

District of Ontario
Division No. 07 - Hamilton
Court No. BK-22-00208581-OT-31 31-2856381 (AP Private Equity Limited)

**ONTARIO
SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE
(IN BANKRUPTCY AND INSOLVENCY)**

IN THE MATTER OF THE BANKRUPTCY OF
AP PRIVATE EQUITY LIMITED
OF THE TOWN OF WHITBY, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

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Division No. 07 - Hamilton
Court No. BK-22-00208582-O-T31 31-2856382 (Aiden Pleterski)

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IN THE MATTER OF THE BANKRUPTCY OF
AIDEN PLETERSKI OF THE TOWN OF WHITBY,
IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

FIRST REPORT OF THE TRUSTEE

Background

1. On April 21, 2022, Sacha Amar Dario Singh and 9319697 Canada Ltd. (the “**Mareva Plaintiffs**”) commenced an action against Aiden Pleterski (“**Pleterski**”) and AP Private Equity Limited (“**AP**” and together with Pleterski, the “**Bankrupts**”) claiming relief based on breach of contract, fraudulent misrepresentation, civil fraud, misappropriation of funds, conversion, and unjust enrichment. The Mareva Plaintiffs allege that they were induced into making substantial investments with Pleterski between April 2021 and January 2022 and that the inducement was based on fraudulent misrepresentation.
2. Pleterski, the self-described “Crypto King”, claims to have operated AP as an investment business in which, among other things, monies were allegedly invested on behalf of investors, including the Mareva Plaintiffs, in cryptocurrency and foreign exchange positions. Pleterski is the sole officer and director of AP.

3. The Mareva Plaintiffs successfully obtained an *ex parte* worldwide Mareva injunction pursuant to the Order of Justice Sutherland dated July 7, 2022 (the “**Mareva Order**”), a copy of which, together with the Endorsement, is attached as **Appendix “A”**. As set out in the Endorsement, the Court was satisfied that there was a strong *prima facie* case that Pleterski committed a breach of contract and civil fraud.
4. The Trustee has been advised that, throughout 2022, investors became increasingly concerned about recovering the funds they invested with the Bankrupts. Several investors in the same position as the Mareva Plaintiffs brought an application for bankruptcy orders against Pleterski and AP. On August 9, 2022, the Ontario Superior Court of Justice (the “**Court**”) ordered Pleterski and AP be adjudged bankrupt (the “**Bankruptcy Orders**”). Grant Thornton Limited was appointed as the trustee in bankruptcy (the “**Trustee**”) of both Bankrupts. Copies of the Bankruptcy Orders are attached as **Appendix “B”**.
5. The First Meeting of Creditors of the Bankrupts (the “**First Meeting**”) was held on August 29, 2022. A copy of the Trustee’s Report on its Preliminary Administration dated August 29, 2022 (the “**Preliminary Report**”) is attached as **Appendix “C”**. As at the First Meeting, claims totaling approximately \$13 million were filed in the estates of the Bankrupts, but the Trustee believes that the actual claims could significantly exceed this amount.

Relief Sought

6. The Trustee seeks the issuance of a warrant for the arrest of Pleterski, on behalf of himself and AP, and an Order requiring that all books, papers and property in his possession, including any cell phones, computers and any other electronic devices used by the Bankrupts be immediately delivered up to the Trustee.

Conduct of the Bankrupts

7. As set out in the Preliminary Report, although Pleterski was initially cooperative with the Trustee on a call which took place on August 9, 2022 and an in-person meeting the morning of August 10, 2022, beginning in the afternoon of August 10, 2022 until August 18, 2022, Pleterski was unresponsive to phone calls, text messages and emails from the Trustee. Finally on August 18, 2022, Pleterski agreed to speak with the Trustee on August 21, 2022. However, on August 21, 2022, Pleterski attempted to again defer speaking with the Trustee who insisted that the call proceed as there were many urgent unanswered

questions regarding his assets and creditors of the Bankrupts that needed a response prior to the First Meeting.

8. Without assistance from Pleterski during the initial bankruptcy period, the Trustee:
 - (a) was unable to review the Bankrupts' records in compiling the Statement of Affairs which caused certain creditors to have little or no notice of the First Meeting; and
 - (b) was unable to take possession of certain high-end automobiles on a timely basis as their locations previously disclosed by Pleterski were not correct which considerably increased the costs of administration of the estates of the Bankrupts.
9. Even after making himself available on August 21, 2022, Pleterski did not provide the documentation requested by the Trustee and refused to answer the Trustee's questions related to his conduct prior to the bankruptcy. Pleterski ultimately provided certain information through his counsel on the eve of the First Meeting but failed to fully discharge his duties pursuant to section 158 of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* (Canada). To date, the Bankrupts have still not executed the Statement of Affairs or provided adequate books and records to the Trustee.
10. Pleterski expressed concerns about appearing at the First Meeting due to threats he had received from investors. As a result, the Trustee arranged for security to be present at the First Meeting and impressed upon him, on several occasions (including via emails on August 27 and August 28, 2022), the requirement for him to attend the First Meeting in person. An hour and eight minutes before the First Meeting (Pleterski lives an hour and forty five minutes from downtown Toronto), Pleterski contacted the Trustee to advise that he was unable to secure transportation to the First Meeting because his ride did not show up. He further advised that he was unable to drive because his driver's license had been suspended and did not have any money for a taxi. The Trustee offered to pay for a taxi, but Pleterski advised that a taxi would only accept payment upfront. As a result, Pleterski failed to appear in person at the First Meeting but attended virtually.
11. As is evident from the questions posed by creditors at the First Meeting and the findings set out in the Mareva Order and Endorsement, there is a strong belief among investors

that the Bankrupts defrauded countless individuals out of millions of dollars and that Pleterski is continuing to liquidate and hide assets. Attached as **Appendix “D”** is a copy of the Minutes of the First Meeting.

