STATE OF NEVADA OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE SECURITIES DIVISION

2250 LAS VEGAS BOULEVARD NORTH, SUITE 400 NORTH LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89030

In the Matter of: TMTE, Inc., a/k/a Metals.com; Chase Metals, Inc.; Chase Metals, LLC; and Athena Hunter, an individual.)) NOTICE OF SUMMARY ORDER TO) CEASE AND DESIST, INTENDED) ACTION PURSUANT TO NRS 90.630(2),) and OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING) PURSUANT TO NRS 90.630(3))
	Respondents.))
		File No. <u>INV19-084</u>
го:	TMTE, Inc., a/k/a Metals.com/Chase Metals, Inc. c/o Corporate Agents, LLC, its Registered Agent 1712 Pioneer Avenue, Suite 100 Cheyenne, WY 82001	
	Athena Hunter 433 N. Camden Drive, Suite 970 Beverly Hills, CA 90210	NEVADA SECRETARY OF STATE SECURITIES DIVISION DATE FILED: 3-26-2020

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that pursuant to the legal authority granted the Administrator of the Securities Division of the Office of the Secretary of State, State of Nevada ("Administrator"), specifically Nevada Revised Statute ("NRS") 90.630, the Administrator hereby issues this SUMMARY ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST to Respondents TMTE, INC., a/k/a metals.com, a/k/a Chase Metals, Inc., a/k/a Chase Metals, LLC, and Athena Hunter, an individual.

YOU ARE HEREBY FURTHER NOTIFIED that you have a right to request a hearing on the matters set forth in the Summary Order to Cease and Desist. If you do not request a hearing in writing within 45 days after receipt of this notice, you waive your right to a hearing and the Administrator may issue a permanent order. Should you request a hearing, the Administrator shall set the matter for hearing at her earliest convenience but not less than 15 days or more than 60 days

Administrator will notify you by registered or certified mail of the time and place set for the hearing.

YOU ARE HEREBY FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Securities Division, in addition to

after she receives written notice of that request for a hearing. Should you request a hearing, the

YOU ARE HEREBY FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Securities Division, in addition to seeking a Final Order to Cease and Desist, may also seek any of the sanctions allowed pursuant to NRS 90.630, and may seek to hold Respondents liable for the costs of the investigation in this matter if this matter should proceed to hearing. The Nevada Securities Division does not waive the right to seek criminal prosecution pursuant to 90.650.

SUMMARY ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST

- 1. The Securities Division of the Office of the Secretary of State, State of Nevada ("Division"), under the authority of the Nevada Uniform Securities Act (Act), codified in Chapter 90 of the NRS, has conducted and is continuing to conduct an investigation into the activities of Respondents in connection with the applicable laws governing the registration of securities and the regulation of broker-dealers and investment advisers in the State of Nevada.
- 2. The Administrator is authorized to enter a Summary Order to Cease and Desist pursuant to NRS 90.630.
- 3. The Administrator has reviewed the Complaint for Summary Order and for Final Order to Cease and Desist and Other Appropriate Relief (Complaint), against Respondents in the above-entitled matter. A copy of the Complaint is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
- 4. The factual allegations of the Complaint are accepted as true for the limited purposes of this Summary Order to Cease and Desist and are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and the Administrator's findings that Respondents pose an immediate danger to the public welfare because Respondents are actively engaging in violations of the Act and appear to intend to violate said Act in the future, TMTE, INC., a/k/a metals.com, a/k/a Chase Metals, Inc., a/k/a Chase Metals, LLC, and Athena Hunter, are hereby ordered to immediately Cease and Desist from further activities in violation of the Act, including, but not limited to, offering for sale unregistered securities, acting as a sales representative

or agent of the issuer without being licensed, and engaging in an act, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon a person.

