Citation: 2021 BCSECCOM 143

## **Settlement Agreement**

# **Marie-Joy Vincent**

### Securities Act, RSBC 1996, c. 418

¶ 1 The Executive Director of the British Columbia Securities Commission (the Executive Director) and Marie-Joy Vincent (Vincent) agree as follows:

# **Agreed Statement of Facts**

## Background

- 1. Vincent is a resident of Surrey, British Columbia.
- 2. Daniel Fernandes Rojo Filho (Filho), a United States resident, orchestrated a fraudulent Ponzi and pyramid scheme that involved selling membership units (Investments) in inactive companies (DFRF). Filho deceived investors, and raised approximately US\$ 15 million worldwide, including approximately US\$ 1.15 million in British Columbia, by falsely claiming at public meetings, in YouTube videos, and in written promotional materials, that:
  - a) the Investments would earn a 15% monthly return
  - b) there was no risk of loss because the Investments were fully insured
  - c) DFRF could pay such returns because it produced more than 10 tons of gold per month from mines in Mali
  - d) DFRF would soon "go public" and the Investments would triple in value.

(Filho's Claims)

### Misconduct

- 3. From January 2015 to July 2015, Vincent participated in the scheme by assisting Filho in British Columbia when she reasonably should have known that Filho's Claims were false. Specifically, she:
  - a) distributed promotional materials
  - b) invited investors to opportunity meetings



- c) forwarded representations from Filho to investors by email
- d) distributed application forms and payment instructions to investors and forwarded completed applications to Filho
- e) repeated Filho's Claims to investors.
- 4. Vincent raised US\$120,400 from 18 investors. She also encouraged her investors to promote the Investments to their own friends. All of the money Vincent raised was paid directly to Filho.
- 5. By engaging in the conduct set out above, Vincent contravened section 57(b) of the Act.

# **Mitigating Factors**

- 6. Vincent agreed to make early admissions with respect to the above-noted misconduct prior to the hearing.
- 7. Vincent and her immediate family members invested over \$90,000 in the Investments and have no reasonable prospect of its recovery.

#### **Public Interest**

8. It is in the public interest that the Executive Director issue orders under section 161 of the Act.

### **Undertaking**

9. Vincent undertakes to pay \$6,500 to the British Columbia Securities Commission in respect of settlement of this matter, which sum is due and payable immediately, without further demand.

#### **Order**

- $\P$  2 The Executive Director will issue orders under section 161(1) of the Act against Vincent (the Order) that:
  - 1. Vincent is prohibited for the later period of 8 years, or until she has fulfilled her undertaking in paragraph 1.9:
    - (a) under section 161(1)(b)(ii), from trading in or purchasing any securities or exchange contracts, except that she may trade and purchase securities or exchange contracts for her own account through a registered dealer, if she gives the registered dealer a copy of the Order;



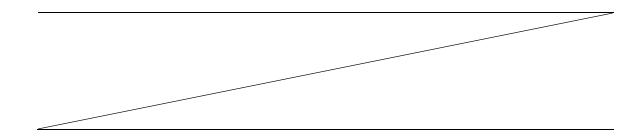
- (b) under section 161(1)(c), from relying on any of the exemptions set out in the Act, the regulations or a decision;
- (c) under section 161(1)(d)(ii), from becoming or acting as a director or officer of any issuer or registrant;
- (d) under section 161(1)(d)(iii), from becoming or acting as a registrant or promoter;
- (e) under section 161(1)(d)(iv), from acting in a management or consultative capacity in connection with activities in the securities market;
- (f) under section 161(1)(d)(v), from engaging in promotional activities by or on behalf of an issuer, security holder or party to a derivative, or another person that is reasonably expected to benefit from the promotional activity; and
- (g) under section 161(1)(d)(vi), from engaging in promotional activities on her own behalf in respect of circumstances that would reasonably be expected to benefit her.

# **Consent to Regulatory Orders**

¶ 3 Vincent consents to a regulatory Order made by any provincial or territorial securities regulatory authority in Canada containing any or all of the Orders set out in paragraph 2 above.

#### Waiver

¶ 4 Vincent waives any right she may have, under the Act or otherwise, to a hearing, hearing and review, judicial review or appeal related to, in connection with, or incidental to this settlement.





# Counterpart

- ¶ 5 This Settlement Agreement may be signed in counterpart and all such counterparts of signed copies, whether delivered electronically or otherwise, shall be read or construed together as if they formed one originally executed document.
- ¶ 6 April *13*, 2021

Marie Joy Vincent
(Signing Authority)
Redacted
Witness Signature
Redacted
Witness Name (please print)
Redacted
Redacted
Address
Redacted

¶ 8 April , 2021

Peter J Brady April 19 2021 9:54 AM -07:00

¶ 9 Peter J. Brady Executive Director