# STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SECURITIES DIVISION

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Whether there has been a violation of the Securities Act of Washington by:

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James Katzaroff,

VirExit Technologies, Inc.,

Globestar Therapeutics Corporation,

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Order No. S-23-3528-24-SO01

STOP ORDER DENYING EFFECTIVENESS OF APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AND STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST, TO REVOKE EXEMPTIONS, TO IMPOSE A FINE, AND TO CHARGE COSTS

Respondents.

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO:

IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING

James Katzaroff VirExit Technologies, Inc. Globestar Therapeutics Corporation

## STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Please take notice that the Securities Administrator of the State of Washington has reason to believe that Respondents James Katzaroff, VirExit Technologies, Inc., and Globestar Therapeutics Corporation (collectively "Respondents") violated the Securities Act of Washington. The Securities Administrator believes these violations justify the entry of an order against Respondents James Katzaroff, VirExit Technologies, Inc., and Globestar Therapeutics Corporation to cease and desist from such violations, to revoke exemptions, to impose a fine, and to charge costs pursuant to RCW 21.20.325, RCW 21.20.390, and RCW 21.20.395.

Further, pursuant to RCW 21.20.280, the Securities Administrator finds it is in the public interest to enter a stop order denying effectiveness to the application for registration filed by VirExit Technologies, Inc. The Securities Administrator finds as follows:

## TENTATIVE FINDINGS OF FACT

STOP ORDER DENYING EFFECTIVENESS OF APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AND STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST, TO REVOKE EXEMPTIONS, TO IMPOSE A FINE, AND TO CHARGE COSTS

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS Securities Division PO Box 41200 Olympia, WA 98504-1200 360-902-8760

## Respondents

- 1. James Katzaroff ("Katzaroff"), CRD #1032123, is a resident of Richland, Washington. Katzaroff was registered as an agent for a broker-dealer with the Securities Division from December 2017 to June 2018. Katzaroff is the CEO and President of both VirExit Technologies, Inc. and Globstar Therapeutics Corporation.
- 2. VirExit Technologies, Inc. ("VirExit") is a Wyoming Corporation with a principal place of business in Richland, Washington. VirExit was originally incorporated as Poverty Dignified, Inc. ("PVDG") in September of 2013, before changing its name to VirExit Technologies, Inc. on March 23, 2021. In or about June 2020, Katzaroff was transferred control of and became the CEO and Chairman of PVDG. VirExit trades on the OTC market under the ticker VXIT. VirExit purports to be in the business of selling PPE.
- 3. Globestar Therapeutics Corporation ("GSTC") is a Wyoming Corporation with a principal place of business in Richland, Washington.<sup>2</sup> GSTC was originally incorporated as AngioSoma, Inc. ("AngioSoma") on December 8, 2014, before changing its name to Globestar Therapeutics Corporation on April 14, 2021. In or about March 2021, Katzaroff purchased AngioSoma from Alexandria Blankenship, who transferred control to Katzaroff. GSTC trades on the OTC market under the ticker GSTC. GSTC is purportedly a clinical stage pharmaceutical company with a patented drug formulation to treat multiple sclerosis.

#### **Related Parties**

4. Robert "Bob" Sonfield ("Sonfield") was a Texas resident and securities attorney who represented VirExit, GSTC, and Katzaroff. In 2008, he was named as a defendant in an SEC complaint for

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> PVDG and VirExit are hereinafter collectively referred to as VirExit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> AngioSoma and GSTC are hereinafter collectively referred to as GSTC.

violations of federal securities laws in regard to an unregistered, nonexempt distribution of common stock. Without admitting or denying fault Sonfield paid a civil penalty. Sonfield passed away on October 2, 2023.

5. Alexandria Blankenship ("Blankenship") is a Texas resident and the former secretary and romantic partner of Robert Sonfield. She was the president and CEO of AngioSoma before Katzaroff purchased it from her. In 2008, she was named as a relief defendant in an SEC complaint for violations of federal securities laws in regard to an unregistered, nonexempt distribution of common stock, though no action was taken against her in the final judgement.

## **Nature of the Conduct**

#### **Overview**

- 6. In February of 2021, James Katzaroff offered and sold stock in two Washington companies, VirExit Technologies and GSTC, through unregistered private placements. Katzaroff raised approximately \$500,000 for each company. Katzaroff solicited the investments through general solicitation and offered the investments as a package deal, telling investors, "I really don't want your money if you're not going to hedge your bets on both of these." Katzaroff made multiple material misrepresentations and omissions to investors including how investor funds would be used, the risks associated with investing in each company, and the lock up periods on selling shares.
- 7. In February of 2023, Katzaroff and VirExit filed an application for registration by coordinated review with the Securities Division under Regulation A Tier 1. The offering circular fails to disclose material facts to investors.

