

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS OVERSIGHT**

TO: Mediagrif Interactive Technologies, Inc.
The Broker Forum, Inc.
BrokerForum.com
1111 St-Charles Street West, East Tower Suite 255
Longueuil, Québec
Canada, J4K 5G4

**DESIST AND REFRAIN ORDER
(Violation of Financial Code section 17403)**

The Commissioner of Business Oversight finds that:

1. At all relevant times herein, Mediagrif Interactive Technologies, Inc. (Mediagrif) is a corporation formed under the laws of Canada with its principal place of business at 1111 St-Charles Street West, East Tower Suite 255 Longueuil, Québec, Canada, J4K 5G4.

2. At all relevant times herein, The Broker Forum, Inc. (BrokerForum), is a corporation formed under the laws of Canada with its principal place of business at 1111 St-Charles Street West, East Tower Suite 255 Longueuil, Québec, Canada, J4K 5G4.

3. At all relevant times herein, BrokerForum is a fully owned subsidiary of Mediagrif.

4. At all relevant times, Mediagrif is the registered domain user for <https://brokerforum.com>.

5. BrokerForum advertises its services as an escrow agent over the Internet to California residents at <https://BrokerForum.com> as follows:

(a) BrokerForum represents on its website, without limitation to California, that “The Broker Forum’s Escrow Service is an online agreement between two companies allowing The Broker Forum to act as a third-party holder of funds in trust for a confirmed purchase order until the predefined terms and conditions are fulfilled.”

(b) BrokerForum represents on its website, without limitation to California, that with its escrow, buyers and sellers can reduce risk, ensure safer transfer of funds, protect investment, and secure transactions for a fee of 1% or less.

1 (c) BrokerForum maintains on its website, without limitation to California, that it
2 employs a professional escrow staff who hold years of experience working with businesses in the
3 electronic components industry.

4 (d) BrokerForum displays a video on its website, without limitation to California, which
5 includes advertisements about its escrow services and a sample escrow purchase order form.

6 6. The Commissioner of Business Oversight has not issued a license to BrokerForum to
7 conduct business as an escrow agent, as required under Financial Code section 17200.

8 Based on the foregoing findings, the Commissioner of Business Oversight is of the opinion
9 that Mediagrif Interactive Technologies, Inc. and The Broker Forum, Inc. advertised on their
10 website, <https://BrokerForum.com> that they were engaged in the escrow business without first
11 obtaining an escrow agent license from the Commissioner of Business Oversight, in violation of
12 Financial Code section 17403.

13 Pursuant to Financial Code section 17403, Mediagrif Interactive Technologies, Inc. and The
14 Broker Forum, Inc. are ordered to desist and refrain from issuing, circulating, or publishing any
15 advertisement by means of any communication, or making use of or circulating any letterheads,
16 billheads, blank notes, blank receipts, blank escrow instructions, certificates, circulars, or any written
17 or printed paper containing fictitious or corporate name or other words indicating that they are in the
18 escrow business.

19 This Order is necessary, in the public interest, for the protection of investors and consistent
20 with the purposes, policies, and provisions of the Escrow Law.

21
22 Dated: July 17, 2019
23 Los Angeles, California

MANUEL P. ALVAREZ
Commissioner of Business Oversight

24
25 By: _____
26 MARY ANN SMITH
27 Deputy Commissioner
28 Enforcement Division