Further, based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and the Administrator's findings the Respondents pose an immediate danger to the public welfare, the Administrator revokes registration exemptions set forth in NRS 90.530(10) and NRS 90.530(11) regarding issuer transactions, evidence of indebtedness, investment contracts, and/or other securities sold by Athena Hunter, individually or as a representative of TMTE, INC., a/k/a metals.com, a/k/a Chase Metals, Inc., a/k/a Chase Metals, LLC, or any other person acting as a sales representative of TMTE, INC., a/k/a metals.com, a/k/a Chase Metals, Inc., a/k/a Chase Metals, LLC.

This Summary Order to Cease and Desist is effective immediately upon signing.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED this day of May, 2020.

NEVADA SECURITIES DIVISION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

ERIN M. HOUSTON, ADMINISTRATOR
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SECURITIES

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that I am an employee of the Securities Division of the Office of the Secretary of State, State of Nevada, and that on this day of May 2020, I have caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing Notice of Summary Order to Cease and Desist and Other Appropriate Relief to be served by United States Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, and First Class Mail, to the following:

TMTE, Inc., a/k/a Metals.com/Chase Metals, Inc. c/o Corporate Agents, LLC, its Registered Agent 1712 Pioneer Avenue, Suite 100 Cheyenne, WY 82001

Athena Hunter 433 N. Camden Drive, Suite 970 Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Employee of the Nevada Securities Division

STATE OF NEVADA OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE SECURITIES DIVISION

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2 2250 LAS VEGAS BOULEVARD NORTH, SUITE 400 3 NORTH LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89030 LEVADA SECRETARY OF STATE SECURITIES DIVISION 4 DATE FILED: 26-2020 5 In the Matter of: 6 TMTE, Inc., a/k/a Metals.com, a/k/a Chase 7 COMPLAINT FOR SUMN Metals, Inc., a/k/a Chase Metals, LLC; and AND FINAL ORDER TO CEASE AND 8 Athena Hunter, an individual. DESIST AND OTHER APPROPRIATE RELIEF 9 Respondents. 10 11 **File No. INV19-084** 12 TO: TMTE, Inc., a/k/a Metals.com/Chase Metals, Inc. c/o Corporate Agents, LLC, its Registered Agent 13 1712 Pioneer Avenue, Suite 100 14 Cheyenne, WY 82001 15 Athena Hunter 433 N. Camden Drive, Suite 970 16 Beverly Hills, CA 90210 17 COMES NOW, the Securities Division of the Office of the Secretary of State, State of Nevada 18 ("Division"), sets forth the following allegations of fact, conclusions of law, notice of agency action, 19 temporary order to cease and desist, and notice of right to a hearing for violations of the Nevada 20 Uniform Securities Act, as codified in Chapter 90 of the Nevada Revised Statutes. The Administrator 21 has authority to take such action pursuant to NRS 90.800. 22 23

ALLEGATIONS OF FACT

- Respondent TMTE, Inc. (TMTE) transacts business as Metals.com, Chase Metals, 1. Inc., and Chase Metals, LLC;
- 2. TMTE is a Wyoming corporation that was originally formed under the name Access Unlimited on April 30, 2008, with a principal address of 433 N. Camden Drive, Suite 970, Beverly Hills, California 90210;

