

BEFORE THE DIVISION OF INSURANCE
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND REGULATION
STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF)	
)	ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST
CHRIS RATTO)	

The South Dakota Division of Insurance (“Division”) finds the following regarding Chris Ratto, and Xenia Partners, LLC:

1. Xenia Partners, LLC is a business located in Britton, SD that is registered with the South Dakota Secretary of State;
2. Chris Ratto, whose last known address 6949 S. Cheshire Ave, Boise, ID 83709, is one of the owners and operators of Xenia Partners, LLC;
3. Chris Ratto has never been registered as a broker Dealer in South Dakota and is not currently registered with the Division to act in that capacity;
4. Xenia Partners, LLC has never been registered as investment adviser or broker Dealer firm in South Dakota and is not currently registered with the Division to act in that capacity;
5. Xenia Partners, LLC through a sperate owner, has already agreed to the entry of a cease and desist order;
6. SDCL § 47-31B-102 defines who is a broker dealer;
7. SDCL § 47-31B-402 states that it is unlawful for a person to transact business in this state as an broker dealer unless the person is either registered with the Division or exempt from registration;
8. Chris Ratto, individually and through Xenia Partners, LLC., has been acting as a unregistered broker dealer in South Dakota, in violation of SDCL 47-31B-402 and ARSD 20:08:03:01;
9. Chris Ratto through Xenia Partners, LLC. have sold unregistered securities products, in violation of SDCL 47-31B-301;
10. Chris Ratto. engaged in dishonest or unethical practices in South Dakota, in violation of SDCL 47-31B-412 and ARSD 20:08:03:06;

11. Pursuant to SDCL § 47-31B-602, the Director may conduct public or private investigations within or outside of the state which the Director considers necessary or appropriate to determine compliance with Chapter 47-31B;
12. Pursuant to SDCL § 47-31B-604, if the director determines that a person has violated Chapter 47-31B, the director may issue an order directing the person to cease and desist from engaging in the act, practice, or course of business;
13. The above findings provide sufficient grounds for issuance of a cease and desist order in accordance with the provisions of SDCL § 47-31B-604;
14. Pursuant to SDCL § 47-31B-604(d), the Division may impose a civil penalty of up to \$10,000 per violation of Chapter 47-31B;
15. This order is necessary and appropriate in the public interest and for the protection of investors and are consistent with the policies and provisions of the South Dakota Uniform Securities Act, SDCL Chapter 47-31B.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to SDCL § 47-31B-604, that Chris Ratto shall cease and desist from acting or offering to act as a broker dealer or broker dealer firm in the State of South Dakota until further order of the Director. Any willful violation of this Order is a Class 4 felony pursuant to SDCL § 47-31B-508(a). It is further;

NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN pursuant to SDCL § 47-31B-604(b), that Andrew Weber, Chris Ratto, and Xenia Partners, LLC. and any officer, director, broker, agent, and employee thereof, may request a hearing regarding this matter. A hearing will be scheduled within fifteen days after the Division receives a request. At hearing, the above-referenced parties may appear in person or be represented by counsel pursuant to SDCL Chapter 1-26. If a request for a hearing is not received by the Division within 30 days after the above-referenced parties receive this order, then this order will become final.

If a hearing is requested or ordered, the Director, after notice of and opportunity for hearing to each person subject to the order, may modify or vacate this Order or extend it until final determination.

If the amount in controversy exceeds \$2,500 or if a property right may be terminated, any party to the contested case may require the Division to use the Office of Hearing Examiners by giving notice to the Division no later than 10 days after service of a notice of hearing issued pursuant to § 1-26-17.

An administrative hearing is an adversary proceeding and any interested party has a right to be present at the hearing and to be represented by an attorney during the hearing. Due process rights will be forfeited if they are not exercised during the hearing. A default order may be issued against any party not appearing at the hearing. Any action taken at the hearing may be appealed to the Circuit Court and the Supreme Court pursuant to SDCL Chapter 1-26. Handicapped persons who wish to attend should contact the Division so the hearing can be held in a place readily accessible to them.

A person who is not an original party to a contested case and whose pecuniary interests would be directly affected by the Division's Order, may become a party to the hearing by intervention if timely application therefore is made to the Division, pursuant to SDCL § 1-26-17.1.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota this 26th day of January, 2024.



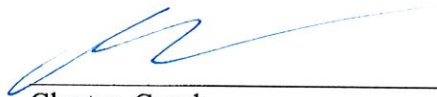
Larry Deiter, Insurance Division Director
South Dakota Department of Labor & Regulation

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Clayton Grueb, the undersigned, do hereby certify that on the date shown below, a true and correct copy of the Notice of Hearing with respect to the above-entitled action was sent U.S. Certified Mail thereon, to the following:

Chris Ratto
6949 S. Cheshire Ave,
Boise, ID 83709

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota this 26 day of January, 2024.



Clayton Grueb
Counsel
South Dakota Dept. of Labor and Regulation
124 S. Euclid Ave
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone (605) 773-3563
Fax (605) 773-5369