New York State
Department of Economic Development
Division of Minority and Women’s
Business Development

In the matter of the appeal of

A.J.R. Equities, Inc.  

From a denial of certification as a Women-owned Business Enterprise pursuant to Executive Law Article 15-A.

This order arises from an administrative appeal brought on behalf of A.J.R. Equities, Inc. ("A.J.R.") pursuant to section 144.4 of title 5 of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations. Appellant, Ms. Victoria Regulbuto, seeks reversal of the decision of the Division of Minority and Women’s Business Development (the “Division”), dated January 21, 2016, to deny A.J.R. certification as a Women-owned Business Enterprise (“WBE”).

This appeal was assigned to Administrative Law Judge Richard A. Sherman. Appellant, represented by Mr. H. Todd Bullard, Esq., appeared at a hearing regarding this matter on September 13, 2016. The Division was represented by Mr. Phillip Harmonick, Esq. A recording of the proceedings is contained in the appeal record.

The issues on appeal were whether the Appellant contributed money, property, equipment, or expertise to A.J.R. in proportion to her ownership interest therein, and whether the corporate bylaws of A.J.R. and other relevant documents permitted Appellant to control the business without restrictions.

On November 29, 2016, the Division received from Administrative Law Judge Sherman a Recommended Order that affirmed the Division’s determination to deny the application by Appellant to certify A.J.R. as a WBE. The Recommended Order recommended that that the denial should be affirmed on each of the grounds identified in the Division’s January 21, 2016 denial letter.
After considering the appeal record, I accept the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge as it pertains to the facts of this case. Incorporation by reference is hereby made with respect to the findings and conclusions of the Recommended Order.

It is hereby ORDERED that the decision to deny certification, dated January 21, 2016 is affirmed. Accordingly, A.J.R. will not be listed in the Division’s directory of certified Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises.

December 01, 2016

Lourdes Zapata
Executive Director
Division of Minority and Women’s Business Development