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OMB No. 1124-0005; Expires July 31, 2023

U.S. Department of Justice

Washington, DC 20530

Short Form Registration Statement Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended

INSTRUCTIONS. Each partner, officer, director, associate, employee, and agent of a registrant is required to file a short form registration statement unless he engages in no activities in furtherance of the interests of the registrant's foreign principal or unless the services he renders to the registrant are in a secretarial, clerical, or in a related or similar capacity. Compliance is accomplished by filing an electronic short form registration statement at https://www.fara.gov.

Privacy Act Statement. The filing of this document is required for the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, for the purposes of registration under the Act and public disclosure. Provision of the information requested is mandatory, and failure to provide the information is subject to the penalty and enforcement provisions established in Section 8 of the Act. Every registration statement, short form registration statement, supplemental statement, exhibit, amendment, copy of informational materials or other document or information filed with the Attorney General under this Act is a public record open to public examination, inspection and copying during the posted business hours of the FARA Unit in Washington, DC. Statements are also available online at the FARA Unit's webpage: https://www.fara.gov. One copy of every such document, other than informational materials, is automatically provided to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, and copies of any and all documents are routinely made available to other agencies, departments and Congress pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Act. The Attorney General also transmits a semi-annual report to Congress on the administration of the Act which lists the names of all agents registered under the Act and the foreign principals they represent. This report is available to the public and online at: https://www.fara.gov.

Public Reporting Burden. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .23 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Chief, FARA Unit, Counterintelligence and Export Control Section, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

1. Name	2. Registration Number
Stephen A. Best	7210
3. Residence Address 3810 Bradley Lane Chevy Chase, MD 20815	4. Primary Business Address 601 Thirteenth Street NW, Suite 600 Washington, DC 20005
5. Year of Birth 1964 Nationality UNITED STATES Present Citizenship UNITED STATES	6. If present citizenship was not acquired by birth, indicate when, and how acquired.

7. Occupation Attorney

8. What is the name and address of the primary registrant?
Name Brown Rudnick LLP Address One Financial Center, 18th Floor, Boston, MA 02111

9. (a) Indicate your connection with the primary registrant:

☒ partner ☐ director ☐ employee ☐ consultant
☐ officer ☐ associate ☐ agent ☐ subcontractor
☐ other *(specify)*_____

(b) Specify your position/title: Equity Partner

10. List the foreign principal to whom you will render services in support of the primary registrant.
Commonwealth/Government of The Bahamas

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11. Describe in detail all services which you will render to the foreign principal listed in Item 10 either directly, or through the primary registrant listed in Item 8.

See Appendix for Response

12. Do any of the above described services include political activity as defined in Section 1(o) of the Act[1]?

Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, describe separately and in detail such political activity. The response must include, but not be limited to, activities involving lobbying, promotion, perception management, public relations, economic development, and preparation or dissemination of informational materials.

Please see above answer. Some of the Registrant's activities may involve preparation and dissemination of informational materials and otherwise engaging with U.S. government agencies and the U.S. media.

13. The services described in Items 11 and 12 are to be rendered on a

☐ full time basis ☒ part time basis ☐ special basis

14. What compensation or thing of value have you received to date or will you receive for the above services?

☐ Salary: Amount $ _____ per _____ ☐ Commission at _____ % of _____

☐ Salary: Not based solely on services rendered to the foreign principal(s).

☐ Fee: Amount $ _____ ☒ Other thing of value See Appendix for Response

15. During the period beginning 60 days prior to the date of your obligation to register under FARA, have you, from your own funds and on your own behalf either directly or through any other person, made any contributions of money or other things of value in connection with an election to political office or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for any political office?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Donor	Political Organization/Candidate	Method	Amount/Thing of Value

EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, and subject to the penalties of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 22 U.S.C. § 618, the undersigned swears or affirms under penalty of perjury that he/she has read the information set forth in this statement filed pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, that he/she is familiar with the contents thereof, and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

12/23/2022	Stephen A. Best	/s/ Stephen A. Best
Date	*Printed Name*	*Signature*

1 "Political activity," as defined in Section 1(o) of the Act, means any activity which the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting, or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to the political or public interests, policies, or relations of a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

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EXECUTION

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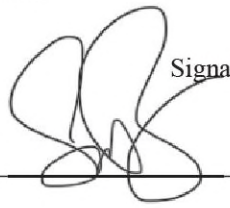
Date	Printed Name	Signature
12/23/22	Stephen A. Best	

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Appendix
Response to Item 11

Item 11: Describe in detail all services which you will render to the foreign principal listed in Item 10 either directly, or through the primary registrant listed in Item 8.

Brown Rudnick has been engaged since March 2022 to provide legal services to the Commonwealth/Government of The Bahamas ("The Bahamas") unrelated to any registrable activities. In particular, we agreed to represent The Bahamas in connection with the development of a country policy position statement regarding digital assets. (Please note that our engagement letter for this representation has not been provided because it only describes non-registrable activities and contains privileged and confidential information regarding specific steps and strategies to be used in connection with developing a high-level white paper reflecting the government's position on digital assets.)

Recently, Brown Rudnick has been reengaged by The Bahamas following the high-profile collapse of FTX Digital Markets Ltd. ("FTX") for services which come within the legal representation exemption. (Again, please note that our engagement letter is not provided because it does not involve registrable activities.) Given the significant attention by the U.S. government and media surrounding the collapse of FTX, Brown Rudnick anticipates that it may perform additional activities, which fall outside of the legal exemption, that require Brown Rudnick to communicate on behalf of The Bahamas with media outlets in the U.S. and/or U.S. government agencies and/or participate in meetings with representatives of the U.S. media and/or U.S. government agencies to discuss The Bahamas' activities and bona fides. Brown Rudnick anticipates that it may also contribute to written materials taking a position on the same, may share such materials through its website or social media, or may comment to the U.S. media on such materials. Accordingly, we have entered into another engagement letter dated December 6, 2022, attached hereto, that was agreed upon by The Bahamas on December 19, 2022. Note that we have yet to begin providing services under this agreement.

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Appendix
Response to Item 14

Stephen Best is an equity partner of the Registrant and receives a share of the Registrant's net income.

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