

ALABAMA SECURITIES COMMISSION

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ASC issues Cease and Desist Order against GS Partners Global, Wealth Builders Worldwide, Josip Heit, Nathaniel Hines, Jr., Jeanette Hines, Del Lewis, and Diana Lewis

Montgomery, Alabama (November 16, 2023) – The Alabama Securities Commission (ASC) issued a Cease and Desist Order against GS Partners Global (GS Partners), Wealth Builders Worldwide (Wealth Builders), GS Partners Chairman of the Board Josip Heit, and representatives of the companies located in Alabama: Nathaniel Hines, Jr., Jeanette Hines, Del Lewis, and Diana Lewis. The ASC investigation is in connection with a multi-jurisdictional investigation which includes regulators from both the US and Canada.

The Order prohibits the companies and individuals from further offers and/or sales of unregistered securities as well as acting as unregistered investment advisors or investment advisor representatives. The Order and this press release are intended to alert the public and protect the interest of investors.

The Order explains that Heit and GS Partners implemented a business plan in which securities, called MetaCertificates, are sold to investors with the promise of guaranteed and lucrative returns. MetaCertificates are unregistered securities in Alabama.

GS Partners marketed MetaCertificates to Alabama residents by means of websites, online presentations, and in-person seminars, and in doing so acted as unregistered investment advisors or investment advisor representatives.

Nathaniel Hines, Jr., Jeanette Hines, Del Lewis, and Diana Lewis, working for Wealthbuilders Worldwide, conducted multiple seminars in Alabama over the past 12 months recommending the purchase of MetaCertificates on behalf of GS Partners. The most recent seminar was held in Montgomery, Alabama on November 4, 2023.

Nathaniel Hines, Jr. has claimed at seminars that GS Partners “is the best opportunity on the planet” and a game changer. Investors were assured that they would not lose their money and would build generational wealth. A testimonial for MetaCertificates claimed that \$60,000.00 was converted to \$300,000.00 in just 18 months.

The registration of securities as well as investment advisors and investment advisor representatives are important safeguards for Alabama investors. ASC Director Senn highlighted these safeguards by emphasizing the contradictory statements of the named parties, saying “GS Partners, Wealthbuilders Worldwide, and their promoters highlight that they operate with good conduct in a highly regulated environment, but they are in fact evading Alabama laws while making guarantees that are unrealistic,” ASC Director Senn warned. “In person investment seminars are obviously making a comeback. I want to urge everyone to please check out the people and products being offered for proper registration. If the offer is described as risk free, guaranteed, and very lucrative, please protect yourself by calling the ASC for a free background check on the registration status of the people making the offer.”

The ASC cautions investors to thoroughly research any investment opportunity. Call the ASC at 1-800-222-1253 and ask for the registration department to check out persons offering investment opportunities, investment advice for a fee and any products they offer. Contact the ASC to report suspected fraud, inappropriate securities

business practices, or to obtain consumer information. Free investor education and fraud prevention materials are available at www.asc.alabama.gov.

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For further information contact 1-800-222-1253 and ask for Public Affairs.

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