

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

CASE NO.: 20-cv-81205-RAR

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,

Plaintiff,

v.

**COMPLETE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS GROUP,
INC. d/b/a/ PAR FUNDING,**

**PLAINTIFF'S NOTICE OF FILING TO ADVISE THE COURT
OF RECENTLY OBTAINED CORRESPONDENCE TO INVESTORS**

I. INTRODUCTION

Due to the demonstrated lack of cooperation from the Defendants, on August 13, the Court entered an Amended Receivership Order to clarify the scope of the Receivership. [D.E. 140 & 141]. Among other things, the Amended Receivership Order restrains and enjoins anyone receiving notice of the Order, which clearly includes the Defendants, from interfering with the Receivership and the Receiver's efforts and interfering with this Court's exclusive jurisdiction over the Receivership Estates. [D.E. 141 at Section VII].

Recently and suddenly, investors began emailing the Court and the Securities and Exchange Commission to oppose the relief sought in this case and the efforts of the Receiver. We now know why.

It appears that Relief Defendant The LME 2017 Family Trust, which is a trust controlled by Trustees Lisa McElhone and Joseph LaForte, has retained at least one company, The MC Group, Ltd., to contact investors for purposes of suggesting to investors that they both contact Your Honor directly via email to support the Defendants in this case and seek to intervene in this case. This conduct has continued until as recently as yesterday. Exhibit A.

As set forth in Exhibit A, the communications to investors are done by a company claiming to be retained by the "owner of Complete Business Solutions Group." An effort to reach MC Group, Ltd. was unsuccessful, and therefore we are unable to confirm whether in fact it has been retained by the owner.

It is undisputed that Relief Defendant The LME 2017 Family Trust owns Complete Business Solutions Group, d/b/a Par Funding (“Par Funding”). It is also undisputed that Defendants McElhone and LaForte are the sole Trustees of this Trust and that McElhone is the Grantor of the Trust.

In at least one email communication the Commission received today from an investor, the Defendants, through The MC Group, Ltd., are suggesting to investors that they contact Alan Candell to join his Motion to Intervene in this case.¹ Candell represented to this Court that he is *pro se* and an investor. He did not disclose that he is an attorney, that he was² the attorney for LaForte and Par Funding, that he assisted in the preparation and negotiation of the initial agreements between Par Funding and Defendant A Better Financial Plan, or any of his connections to the Defendants and his involvement concerning the conduct at issue in this case. *See, e.g.*, Exhibit B.

Undersigned received The MC Group, Ltd. correspondence to investors today and wanted to notify the Court so it can take whatever action, if any, deemed necessary.

August 15, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

By: s/Amie Riggle Berlin
Amie Riggle Berlin, Esq.
Senior Trial Counsel
Florida Bar No. 630020
Direct Dial: (305) 982-6322
Direct email: berlina@sec.gov

Attorney for Plaintiff
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
801 Brickell Avenue, Suite 1800
Miami, Florida 33131
Telephone: (305) 982-6300
Facsimile: (305) 536-4154

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on August 15, 2020, I certify that the foregoing document is being served this day on all parties, witnesses, and counsel of records by cm-emf.

s/Amie Riggle Berlin
Amie Riggle Berlin

¹ The Court has denied this Motion. [D.E. 152].

² It is unknown whether Mr. Candell remains counsel to Par Funding and/or LaForte.

Berlin, Amie R.

From: Schmidt, Linda S.
Sent: Saturday, August 15, 2020 1:05 PM
To: Berlin, Amie R.; [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]
Attachments: DE 128 - Motion of A. Candell.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Begin forwarded message:

From: Karen Smith <karen@tararoyal.com>
Date: August 15, 2020 at 12:46:02 PM EDT
To: "Schmidt, Linda S." <SCHMIDT@SEC.GOV>
Subject: FW: SEC v Complete Business Solutions Group, Inc

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Karen Smith
Tara Royal Equestrian
(469) 855-0700

From: Margaret Clemons <mcgrouppltd@icloud.com>
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2020 4:00 PM
To: Karen Smith <karen@tararoyal.com>
Subject: SEC v Complete Business Solutions Group, Inc

Dear Karen,

I represent the owner of Complete Business Solutions Group, Inc. As a result of a motion by the SEC, Judge Rodolfo Ruiz in the Southern District of Florida granted the SEC's request to appoint a Receiver and freeze the bank accounts of CBSG. We oppose the SEC's actions. Prior to the SEC's unsupported action and since the company has been in business from 2012, all investors consistently received their interest and the return of their full principal. The only interruption in payments in April and May of 2020 were the direct result of the Covid-19 pandemic. On July 27th the judge granted a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO), appointed a Receiver and froze all bank accounts. As a result, no interest was paid to investors, no capital scheduled to be returned could be returned and merchant cash advances contractually due to be sent were not.

An investor, Alan Candell, filed an intervenor action outlining how the SEC's actions have affected him personally as an investor. He has asked for relief from the court. I am attaching his intervenor action for you to review as well as his contact information. You may wish to join in Mr. Candell's intervenor action and doing so may help to protect your investment. If you are inclined to do so you could write a letter to Judge Rodolfo Ruiz, Southern District of Florida and explain how the SEC's action against CBSG has

affected you personally. Your letter could be on letterhead or contained in the body of an email. If you are interested in writing a letter you can email your letter directly to Alan Candell. He will put together the investor letters and emails and file them with the Judge. If you do decide to join Mr. Candell's intervenor action you should do so by late Monday. Here is his contact information;

Alan Candell
alanesq47@aol.com
610-745-4512

Meanwhile, should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me directly either by mail or mobile.

Thank you,

Margaret Clemons
THE MC GROUP, LTD
601 W 57th Street, Suite 3B
New York, NY 10019
O) 917-885-1491
C) 917-885-1491
mgrouppltd@icloud.com

Berlin, Amie R.

From: Joe Cole <joecole@parfunding.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2016 3:55 PM
To: Jerry Nave
Cc: 'Alan Candell'; Dean Vagnozzi
Subject: RE: Catch up.

Hi Jerry,

Alan Candell is still working with our attorneys at Stradley Ronon in sorting out the legal concerns we had with this deal.

Please copy him on the communications since he would have the most current news in regards the progress they're making.

Thanks.

Joe Cole

From: Jerry Nave [mailto:jerry@abetterfinancialplan.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2016 3:50 PM
To: Joe Cole <joecole@parfunding.com>
Subject: Catch up.

Afternoon Joe,
Can you give me some insight on why communications have gone silent?
We had 3 seminars with 100 of our clients. Lots of serious interest waiting for a follow up call with specifics.
Really don't want the excitement to go cold.
Would greatly appreciate any help.

Jerry

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE DROID