

1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA
2 BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY
3 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL PROTECTION AND INNOVATION

4 TO: MJL Funding
5 725 S. Figueroa Street
6 Los Angeles, CA 90017

7 **DESIST AND REFRAIN ORDER**
8 **(For violations of Financial Code section 22100)**

9 The Commissioner of Financial Protection and Innovation (Commissioner) finds that:

10 1. At all relevant times, MJL Funding (MJL) is and was an entity of unknown form doing
11 business in California, with a stated address of 725 S. Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90017, and a
12 telephone number of 877-315-0973. There is no record of any corporate filings for an entity named
13 MJL Funding in California.

14 2. MJL maintains a website at <http://www.mjlfunding.com>. There, MJL purports to “Fund
15 Small Business Owners” and represents that “We Are The Best Lender for Quick Cash.” MJL also
16 purports to be a “direct funder” and that it “offer[s] unsecured capital up to \$1,000,000 in under 24
17 hours.”

18 3. MJL is not licensed as a finance lender and/or broker with the Department of Financial
19 Protection and Innovation (DFPI).

20 4. In or around December of 2023, MJL engaged in the business of a finance lender and/or
21 broker in California by offering to obtain approval of a business loan of up to \$10,000,000 from the
22 U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) with at least one California borrower (Borrower). The
23 Borrower interacted with “Jennifer”, an alleged “Senior Underwriter” at MJL, via email. The email
24 address used by “Jennifer” was info@mjlfunding.com. The phone number 412-916-7509 appeared
25 on “Jennifer’s” email signature line. Upon information and belief, Mississippi resident Jennifer
26 Marie Lavalley is the registered owner of the phone number 412-916-7509.

27 5. “Jennifer” represented to the Borrower that MJL is a “certified SBA Loan company”.
28 “Jennifer” also represented to the Borrower that MJL’s success rate in obtaining SBA loans for
borrowers is 98%.

1 6. MJL required the Borrower to submit a copy of a driver’s license, a voided check, and an
2 Employee Identification Number for MJL to submit an SBA loan application on the Borrower’s
3 behalf.

4 6. As a prerequisite to MJL obtaining an SBA loan for the Borrower, “Jennifer” informed the
5 Borrower that the Borrower would have to make an upfront payment of \$2,500. “Jennifer”
6 represented to the Borrower that the \$2,500 “is a fee required by the SBA” for MJL to file the loan
7 application. “Jennifer” further represented that MJL “would lose [its] accreditation to file SBA loans
8 if [it] did not collect a fee up front from [its] applicants.”

9 7. In or around December 19, 2023, the Borrower submitted an ACH Authorization Form for the
10 required payment of \$2,500 to MJL. No loan application was ever submitted on behalf of the
11 Borrower and no refund was issued.

12 8. MJL has not been issued licenses by the Commissioner authorizing it to engage in the
13 business of a finance lender and/or broker under the California Financing Law (Fin. Code, §22000 et
14 seq.), nor is MJL exempt from the licensing requirements of Financial Code section 22100.

15 By reason of the foregoing, MJL has engaged in the business of a finance lender and/or broker
16 without having first obtained a license from the Commissioner in violation of Financial Code section
17 22100. Pursuant to Financial Code section 22712, MJL is ordered to desist and refrain from
18 engaging in the business of a finance lender and/or broker in the State of California without first
19 obtaining a license from the Commissioner, or otherwise being exempt.

20 This order is necessary, in the public interest, for the protection of California borrowers, and
21 is consistent with the purposes, policies, and provisions of the California Financing Law.

23 DATED: July 5, 2024
24 Sacramento, California

CLOTHILDE V. HEWLETT
Commissioner of Financial Protection and Innovation



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