09cv2304-D (N.D. Tex. 2009) (Fitzwater, S.) (granting agreed order freezing assets and appointing receiver);
- (14) SEC v. Harris, et al., No. 3:09cv1809-M (N.D. Tex. 2009) (Boyle, J) (granting agreed order freezing assets and appointing receiver);
- (15) SEC v. Saleh, et al., No. 3:09-cv-1778-M, (N.D. Tex. 2009) (Lynn, B.) (granting order freezing assets, requiring an accounting, requiring preservation of documents, and authorizing expedited discovery);
- (16) SEC v. Randall, et al., No. 3:09-cv-1465-O (N.D. Tex. 2009) (O'Connor, R.) (granting temporary order, order freezing assets, requiring accounting, requiring preservation of documents, and authorizing expedited discovery and order appointing receiver);
- (17) SEC v. Kiselak Capital Group, et al., No. 4:09-cv-256-A (N.D. Tex. 2009) (McBryde, J.) (granting temporary restraining order and other emergency relief);
- (18) SEC v. Benny L. Judah and Excel Lease Fund, Inc., No. 5:09cv0087-C (N.D. Tex. 2009) (S. Cummings) (granting agreed order freezing assets and appointing receiver);
- (19) SEC v. Oversea Chinese Fund Limited Partnership, et al., No. 3:09-cv0614-B (N.D. Tex. 2009) (Boyle, J.) (granting temporary restraining order, order freezing assets, order requiring an accounting, order requiring preservation of documents, and order authorizing expedited discovery, and order appointing receiver);
- (20) SEC v. Millennium Bank., et al, No. 7-09-cv-050-O (N.D. Tex. 2009) (O'Connor, R) (order freezing assets, temporary restraining order, order appointing receiver,);
- (21) SEC v. Ray M. White., et al, No. 3-09-cv-0407-K (N.D. Tex. 2009) (Kinkeade, E) (granting order freezing assets, temporary restraining order and order appointing receiver);
- (22) SEC v. Stanford International Bank, Ltd., et al., No. 3:09-cv-0298-N (N.D. Tex. 2009) (Godbey, D) (order ranting temporary restraining order, order freezing assets, order requiring an accounting, order requiring preservation of documents, and order authorizing expedited discovery, and order appointing receiver)
- (23) SEC v. Rod Cameron Stringer, et al, No. 5:09cv0009-C (N.D. Tex. 2009) (Cummings, S.) (order appointing receiver);
- (24) SEC v. Star Exploration, Inc., et al, No. 3:08-cv-2248-O (N.D. Tex. 2008) (O'Connor, R.) (order appointing receiver);
- (25) SEC v. Patrick Henry Haxton, et al., No. 3-08CV1467-L (N.D. Tex. 2008) (Lindsay, J.) (granting asset freeze, temporarily restraining order, requiring accountings; prohibiting document alteration or destruction, authorizing expedited discovery; and authorizing alternative methods of service);
- (26) SEC v. W Financial Group, LLC, et al., No. 3:08-CV-499-N (N.D. Tex. 2008) (Godbey, D.) (granting temporary restraining order, order freezing assets, requiring preparation of sworn accountings, prohibiting document alteration or destruction, authorizing expedited

- discovery, repatriating all funds and assets and authorizing alternative methods of service)
- (27) SEC v. T-Bar Resources, LLC, et al., No. 3-07-CV-1994 (N.D. Tex. 2007) (Boyle, J.) (granting agreed preliminary injunction and emergency asset freeze, and appointment of receiver);
- (28) SEC v. Terax Energy, Inc., No. 3-07-CV-1554 (N.D. Tex. 2007) (Lynn, B.) (granting temporary restraining order, order freezing assets, requiring an accounting, requiring preservation of documents, authorizing expedited discovery, and order appointing temporary receiver);
- (29) SEC v. AmeriFirst Funding, et al., No. 3-07-CV-1188 (N.D. Tex. 2007) (Fitzwater, S.) (granting temporary restraining order, order freezing assets, requiring an account, requiring preservation of documents, requiring repatriation of assets and authorizing expedited discovery, and order appointing temporary receiver);
