

1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA
2 BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY
3 DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS OVERSIGHT

4 TO: Unified Pictures, Inc.
5 Animated Ark, LLC.
6 Ben Ruffman
7
8 19773 Bahama Street
9 Northridge, California 91324

10 **DESIST AND REFRAIN ORDER**

11 **(For violations of section 25110 of the Corporations Code)**

12 The California Commissioner of Business Oversight finds that:

13 1. At all relevant times, Unified Pictures, Inc., (Unified) was a California corporation
14 with its last known address at 19773 Bahama Street, Northridge, California 91324.

15 2. At all relevant times, Animated Ark, LLC. (Animated) was a California limited
16 liability company with its last known address at 19773 Bahama Street, Northridge, California 91324.

17 3. At all relevant times, Ben Ruffman (Ruffman) was a representative and shareholder of
18 Unified, with his last known address at 19773 Bahama Street, Northridge, California 91324 and an
19 email address of ben@unifiedpictures.com.

20 4. Beginning in at least 2017, Unified, Animated, and Ruffman offered or sold securities,
21 in the form of Limited Liability Membership Subscription Agreements in Animated – investment
22 contracts, in California. Unified, Animated, and Ruffman offered these securities for the purported
23 purpose of raising money to fund the creation, filming, distribution and promotion of an animated
24 film known as “The Ark & The Aardvark”, formerly known as “Noah’s Ark” (Film). Unified and
25 Animated were to create, film, distribute, and promote the Film to generate revenue to pay investor
26 returns. Investors had no involvement in these activities.

27 5. These securities were offered or sold in this state in issuer transactions. The
28 Department of Business Oversight has not issued a permit or other form of qualification authorizing
Unified, Animated, Ruffman or any person to offer or sell the above described securities, in this state.

1 Based on the foregoing findings, the Commissioner of Business Oversight is of the opinion
2 that the investment contracts offered or sold by Unified Pictures, Inc., Animated Ark, LLC., and Ben
3 Ruffman are securities subject to qualification under the Corporate Securities Law of 1968 and are
4 being or have been offered or sold without first being qualified in violation of Corporations Code
5 section 25110.

6 Pursuant to Corporations Code section 25532, Unified Pictures, Inc., Animated Ark, LLC.,
7 and Ben Ruffman are ordered to desist and refrain from the further offer and sale of securities in
8 California, including but not limited to investment contracts, unless and until qualification has been
9 made under the Corporate Securities Law of 1968, or unless exempt.

10 This Order is necessary, in the public interest, for the protection of investors and consistent
11 with the purposes, policies and provisions of the Corporate Securities Law of 1968.

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Dated: March 18, 2019
Sacramento, California

JAN LYNN OWEN
Commissioner of Business Oversight

By _____
MARY ANN SMITH
Deputy Commissioner
Enforcement Division