## 2021 Offer and Sale of VirExit Securities

8. VirExit raised \$497,500 in investments from seventeen investors in February of 2021, which improperly relied on an exemption from registration under Rule 506(b). Katzaroff solicited these investments

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through general solicitation to investors by offering the investment to individuals he did not have a substantive, pre-existing relationship with. Katzaroff primarily offered and sold investments in VirExit to his and other officers in the company's acquaintances. Katzaroff offered and sold some investments in VirExit to people who were referred to him by other investors. Katzaroff primarily offered the investments by email and phone, though he did meet some investors in person.

- 9. Katzaroff provided investors with a one-page subscription agreement and wiring instructions prior to them investing. Katzaroff told investors that VirExit planned to bring products to market, focusing on PPE like masks and sanitizers. Katzaroff told at least one investor that because Katzaroff knew what he was doing, the risk associated with the investment was "inconsequential." Some investors only invested in VirExit because they felt it was a package deal with investing in GSTC. Katzaroff gave investors the impression that they would be able to trade their VirExit stock. To date, at least three investors have been unable to house or sell their shares of VirExit.
- 10. Between February 10, 2021 and March 17, 2021, Katzaroff raised \$497,500 in investments from seventeen investors that was deposited in VirExit's Bank of America account. From February 10, 2021 to July 28, 2021, nearly all investor funds were withdrawn from the account. During the period where Katzaroff spent the investor funds, there are no discernable payments for product development or product procurement, nor has Katzaroff or VirExit provided the Division with any contracts or communications from manufacturers or other documents indicating business activity.
- 11. Katzaroff misrepresented to at least three investors how investor funds would be used. While investors were told that investor funds would be used to purchase and sell PPE, at least 70% of the raised funds were spent on other purposes, such as marketing, payments to Sonfield, and payments to Katzaroff and other company executives.

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12. Katzaroff failed to disclose to at least three investors the risk of investing in VirExit. The subscription agreement for VirExit only says that the subscriber is capable of evaluating the merits and risks of an investment in VirExit, "including the risk of losing the entire investment." Katzaroff did not discuss any risks associated with competition or the market. Katzaroff did not discuss the possibility of cheaper masks being produced in China. Katzaroff did not discuss risks associated with supply chains. Katzaroff did not discuss market risks.

- 13. Katzaroff misrepresented to at least three investors how investments on the over-the-counter ("OTC") market work. OTC securities are securities that are not listed on a major exchange in the United States and are instead traded via a broker-dealer network, usually because they do not meet the requirements to be listed on a national exchange. Full-service brokerages generally require certain minimum stock values to hold stocks traded on the OTC market. OTC markets are generally less transparent and less regulated than conventional stock exchanges, which makes them riskier to invest in.
- 14. Katzaroff failed to disclose information material to trading VirExit stock purchased in a private offering. Katzaroff failed to disclose to investors how full-service brokerages would require certain minimum stock values to hold stocks traded on the OTC market, and how this would impact investors abilities to sell their shares. At least one investor stated that this information would have been helpful prior to investing. Katzaroff also failed to disclose to at least three investors that VirExit stock had a one year lock up period. The VirExit subscription agreement that investors signed did not reference a lock up period.

# 2021 Offer and Sale of GSTC Securities

15. GSTC raised \$499,500 from sixteen investors in February of 2021. Katzaroff solicited these investments through general solicitation to investors, by offering the investment to individuals he did not have a substantive, pre-existing relationship with. Katzaroff primarily offered and sold investments in GSTC

to his and other officers in the company's acquaintances. Katzaroff offered and sold some investments in GSTC to people referred to him by other investors. Katzaroff did not have a prior existing relationship with the referred investors. Katzaroff primarily offered the investments by email and phone, though he did meet some investors in person.