- 3. TMTE is not registered as a broker-dealer or investment advisor firm with the Nevada Securities Division. (Division);
- 4. For service of process purposes, the registered agent for Metals.com is Corporate Agents, domiciled at 1712 Pioneer Avenue, Suite 100, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001;
- 5. Metals.com is an online website that affords investors the opportunity to purchase precious metals at market price;
- 6. Metals.com has admitted that its products are securities through a formal agreement with the Texas Securities Board;
- 7. UI-1, a Nevada resident, complained to the Division that he had invested \$58,000.00 with metals.com in September 2019. Metals.com sales representative Athena Hunter cold called UI-1 and convinced him to liquidate his IRA to make the purchase;
- 8. After liquidating his IRA and transferring the money to metals.com, UI-1 discovered Metals.com had purchased over 2225 Canadian polar bear silver coins. UI-1 never agreed to this purchase. Pursuant to Metals.com statements, the coins are housed with Directive RIA.
- 9. When UI-1 attempted to liquidate these coins, Metals.com told him it would only buy back 500 coins because the market was not ideal for purchasing assets. When UI-1 ultimately received his statement, Metals.com had only bought back 100 of the coins, leaving him holding 1155 coins and no way to sell them. Metals.com has since stopped communicating with him.
- 10. The Division has procured documentation that Metals.com has at least 11 other Nevada investors. The Division has communicated with two of those investors;
 - a. UI-2 learned of Metals.com through a radio advertisement and made an initial investment of \$68,000.00.
 - b. UI-3 learned of Metals.com through a website advertising banner and subsequently made an initial investment totaling \$483,000.00. After one year, his investment was valued at \$233,000.00. Metals.com salespersons failed to disclosed storage fees and commissions, which had reduced the value of his metals purchases to significantly less than his original investment.

- 11. Following interviews with investors, the Division learned the following:
 - a. Athena Hunter served as the primary salesperson for Metals.com in Nevada;
 - b. Metals.com ostensibly purchased large quantities of minted coins, typically in silver. It then claimed the metals were held away from the firm.
 - c. Metals.com salespersons, including Athena Hunter, encouraged investors to liquidate securities portfolios, including IRAs, to purchase specially minted coins;
- 12. Athena Hunter is neither a registered investment advisor nor a broker-dealer representative in the state of Nevada;

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 13. The Nevada Uniform Securities Act ("Act"), as codified in Chapter 90 of the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS") and regulates the offer, sale, and purchase of securities in or from the State of Nevada.
- 14. Pursuant to NRS 90.220, a broker-dealer is any person who engages in the business of effecting transaction securities for the account of others.
- 15. Pursuant to NRS 90.310(1), it is unlawful for a person to transact business in Nevada as a broker-dealer unless the person is registered with the Division or is exempt from registration.
- 16. Respondent TMTE violated NRS 90.310(1) by acting as an unregistered broker-dealer as a result of never being licensed with the Division as a sales representative of a broker-dealer or issuer.
- 17. Pursuant to NRS 90.310(1), it is unlawful for a person to transact business in Nevada as broker dealer sales representative unless that person is registered with the Division or is exempt from registration.
- 18. Pursuant to NRS 90.285, a sales representative is a person authorized to act and active for a broker-dealer or issuer effecting or attempting to effect purchases or sales of securities.
- 19. Respondent Hunter violated NRS 90.330(1) when she sold TMTE securities, on behalf of TMTE, without being registered.

- 20. Pursuant to NRS 90.250, an "investment adviser" is "any person who, for compensation, engages in the business of advising others as to the value of securities or as to the advisability of investing in, purchasing or selling securities, or who, for compensation and as a part of a regular business, issues or promulgates analyses or reports concerning securities."
- 21. Pursuant to NRS 90.330(1), "it is unlawful for any person to transact business as an investment adviser or as a representative of an investment adviser unless licensed or exempt from licensing under this chapter."
- 22. Respondent TMTE and Respondent Hunter violated NRS 90.330(1) by acting as investment advisors without being properly registered by the Division.
- 23. Pursuant to NRS 90.570, a person shall not, directly or indirectly and in connection with the offer to sell, sale, offer to purchase or purchase of a security, employ any device, scheme or artifice to defraud; make an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made not misleading in the light of the circumstances under which they are made; or engage in an act, practice or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon a person.
- 24. Respondents TMTE and Hunter violated NRS 90.570 by omitting to state to investors the material fact that they were not and never had been licensed with the Division as a sales representative of a broker-dealer or issuer.
- 25. Pursuant to NRS 90.630(1), if the Administrator of the Division reasonably believes that a security is being offered or has been offered or sold in violation of the Act, or that a person is acting in violation of the Act, the Administrator may issue, without a prior hearing, a Summary Order against the person engaged in the prohibited activities, directing such person to desist and refrain from further activity until the security is registered or such person is licensed under the Act.
- 26. Pursuant to NRS 90.630(2), the Administrator of the Division, after giving notice by registered certified mail and conducting a hearing in an administrative proceeding, unless the right to notice and hearing is waived by the person against whom the sanction is imposed, may: (a) issue an order against the person to cease and desist; (b) censure the person if he or she is a licensed broker-

