ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

In the Matter of the Unlicensed Activity of:

Respondent.

No. 21A-007-FIN

OASISS INC dba OASISS MONEY EXCHANGE

ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST

1360 N. Mariposa Road Nogales, Arizona 85621

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The Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions ("Department") has received evidence that Oasiss Inc. dba Oasiss Money Exchange ("Oasiss" or "Respondent") violated Arizona law by conducting business activity as a money transmitter in Arizona without being licensed. Accordingly, the Director of the Department ("Director") makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and enters the following Order pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S.") § 6-137.

This Order is effective at the time of mailing and remains effective and enforceable unless it is stayed, modified, terminated, or set aside. A.R.S. § 6-137(C).

Under A.R.S. Titles 6 and 41 and Arizona Administrative Code ("A.A.C.") Title 20, Chapter 4, Respondent is notified that it is entitled to a hearing to contest the allegations set forth in this Order. *See* A.R.S. § 6-137(D). A request for hearing shall be filed with the Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions ("Department")¹ within thirty (30) days after receiving and shall identify with specificity the reason(s) why an administrative hearing is being sought in accordance with A.R.S. § 41-1092.03(B).

The Department of Insurance, the Department of Financial Institutions ("DFI"), and the Arizona Automobile Theft Authority merged on July 1, 2020, and are now the Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions ("DIFI"). See A.R.S. § 6-101(5). Similarly, the DIFI Director now exercises the powers once held by the DFI Superintendent. See A.R.S. §§ 6-101(6) – (7) and 6-110; and A.R.S. §§ 20-101 through 20-102.

If Respondent requests a hearing, the purpose of the hearing shall be to determine if grounds exist for: (1) the issuance of this Order under A.R.S. § 6-137, directing Respondent to cease and desist from any unlawful conduct and to take the appropriate affirmative actions, within the time prescribed by the Director, to correct the conditions resulting from the unlawful acts, practices, and transactions; (2) the imposition of a civil monetary penalty under A.R.S. § 6-132; and (3) any orders or remedies necessary or proper for the enforcement of statutes and rules regulating collection agencies under A.R.S. §§ 6-123 and 6-131. The administrative hearing will be held at the Office of Administrative Hearings in accordance with A.R.S. §§ 41-1092 through 41-1092.12.

Respondent also has the right to request an Informal Settlement Conference ("ISC") pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.06. If an ISC is requested, a person with the authority to act on behalf of the Department will be present. By participating in the ISC, Respondent waives its right to object to the participation of this Department representative in the final administrative decision of this matter. Further, any statements, written or oral, made by Respondent, or its representatives at an ISC, including a written document created or expressed solely for the purpose of settlement negotiations are inadmissible in any subsequent administrative hearing.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Oasiss is an Arizona corporation incorporated on January 11, 2017 and registered with the Arizona Corporation Commission.
- 2. On August 4, 2020, the Department received information from the Arizona Attorney General's Office alleging that Oasiss was engaged in unlicensed money transmitting activities.
- 3. On October 6, 2020, the Department sent a letter to Oasiss informing Oasiss of the alleged unlicensed activities and inviting Oasiss to "present . . . any information . . . relevant and material to [the Department's] determination."

4. On October 7, 2020, the Department received a response from Oasiss asserting that Oasiss is "not in the business of transmitting money [in] any way or form".

- 5. On October 8, 2020, the Department received an email stating that "[c]lients walk in and hand over their currency and we exchange for the currency of their choice and keep a small commission."
- 6. The Department's investigation and review of documents provided by Oasiss confirmed the following:
 - a. Oasiss is conducting money transmitting activities inside a gas station, Fiesta Market II, located in Nogales, Arizona, using a City of Nogales business license.
 - b. Oasiss advertises its "Buying and Selling Dollars" through its Facebook page.²
 - c. Oasiss's transaction ledger for 2019 indicates that during November and December of 2019, Oasiss performed approximately six hundred (600) money exchange transactions resulting in a "gross income" of one thousand five hundred seventy-two dollars and thirty-four cents (\$1,572.34).
 - d. Oasiss's transaction ledger for 2020 indicates that from January to September of 2020, Oasiss performed over nine thousand eight hundred money exchange transactions (9,800) resulting in a "gross income" of twenty-three thousand six hundred fifty-seven dollars and ninety-eight cents (\$23,657.98).