- 16. Katzaroff provided investors with a slide deck on GSTC and its drug cocktail, a one-page subscription agreement, and a copy of the patent prior to them investing. Katzaroff told investors that GSTC had a patent for a drug cocktail to treat multiple sclerosis. Katzaroff told the investors that the drug cocktail's component drugs had already been approved by the FDA, so the cocktail would be on an accelerated approval basis. Katzaroff gave investors the impression there was minimal risk because the component drugs were already FDA approved, so the approval process for the combination should have been "perfunctory." Katzaroff told investors that he had friends in hospital systems that would do the clinical trials for FDA approval. Katzaroff told investors that they would be able to trade their GSTC stock. To date, at least three investors have been unable to house or sell their shares of GSTC.
- 17. Katzaroff failed to disclose to at least three investors that he had recently purchased GSTC and still owed funds for the purchase. Katzaroff misrepresented to at least three investors how investor funds would be used. Katzaroff failed to disclose that at least 85% of the raised funds were spent on payments to Blankenship for the purchase of GSTC, marketing, and payments to Katzaroff himself.
- 18. Katzaroff misrepresented the difficulty of the FDA approval process to at least three investors. While Katzaroff did discuss the FDA approval process to investors, he failed to disclose the difficulties in getting an FDA drug trial. To date, neither Katzaroff nor GSTC has provided investors or the Securities Division with evidence that GSTC has conducted clinical trials for the drug cocktail. When questioned, Katzaroff could not tell the Division what steps GSTC would need to take to get FDA approval for its drug

cocktail. Katzaroff testified that GSTC eventually pivoted to doing drug trials in India in November of 2022, however, at that point all investor funds from the initial February 2021 offering had been spent. Katzaroff did not provide the division with records indicating that legitimate steps had been taken towards securing a clinical trial for its drug cocktail before investor funds had been spent.

- 19. Katzaroff misrepresented to at least three investors the risk of investing in GSTC. The subscription agreement for GSTC only says that the subscriber is capable of evaluating the merits and risks of an investment in GSTC, "including the risk of losing the entire investment." Katzaroff did not discuss the risk associated with GSTC not raising enough funds to get through the FDA approval process or with failing to raise enough funds in subsequent rounds of fundraising. Katzaroff did not discuss any risks associated with the drug cocktail's clinical trials not showing the expected results, and instead Katzaroff gave at least one investor the impression that the trials had minimal risk of failure.
- 20. Katzaroff misrepresented to at least three investors how investments on the OTC market work. Katzaroff failed to disclose to at least two investors that GSTC stock had a six month and one day lock up period. Katzaroff did not discuss how full-service brokerages would require certain minimum stock values to hold stocks traded on the OTC market with investors, or how this would impact investors abilities to sell their shares.

# VirExit 2023 Coordinated Review Filing

21. On February 1, 2023, an application for registration by coordinated review was filed with the Securities Division under Regulation A Tier 1 for an offering of \$5,000,000 worth of Common Stock in VirExit Technologies, Inc. The offering circular of the application states that VirExit's mission is to "create safety products and protocols for the individual and commercial marketplace."

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- 22. The offering circular, intended for delivery to prospective investors, does not disclose the February 2021 offering conducted by VirExit or the results of that offering.
- 23. The offering circular, intended for delivery to prospective investors, does not disclose that VirExit spent all investor funds from the February 2021 offering by July 28, 2021 without VirExit producing or procuring a product to bring to market. Approximately 70% of investor funds went towards marketing, legal expenses, and payments to executives and board members, which VirExit Technologies, Inc. did not disclose to investors.
- 24. The offering circular, intended for delivery to prospective investors, does not disclose VirExit's past offering that improperly relied on an exemption from registration under Rule 506(b).

## **Registration Status**

- 25. Respondent GSTC is not currently registered to sell its securities in the state of Washington and has not previously been so registered, nor has it filed a claim of exemption from registration.
- 26. Respondent James Katzaroff is not currently registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the state of Washington and has not previously been so registered.
- 27. Respondent VirExit is not currently registered to sell its securities in the state of Washington and has not previously been so registered, nor has it filed a valid claim of exemption from registration.

# Failure to Comply with Regulation D Rule 506

28. VirExit Technologies, Inc. claimed an exemption from registration of the VirExit Technologies, Inc. offering under Regulation D Rule 506. VirExit Technologies, Inc., through Katzaroff, filed a Notice of Exempt Offering of Securities with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") on February 11, 2021. Neither VirExit Technologies, Inc. nor Katzaroff submitted a notice filing for the exemption to the state of Washington.

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29. Regulation D Rule 506 prohibits the issuer or any person acting on behalf of the issuer from offering or selling securities by any form of general solicitation. VirExit Technologies, Inc. and Katzaroff offered securities to the acquaintances of existing investors with whom they did not have substantive pre-existing relationship.

#### 2023 Coordinated Review

- 30. On May 31, 2022, the SEC qualified a VirExit stock offering in reliance of Tier 1 of Regulation A.
- 31. On February 23, 2023, VirExit filed for Regulation A coordinated review with Washington. On March 8, 2023 VirExit's counsel emailed the Securities Division stating that it was withdrawing its registration in Washington and wished to proceed only in Texas, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Washington continues to administer the coordinated review process.
- 32. VirExit's coordinated review application has remained pending as VirExit has failed to pay the required filing fee.

