## ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING BEFORE THE SECURITIES COMMISSIONER OF SOUTH CAROLINA

**IN THE MATTER OF:** 

EQUINOX SECURITIES, INC. CRD # 145790, RESPONDENT **RULE TO SHOW CAUSE** 

File Number 16037

WHEREAS, Respondent Equinox Securities, Inc, (the "Respondent") CRD #145790, at all times material herein, was registered with the State of South Carolina as a broker-dealer pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 35-1-406; and

WHEREAS, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") is a self-regulatory organization, and, during the relevant time period, Respondent was a member of FINRA; and

WHEREAS, on or about May 11, 2016, FINRA, pursuant to FINRA Decision and Order of Offer of Settlement Number 2012031496501, expelled Respondent from FINRA membership; and

WHEREAS, the Securities Commissioner of the State of South Carolina ("Commissioner") has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 35-1-601(a); and

WHEREAS, § 35-1-412(c) authorizes the Commissioner to issue an order censuring, barring, or imposing a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 for each violation, on a registrant, if the Commissioner finds that the order is in the public interest and subsection (d) of § 35-1-412 authorizes the action; and

WHEREAS, § 35-1-412(d)(5)(C) of the Securities Act states that a person who:

is the subject of an order, issued after notice and opportunity for hearing [by] the Securities and Exchange Commission or a self-regulatory

organization suspending or expelling the registrant from membership in the self-regulatory organization

is subject to discipline pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §§ 35-1-412(a), (b), and (c); and

WHEREAS, FINRA, a self-regulatory organization, expelled the Respondent from membership in FINRA; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate, in the public interest, for the protection of investors, and consistent with the purposes fairly intended by the policy and provisions of the Act to bar Respondent from the securities business in the State of South Carolina;

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondent show cause why an order should not be issued against Respondent, barring Respondent from the securities business in the State of South Carolina; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Respondent's failure to file a written answer, including any request for a hearing, within thirty (30) days from the date of this Rule to Show Cause, shall be deemed a waiver by Respondent of the right to a hearing and result in the entry of a Final Order barring Respondent from the securities business in the State of South Carolina.

Entered, this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2016

SOUTH CAROLINA SECURITIES DIVISION

By: Gracy mayers TRACY MEYERS

Deputy Securities Commissioner Securities Division Post Office Box 11549 Columbia, South Carolina 29211 (803) 734-4731 ISSUANCE REQUESTED BY:

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