- (30) SEC v. One or More Unknown Purchasers of Call Options for the Common Stock of TXU Corp, et al., No. 01-07-CV-1208 (N.D. Tex. 2007) (Lindberg, G.) (granting temporary restraining order and order freezing assets);
- (31) SEC v. ABC Viaticals, et al., No. 3-06-CV-2136-P (N.D. Tex. 2006) (Solis, J.) (granting temporary restraining order and order appointing receiver);
- (32) SEC v. Sunray Oil Company, Inc., et al., No. 3:06-CV-1097-R (N.D. Tex. 2006) (Buchmeyer, J.) (granting temporary restraining order, order freezing assets, and order appointing temporary receiver);
- (33) SEC v. EFS, LLC, et al., No. 3-06CV0793-M (N.D. Tex. 2006) (Sanders, B) (granting ex parte temporary restraining order and order freezing assets and order appointing temporary receiver);
- (34) SEC v. Allixon International Corp., et al., No. 3:05-CV-2260-P (N.D. Tex. 2005) (Godbey, D) (granting temporary order freezing assets);
- (35) SEC v. Nelson, et al., No. 5:05-CV-0266-C (N.D. Tex. 2005) (Cummings, S.) (granting ex parte order freezing asset and order appointing temporary receiver);
- (36) SEC v. Megafund, Inc., No. 3:05-CV-1328-L (N.D. Tex. 2005) (Lindsey, J.) (granting ex parte temporary restraining order, order freezing assets and order appointing receiver)
- (37) SEC v. Philip D. Phillip, No. 2-05CV-107-J (N.D. Tex. 2005) (Robinson, J.) (granting temporary restraining order and order freezing assets);
- (38) SEC v. Cash Link Systems Inc., No. 3-04-CV-1573-L (N.D. Tex. 2004) (Lindsay, J.) (granting an ex parte temporary restraining order, an order freezing assets, and an order appointing a temporary receiver)
- (39) SEC v. Levy, No. 304-CV- 00351-N (N.D. Tex. 2004) (Godbey, J.) (granting an order freezing assets)

- (40) SEC v. Henderson, No. 3-03-CV-2661-K (N.D. Tex. 2003) (Kinkeade, J.) (granting an exparte temporary restraining order, an order freezing assets, and an order appointing a receiver)
- (41) SEC v. IPIC Int'l, Inc., No. 3-03-CV-2781-P (N.D. Tex. 2003) (Solis, J.) (granting an exparte temporary restraining order, an freezing assets, and an order appointing a temporary receiver)
- (42) SEC v. Tyler, No. 3-02-CV-0282-P (N.D. Tex. 2002) (Solis, J.) (granting an exparte temporary restraining order, an order freezing assets, and an order appointing a receiver)
- (43) SEC v. Res. Dev. Int'l, L.L.C., No. 3-02-CV-0605-H (N.D. Tex. 2002) (Buchmeyer, J.) (granting an ex parte temporary restraining order, an order freezing assets, and an order appointing a temporary receiver)
- (44) SEC v. Hill, No. 3-01-CV-2189-X (N.D. Tex. 2001) (Fitzwater, J.) (granting an ex parte temporary restraining order, an order freezing assets, and an order appointing a receiver)
- (45) SEC v. C-Tech, L.L.P., No. 3-01-CV-2542-P (N.D. Tex. 2001) (Solis, J.) (granting an order freezing assets and an order appointing a receiver)
- (46) SEC v. Garland, No. 3-00-CV-1149-X (N.D. Tex. 2000) (Kendall, J.) (granting a temporary restraining order, and an order freezing assets)
- (47) SEC v. New World Web Vision. Com, Inc., No. 4-00-CV-0231-Y (N.D. Tex. 2000) (Means, J.) (granting a temporary restraining order, an order freezing assets, and an order appointing a temporary receiver)
- (48) SEC v. Stadtt Media, L.L.C., No. 3-00-CV-1489-P (N.D. Tex. 2000) (granting a temporary restraining order, an asset freeze order, and an order appointing receiver pendente lite)
- (49) SEC v. Ellis, No. 3-00-CV-1040-P (N.D. Tex. 2000) (Solis, J.) (granting an ex parte temporary restraining order and an order freezing assets)
- (50) SEC v. Le Club Prive, S.A., No. 3-00-CV-1851-R (N.D. Tex. 2000) (Buchmeyer, J.) (granting an ex parte temporary restraining order, an order freezing assets, and an order appointing a temporary receiver)