IN THE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED IN TERMS OF SECTION 10(3), READ WITH SECTION 10A OF THE FINANCIAL SERVICES BOARD ACT, 97 OF 1990

CASE NO: **03/2013**

In the matter of:

THE REGISTRAR OF FINANCIAL SERVICES PROVIDERS

Applicant

and

EQ.FIN (PTY) LIMITED

Respondent

ORDER

WITH DUE CONSIDERATION to the settlement agreement (attached marked annexure "A") in terms of section 6B(7)(a) of the Financial Institutions (Protection of Funds) Act, No 28 of 2001, I hereby determine that the Respondent contravened section 3(b) of the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Regulations, 2003, and impose a penalty of R150 000. The remaining terms and conditions of the settlement agreement are incorporated and made an order of the Enforcement Committee.

I make no order regarding costs.

C F Eloff

Chairperson of the Enforcement Committee



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OF THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (PROTECTION OF FUNDS) ACT, 28 OF 2001

1. The parties to the agreement

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- 1.1. The Applicant is the Registrar of Financial SERVICES BOARD

 Providers ("the Registrar") herein represented by German

 Emmanuel in his capacity as the Deputy Registrar of

 Financial Services Providers.
- 1.2. The Respondent is EQ.FIN (Pty) Limited, a company duly incorporated in accordance with the laws of the Republic of South Africa, bearing registration number 2001/020914/07.
- 1.3. The Respondent is represented by Mr M Venske, in his capacity as the Business Principal of the Respondent, who

warrants that he is authorised by the Respondent to conclude this agreement.

- 2. The contravention: Regulation 3(b) of the Financial Advisory and Intermediaries Services Regulations, 2003
 - 2.1. The Respondent, for the period 1 February 2012 to 30 September 2012, published advertisements and communications through its agent and through it website that implied that it was an authorised financial services provider as defined in the Financial Advisory and Intermediaries Services Act, No 37 of 2002 (FAIS Act).
 - 2.2. Although the Respondent is an affiliate of Liberty Life, it was not the authorised financial services provider or the representative of an authorised financial services provider.
 - 2.3. As such, the Respondent contravened regulation 3(b) of the Financial Advisory and Intermediaries Services Regulations,2003, that reads as follows:

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[&]quot;3(b) who is not an authorised financial services provider or a representative of such a provider, may in any manner or by any means -

⁽i) Publish any advertisement, communication or announcement directed to clients; or

⁽ii) Use any name, title or designation, which implies that such person is an authorised financial services provider or a representative of such a provider."

3. The mitigating circumstances

- 3.1. It is recorded that:
 - 3.1.1. The Respondent accepted full responsibility for the contravention, fully co-operated with the Registrar's investigation and the enforcement action;
 - 3.1.2. The Respondent has reworded its website, facebook and twitter sites;
 - 3.1.3. The respondent has also redone the e-mail signatures, letterheads and business cards; and
 - 3.1.4. The respondent acted without any delay in rectifying the breach.

4. The agreed penalty

4.1. In the light of the above, and in terms of section 6B(7)(a) of the FI Act, the parties have agreed that the Respondent will pay a penalty of R150 000 in settlement of the matter.

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4.2. It is further agreed that the case be referred to the Honourable Enforcement Committee, and the Honourable Enforcement Committee is requested to make this settlement agreement an order as contemplated in section 6B(7)(a) of the Financial Institutions (Protection of Funds) Act, No 28 of 2001 ("the FI Act").

5. Other conditions

- 5.1. This agreement is subject to approval by the Enforcement Committee and the parties specifically record that they are aware of the possibility that the Enforcement Committee may not accept the terms of this agreement. If the Enforcement Committee declines to make this agreement an order, then in such event this agreement will be null and void.
- 5.2. If the Respondent does not comply with the terms of this agreement and it is necessary for the Financial Services Board ("FSB") to proceed with legal proceedings, the Respondent herewith consents to pay all legal costs to the FSB on the Attorney and Client scale in terms of the High Court Rules inclusive of collection commission and Value Added Tax.

- 5.3. No leniency or postponement given by the FSB to the
 Respondent or any amendment to the terms and conditions
 of this agreement will be binding unless such
 postponement, leniency or amendment is reduced to
 writing and signed by the parties. Any leniency or
 postponement granted by the Registrar or any amendment
 to this Agreement shall not be a novation of the cause of
 action in terms whereof the Respondent was found to have
 contravened the Act.
- 5.4. Any receipt of a payment by the FSB after the due date shall be without prejudice to any of the rights of the FSB.
- 5.5. This agreement constitutes the whole agreement between the parties in respect of the offer to pay a penalty, and payment of such penalty shall be in full and final settlement.
- 5.6. The parties choose as their *domicilium citandi et executandi* their respective addresses set out below for all purposes arising out of or in connection with this agreement at which addresses all the processes and notices arising out of or in connection with this agreement, its breach or termination may validly be served upon or delivered to the parties. For

the purpose of this agreement the parties' respective addresses shall be:

The Applicant Financial Services Board Block B, Riverwalk Office Park 41 Matroosberg Road Ashlea Gardens ext 6 Pretoria 0081

The Respondent: 69 Linksfield Road Edenvale 1610

or

mark.venske@liblink.co.za

Signed at PRETORIA on 19 March 2013 behalf of the Registrar.

G E Anderson

Witness

13 4/01/2013 on behalf of the Signed at J. Andrews on . Respondent

M Venske

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