# STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS REGULATION DIVISION OF SECURITIES JOHN O PASTORE CENTER 1511 PONTIAC AVENUE, 69-1 CRANSTON, RI 02920

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## IN THE MATTER OF

## ALPHA ONE FOUNDATION, INC.

#### **CONSENT AGREEMENT**

I.

The Securities Division (the "Division") of the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation (the "Department") enters into this Consent Agreement ("Agreement") to resolve concerns that Alpha One Foundation Inc.("Alpha One") has solicited donations in this State in violation of the Solicitations by Charitable Organizations Act (the "Act"). § 5-53. <u>et seq</u>. of the Rhode Island General Laws, 1989, as amended. The Division has determined to resolve this matter, after investigation but without instituting administrative proceedings, by entering into this Agreement.

II.

It is hereby agreed by and between the Division and Alpha One that:

Alpha One is a charitable organization with a principal place of business at 3300
Ponce de Leon Blvd. Coral Gables, FL 33134.

2. At all times relevant to this Agreement, it has been unlawful for a charity to solicit contributions in this State unless properly registered in accordance accordance with §5-53.1-2 or exempt therefrom pursuant to §5-53.1-3 of the Act.

1

Registration records maintained by the Division indicate that the registration for Alpha
One expired on February 22, 2009 and was not renewed.

4. On July 24, 2014 the Division was contacted by a representative of Alpha One who indicated that Alpha One wanted to comply with §5-53.1-2 of the Act, resolve any outstanding regulatory issues surrounding its registration status, and re-register to allow it to lawfully transact business as a charitable organization in this State.

5. On October 13, 2014 the Division received a response to a request in which Alpha One indicated that it received twenty eight thousand, two hundred and seventy seven dollars (\$28,277) in contributions from residents of Rhode Island during the unregistered time-period.

6. Further, it is the position of the Division that the charitable solicitations made by Alpha One to Rhode Island residents during the period when it failed to maintain its registration as a charitable organization in this State constitutes a violation of §5-53.1-2 and §5-53.1-7(8)(i).

7. Alpha One has cooperated fully with respect to this Division's inquiry into this matter.

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Based on the foregoing, the Division finds that the following is in the public interest, appropriate for the protection of donors to charitable organizations and consistent with the purposes intended by the provisions of the Solicitation by Charitable Organizations Act.

Accordingly, it is hereby further agreed that:

1. Alpha One shall immediately undertake to comply fully with the Solicitation by Charitable Organizations Act §5-53.1 *et seq;* 

2. Alpha One shall upon signing the Agreement pay an administrative penalty in the amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) and registration back fees of four hundred and fifty

2

dollars (\$450) for a total of fourteen hundred and fifty dollars (\$1,450) to the General Treasurer, State of Rhode Island.

Upon the Division's execution of this Agreement, Alpha One's registration will be 3. effective for one year from the date of this Agreement

Additional violations of the Solicitation by Charitable Organizations Act may be 4. grounds for significant and substantial penalties such as revocation or suspension, administrative penalties up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per violation and the imposition of criminal and civil sanctions.

Dated as of the <u>27th</u> day of <u>March</u>, 2015.

Maria L. D'Alessandro, Esq.

Deputy Director of Securities, Commercial Licensing & Racing and Athletics

Marcin F. fitchie Alpha One Foundation, Inc.

By: Marcia F. Ritchie Its V.P. & COO