dealer, sales representative, investment adviser or representative of an investment adviser; (c) bar or suspend the person from association with a licensed broker-dealer or investment adviser in this State; (d) issue an order against an applicant, licensed person or other person who willfully violates this chapter, imposing a civil penalty of not more than \$25,000 for each violation, or if the violation was committed against an older person or vulnerable person, a civil penalty equal to twice the amount of the civil penalty that would otherwise have been imposed pursuant to this paragraph, not to exceed \$50,000 for each violation; or (e) initiate one or more of the actions specified in NRS 90.640.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

Based upon the foregoing, the Division respectfully requests the following:

- 1. That a Summary Order be entered requiring that all Respondents immediately Cease and Desist from violating the Act;
- 2. That a Final Order be entered requiring that Respondents immediately Cease and Desist from violating the Act;
- 3. That a Civil Penalty not to exceed \$25,000.00 be imposed against Respondents for each violation of the Act, including but not limited to:
 - a. Acting as an unregistered investment advisor;
 - b. Acting as an unregistered salesperson each time products were recommended to clients;
 - c. Committing securities fraud when they failed to disclose to investors that they were not licensed to sell or advise people to sell securities products in Nevada;
 - 4. That a civil penalty not to exceed \$25,000.00 be imposed against Respondents for failing to register as a broker-dealer in Nevada;
 - 5. Reasonable attorney's fees and costs of investigation; and
 - 6. For such other and further relief as the Hearing Officer deems just and proper.

STATEMENT OF RIGHTS

Respondents have a right to request a hearing on the matters set forth herein. Should you request a hearing, the Administrator shall set the matter for hearing at her earliest convenience but not less than 15 days or more than 60 days after she receives written notice of that request for a hearing. Should you request a hearing, the Administrator will notify you by registered or certified mail of the time and place set for the hearing.

Respondents have the right to be accompanied, represented, and advised by an attorney.

The Securities Division, in addition to seeking a Final Order to Cease and Desist, may also seek any of the sanctions allowed pursuant to NRS 90.630, and may seek to hold Respondents liable for the costs of the investigation in this matter if this matter should proceed to hearing. The Nevada Securities Division does not waive the right to seek criminal prosecution pursuant to 90.650.

POSSIBILITY OF DEFAULT

If you do not request a hearing in writing within 15 days of receipt of this notice, you waive your right to a hearing and the Administrator may issue a permanent order and grant any relief requested herein. NRS 90.800(4)(a); 90.420(1).

CONTACT WITH THE DIVISION

If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please direct your comments to the Chief of Enforcement. Should you retain counsel, please make any contacts with the office through your attorney.

Respectfully submitted this _____ day of May, 2020.

NEVADA SECURITIES DIVISION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

ERIN HOUSTON, ADMINISTRATOR DEPUTY SECRETARY OF SECURITIES

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that I am an employee of the Securities Division of the Office of the Secretary of State, State of Nevada, and that on this day of May 2020, I have caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing Complaint For Summary Order and Final Order to Cease and Desist and Other Appropriate Relief to be served by United States Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, and First Class Mail, to the following:

TMTE, Inc., a/k/a Metals.com/Chase Metals, Inc. c/o Corporate Agents, LLC, its Registered Agent 1712 Pioneer Avenue, Suite 100 Cheyenne, WY 82001

Athena Hunter 433 N. Camden Drive, Suite 970 Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Employee of the Nevada Securities Division