12. Prior to his bankruptcy, Pleterski led an extravagant lifestyle. Pleterski was the owner (directly or indirectly) of approximately 15 high-end vehicles (in addition to leasing several others) which included 3 McLarens, 2 Lamborghinis, 3 Audis and 2 BMWs. Pleterski was also renting a home on the waterfront in Burlington for approximately \$43,000 per month and had negotiated to purchase the home for approximately \$8.5 million.

Request for Electronic Devices

13. The Trustee understands that the Bankrupts purported to invest millions of dollars on behalf of investors but that those investments were lost due to poor trades. The Trustee has repeatedly requested that the Bankrupts provide evidence of these trades and an accounting of the funds received from investors. As set out in the Minutes from the First Meeting, Pleterski has stated that he was very disorganized and has very little in the way of records. To date, Pleterski had not provided any records showing his trades and the only listing of creditors provided was through his counsel.
14. In order to obtain evidence of the alleged trading conducted by Pleterski and AP, on August 12, 2022, the Trustee requested that Pleterski turn over his computer to the Trustee. Pleterski advised the Trustee that he only had one computer and that it was in the possession of his former girlfriend. The Trustee has since come to understand that Pleterski had at least two desktop computers but that the majority of his trading was done on applications on his cell phone.
15. It was the intention of the Trustee to request to image Pleterski's cell phone at the First Meeting, however Pleterski did not attend in person. As a result, on August 31, 2022, the Trustee emailed and texted Pleterski to advise that a representative of the Trustee would attend at his residence that day to image his cell phones and computers. Although Pleterski appeared to be home, he refused to answer the door but responded to the Trustee that he was not comfortable allowing the Trustee to image his cell phones due to personal content on the devices. The Trustee assured Pleterski that the Trustee was not interested in personal information or photographs and that the devices would be imaged

in his presence so personal information could be excluded from what was being imaged. Pleterski failed to further respond or allow the Trustee access to his electronic devices. Attached as **Appendix “E”** is a copy of the email trail between the Trustee and Pleterski on August 31, 2022.

16. Due to Pleterski’s failure to respond or deliver up his electronic devices for imaging, the Trustee issued a notice to Pleterski pursuant to section 164 of the BIA (the “**164 Notice**”) late in the evening of August 31, 2022. The 164 Notice required that Pleterski immediately deliver up (i) his cell phone and any other electronic device which may contain any records relating to the Bankrupts, and (ii) any other books and records relating to the dealings or property of the Bankrupts, to the Trustee. Attached as **Appendix “F”** is a copy of 164 Notice.
17. Pleterski has not responded to the 164 Notice. By email on September 7, 2022, the Trustee again requested production of Pleterski’s cell phones and electronic devices and advised that if same were not produced, the Trustee would be seeking a warrant. Pleterski has failed to respond to the Trustee’s request. Attached as **Appendix “G”** is a copy of the email dated September 7, 2022. The Trustee also sent Pleterski a text message on September 7, 2022 in respect of the delivery of his electronic devices which has gone unanswered. Attached as **Appendix “H”** is a copy of the text message to Pleterski.

Recommendation

18. Pleterski continues to be in violation of his duties under section 158 of the BIA which constitutes a bankruptcy offence pursuant to section 198(2) of the BIA. It is the Trustee’s position that, given the nature of the allegations against the Bankrupts, it is imperative that Pleterski turn over his electronic devices to the Trustee for imaging. Without those devices, the Trustee will be unable to adequately administer the Bankrupts’ estates.
19. It is also the Trustee’s position that the Bankrupts are attempting to conceal records from the Trustee pertaining to the assets and dealings of the Bankrupts contrary to section 168 of the BIA.
20. The Trustee recommends that the Court exercise its jurisdiction pursuant to sections 198(2) and 168 of the BIA to require that the electronic devices be immediately delivered up and that a warrant be issued for the arrest of Pleterski as a result of his conduct. The

Trustee believes that without repercussions for his actions, Pleterski will continue to thwart the bankruptcy process to the detriment of the Bankrupts' creditors.

DATED at Toronto, Ontario this 9th day of September 2022.

GRANT THORNTON LIMITED

In its capacity as Trustee for the bankrupt estate of
Aiden Pleterski and AP Private Equity Limited
and not in its personal or corporate capacity

Per.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Stelzer", is written over a horizontal line.

Rob Stelzer, CPA, CA, CIRP, LIT
Senior Vice President