

FORM 3

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE
COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF
SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0104
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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * <u>Smith Michael Lewis</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>245 PARK AVENUE,</u> <u>44TH FLOOR</u> (Street) <u>NEW YORK NY 10167</u> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) <u>01/01/2024</u>	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>CION Ares Diversified Credit Fund [CADEX]</u>	
		4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>Vice President</u>	5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			

Explanation of Responses:

Remarks:

Exhibit 24 - Power of Attorney

No securities are beneficially owned.

/s/ Ian Fitzgerald, as
attorney-in-fact for
Michael L. Smith

** Signature of Reporting
Person

01/04/2024

Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5 (b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.

**LIMITED POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR
SECTION 16 REPORTING PURPOSES**

Know all by these presents, that the undersigned hereby makes, constitutes and appoints each of Joshua Bloomstein, Ian Fitzgerald, Scott Lem, Lisa Morgan and Naseem Sagati Aghili, acting individually, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorney-in-fact, with full power and authority as hereinafter described on behalf of and in the name, place and stead of the undersigned to:

- 1) execute for, and on behalf of, the undersigned, in the undersigned's capacity as an officer of CION Ares Diversified Credit Fund (the "Fund"), Forms 3, 4, and 5 relating to the Fund in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder (the "Exchange Act");
- 2) seek or obtain, as the undersigned's representative and on the undersigned's behalf, information on transactions in the Fund's securities from any third party, including brokers, employee benefit plan administrators and trustees, and the undersigned hereby authorizes any such person to release any such information to any attorney-in-fact and further approves and ratifies any such release of information;
- 3) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned that may be necessary or desirable to prepare, complete and execute any such Form 3, 4 or 5, and any amendments thereto, or other required report and timely file such Forms or reports with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, the New York Stock Exchange and any stock exchange or similar authority as considered necessary or advisable under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act; and
- 4) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Limited Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in such attorney-in-fact's sole discretion.

The undersigned hereby gives and grants to each such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform any and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary, or proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution or revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact, or such attorney-in-fact's substitute or substitutes, shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted.

The undersigned hereby acknowledges that (a) the foregoing attorneys-in-fact are serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned; (b) this Limited Power of Attorney authorizes, but does not require, each such attorney-in-fact to act in his or her discretion on information provided to such attorney-in-fact without independent verification of such information; (c) any documents prepared and/or executed by any attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Limited Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such information and disclosure as such attorney-in-fact, in his or her sole discretion, deems necessary or advisable; (d) neither the Fund nor any attorney-in-fact assumes (i) any liability for the undersigned's responsibility to comply with the requirements of the Exchange Act, (ii) any liability of the undersigned for any failure to comply with such requirements or (iii) any obligation or liability of the undersigned for profit disgorgement under Section 16(b) of the Exchange Act; and (e) this Limited Power of Attorney does not relieve the undersigned from responsibility for compliance with the undersigned's obligations under the Exchange Act, including, without limitation, the reporting requirements under Section 16 of the Exchange Act.

This Limited Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file Forms 3, 4, and 5 with respect to the undersigned's holdings of, and transactions in, securities issued by the Fund, unless earlier revoked as to any attorney-in-fact by the undersigned in a signed writing delivered to such attorney-in-fact.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 3 day of January, 2024.

By: /s/ Michael L. Smith

Print: Michael L. Smith