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

7. Under A.R.S. Title 6, the Director has the authority and the duty to regulate all persons engaged in the money transmitting business and to enforce the statutes, rules, and regulations relating to money transmitters.

² https://www.facebook.com/pg/oasissmoneyexchange/services/?service_id=2990243114338527 last visited November 12, 2020.)

8. Respondent's conduct as alleged above constitutes a violation of the following statutes governing money transmitter:

A.R.S. § 6-1202(A) states:

A person shall not ... engage in the business of exchanging payment instruments or money into any form of money or payment instrument ... without first obtaining a license as provided in this chapter or becoming an authorized delegate of a licensee with respect to those activities.

A.R.S. § 6-1201 (6) defines Foreign money exchange as:

Exchanging for compensation money of the United States government or a foreign government to or from money of another government at a conspicuously posted exchange rate at the time and place of the presentation of the money to be exchanged.

A.R.S. § 6-1201 (11) defines money transmitter as:

a person who is located or doing business in this state, including a check casher and a foreign money exchanger, and who does any of the following: (c) Engages in the business of exchanging payment instruments or money into any form of money or payment instrument.

- 9. Respondent unlawfully conducted business as a money transmitter in Arizona, without being licensed by the Department.
- 10. Under A.R.S. § 6-132, Respondent's violations of the aforementioned statute(s) are grounds for a civil penalty against Respondent of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) for each violation per day.
- 11. The violations set forth above constitute grounds for: (1) the issuance of this Order, under A.R.S. § 6-137, directing Respondent to cease and desist from the prohibited acts, practices, or transactions and to take appropriate affirmative actions to correct the conditions resulting from those prohibited acts, practices, or transactions, within the time prescribed by the Director; (2) the imposition of a civil money penalty under A.R.S. § 6-132; and (3) an order or any other remedy necessary or proper for the enforcement of the statutes and rules regulating collection agencies under A.R.S. §§ 6-123 and 6-131.

ORDER

- 12. **Oasiss shall immediately cease and desist from committing the violations** set forth in the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.
- Oasiss shall immediately stop all money transmitting activity in Arizona until such time as Respondent has obtained a money transmitter license from the Department as prescribed by A.R.S. § 6-1201, et. seq.
- 14. Oasiss shall pay to the Department a civil money penalty in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) within thirty (30) days after this Order is mailed by the Department.
- 15. The provisions of this Cease and Desist Order shall be binding upon Oasiss, its employees, agents, representatives, and all other persons participating in the business affairs of Respondent, as to money transmitter activities in Arizona.
- 16. This Cease and Desist Order shall become effective upon service, and shall remain effective and enforceable until such time as, and except to the extent that, it shall be stayed, modified, terminated, or set aside by a court of competent jurisdiction or by the Director.

SO ORDERED this 15th day of March, 2021.

Evan G. Daniels, Director

Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions

By:

Shane Foster, Deputy Director of Financial Institutions
Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions

1	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed
2	this 17 th day of March, 2021, in the office of:
3	Evan G. Daniels, Director Attn: Ana Starcevic, Paralegal
4	Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions
5	100 North 15 th Avenue, Suite 261 Phoenix, AZ 85007
6	Ana.Starcevic@difi.az.gov
7	COPY of the foregoing mailed/delivered same date to:
***	Tammy Seto, Division Manager
8	Jay DeArrastia, Financial Institutions Examiner Attn: Ana Starcevic, Paralegal
9	Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions
10	100 North 15 th Avenue, Suite 261 Phoenix, AZ 85007
11	Ana.Starcevic@difi.az.gov
12	COPY of the foregoing emailed same date to:
13	Oasiss Money Exchange Attn: Jorge A. Coronel Madrid
14	jorgearmandocoronel@gmail.com
15	COPY of the foregoing mailed by
16	Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, this 17 th day of March, 2021, to:
17	Oasiss Money Exchange
18	Attn: Jorge A. Coronel Madrid 1360 N. Mariposa Road 9489 0090 0027 6266 7690 08
19	Nogales, Arizona 85621 Respondent
20	Oasiss Money Exchange 9489 0090 0027 6266 7689 95
21	Statutory Agent: Jorge A Coronel Madrid 15199 S. Camino Glorieta Alegre
22	Sahuarita, AZ 85629
23	Ana Starcevic
24	Doc. # 9142743
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