Based upon the above Tentative Findings of Fact, the following Conclusions of Law are made:

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The offer and/or sale of the stock as described above constitutes the offer and/or sale of a security as defined in RCW 21.20.005(14) and (17).
- 2. Respondents VirExit Technologies, Inc., GlobeStar Therapeutics Corporation, and James Katzaroff violated RCW 21.20.140, the securities registration section of the Securities Act of Washington, by offering and/or selling securities for which no registration is on file with the Securities Administrator.

- 3. Respondent James Katzaroff violated RCW 21.20.040, the licensee registration section of the Securities Act of Washington, by offering and/or selling said securities while not being registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the state of Washington.
- 4. Respondents James Katzaroff, VirExit Technologies, Inc. and GlobeStar Therapeutics Corporation violated RCW 21.20.010, the anti-fraud section of the Securities Act of Washington, by making untrue statements of material fact and/or omitting to state material facts necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances in which they were made, not misleading. These misrepresentations justify the entry of an order to revoke exemptions pursuant to RCW 21.20.325.
- 5. The offering circular filed on behalf of VirExit Technologies, Inc. is incomplete in a material respect or contains statements which are, in the light of the circumstances under which they are made, false or misleading with respect to any material fact as set forth above. This justifies the entry of a stop order pursuant to RCW 21.20.280(1).

## STOP ORDER DENYING EFFECTIVENESS

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.280, based on the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and finding it in the public interest, the Securities Administrator enters this stop order denying the effectiveness of the application for registration filed on February 1, 2023, by VirExit Technologies, Inc. This order may be modified or vacated at the discretion of the Securities Administrator upon the amendment of the terms of the offering and the offering circular to comply with the Securities Act of Washington, chapter 21.20 RCW, and the rules adopted thereunder.

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO ORDER RESPONDENTS TO CEASE AND DESIST

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.390(1), and based upon the Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order Respondents James Katzaroff, VirExit Technologies, Inc.,

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and Globestar Therapeutics Corporation, and their agents and employees, to each permanently cease and desist from violating RCW 21.20.010 and RCW 21.20.140, and Respondent James Katzaroff, and their agents and employees, to each permanently cease and desist from violating RCW 21.20.040.

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO REVOKE EXEMPTIONS

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.325, and based on the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that any exemptions from registration in RCW 21.20.320(1), (3), (9), (12), and (17) be revoked with respect to stock offered or sold by VirExit Technologies Inc. and GlobeStar Therapeutics Corporation.

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPOSE FINES

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.395, and based upon the Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that:

- a. Respondent James Katzaroff shall be liable for and shall pay a fine of \$60,000;
- b. Respondent VirExit Technologies, Inc. shall be liable for and shall pay a fine of \$30,000; and
- c. Globestar Therapeutics Corporation shall be liable for and shall pay a fine of \$30,000.

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO CHARGE COSTS

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.390, and based upon the Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that Respondents James Katzaroff, VirExit Technologies, Inc., and Globestar Therapeutics Corporation shall be jointly and severally liable for and shall pay the costs, fees, and other expenses incurred in the administrative investigation and hearing of this matter, in an amount not less than \$25,000.

#### AUTHORITY AND PROCEDURE

This Stop Order Suspending Effectiveness is entered pursuant to the provisions of RCW 21.20.280 and RCW 21.20.300 and is subject to the provisions of Chapter 34.05 RCW. The Respondent, VirExit Technologies, Inc., may make a written request for a hearing as set forth in the Notice of Opportunity for Hearing accompanying this Order. If the respondent does not request a hearing, the Securities Administrator intends to adopt the above Tentative Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Stop Order Denying Effectiveness as final.

This Statement of Charges is entered pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 21.20 RCW and is subject to the provisions of Chapter 34.05 RCW. Respondents James Katzaroff, VirExit Technologies Inc., and Globestar Therapeutics Corporation may each make a written request for a hearing as set forth in the Notice of Opportunity for Hearing accompanying this Order. If a respondent does not make a hearing request in the time allowed, the Securities Administrator intends to adopt the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as final and to enter a permanent order to cease and desist as to that respondent, to revoke exemptions filed by that respondent, to impose any fines sought against that respondent, and to charge any costs sought against that respondent.

SIGNED and ENTERED this 20th day of July, 2024.



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Approved by:

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Brian J. Guerard Chief of Enforcement

Reviewed by:

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Holly Mack-Kretzler Financial Legal Examiner Supervisor /s/

William M. Beatty
Securities Administrator

Presented by:

/s/

Keenan Osborne Financial Legal Examiner

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