## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF STATE BUREAU OF SECURITIES REGULATION CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE MATTER OF:	)
	)
Corey J. Walker	)
Respondent	)
	) ) INV2022-0002
	)

## **CONSENT ORDER**

I. For purposes of settling the above-referenced matter and in lieu of further administrative proceedings, Corey J. Walker (hereinafter referred to as "CW" or "Respondent") (CRD #6578396) has submitted an offer of settlement, which the Bureau of Securities Regulation, Department of State, State of New Hampshire (hereinafter referred to as "the Bureau") has determined to accept. Accordingly, without admitting or denying the allegations or findings contained herein, CW does hereby consent to the entry of this Consent Order and the following undertakings and sanctions:

## The Facts

- Northwestern Mutual Investment Services, LLC, CRD #2881, (hereinafter "NWM") is a nationwide securities firm and is a New Hampshire state licensed broker-dealer and investment adviser with a principal place of business located at 720 East Wisconsin Ave, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202. CW was a licensed New Hampshire broker-dealer agent from 7/25/2017 to 7/6/2023 and worked at NWM located at a branch office in Manchester, New Hampshire. CW worked for NWM from 2016 to 2022.
- 2. An audit was conducted at NWM's Manchester branch office by the Bureau for the time period 2020 to 2021. As a result of a Bureau review of thousands of emails that were sent by the Manchester NWM agents, including CW, to solicit prospects, it was determined that the e-mail solicitations were not reviewed or approved by the NWM home office or any NWM compliance person before being sent to customer prospects which was required by NWM policy and procedure.

- 3. Throughout 2020 and 2021, CW sent e-mails to prospective clients that contained language that was not fair and balanced contrary to regulatory requirements and NWM policy, procedure, and supervisory compliance requirements.
- 4. CW also sent e-mails to prospective clients in states he was not licensed in contrary to regulatory requirements and NWM policy and procedure.

## THE LAW

- 1. CW was a "broker-dealer agent" within the meaning of RSA 421-B:1-102(3). CW was an associate of a member firm of FINRA and was required to abide by all FINRA rules and state laws.
- 2. Pursuant to FINRA Rule 2210(d), all member communications must be fair and balanced.
- 3. Pursuant to RSA 421-B:4-402, a broker-dealer agent is required to be licensed in states he does business in. CW violated this section.
- 4. Pursuant to RSA 421-B:6-604(a)(1), [iff the secretary of state determines that a person has engaged, is engaging, or is about to engage in an act practice or course of business constituting a violation of this chapter or an order issued under this chapter the secretary of state may order any person in violation of 421-B to cease and desist. CW is subject to this provision.
- 5. Pursuant to RSA 421-B:6-604(d), a person is subject to a fine of \$2,500 for each violation. CW is subject to this provision.
- 6. Pursuant to RSA 421-B:4-406(k), persons licensed under RSA 421-B to conduct securities business shall abide by the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission and other self-regulating organizations (e.g., FINRA) which have jurisdiction over the licensee, which set forth standards of conduct in the securities industry. CW is subject to this provision.
- 7. Pursuant to RSA 421-B:4-412(b), [i]f the secretary of state finds that the order is in the public interest and subsection (d) authorizes the action, an order under this chapter may revoke or suspend the registration of a broker-dealer agent. CW is subject to this provision.
- 8. Pursuant to RSA 421-B:4-412(d) [g]rounds for discipline, [a] person may be disciplined under subsection (c) if the person, (2) has willfully failed to comply with this chapter within the previous 10 years. CW violated this section.

II. In view of the foregoing, the Respondent agrees to the following undertakings and sanctions:

- 1. Respondent agrees that he has voluntarily consented to the entry of this Consent Order and represents and avers that no employee or representative of the Bureau has made any promise, representation, or threat to induce its execution.
- 2. Respondent agrees to waive his right to an administrative hearing and any appeal therein under this chapter.
- 3. Respondent agrees that upon full execution of this Consent his license agent privileges in the State of New Hampshire are suspended for a 30 day period.
- 4. The Respondent agrees to cease and desist from violations of FINRA Rule 2210 and RSA 421-B:4-402.
- 5. Upon execution of this Consent Order by Respondent, Respondent agrees to pay an administrative fine in the amount of twelve thousand five-hundred dollars (\$12,500.00) to the State of New Hampshire in twelve equal installments of one thousand forty-one dollars and sixty-seven cents each month starting with the first payment on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 and continue each month on the 1<sup>st</sup> until paid in full. Payment shall be made by 1) United States postal money order, certified check, bank cashier's check, or bank money order; 2) made payable to the State of New Hampshire; and 3) hand-delivered or mailed to the Bureau of Securities Regulation, Department of State, State House, Room 204, Concord, New Hampshire, 03301.
- 6. Respondent agrees that this Consent Order is entered into for the purpose of resolving only the matter and issues as described herein and no other issues pending before the State of New Hampshire. This Consent Order shall have no collateral estoppel, res judicata, evidentiary, or other legal effect in any other lawsuit, proceeding, or action, not described herein. Likewise, this Consent Order shall not be construed to restrict the Bureau's right to initiate an administrative investigation or proceeding relative to conduct by Respondent which the Bureau has no knowledge at the time of the date of final entry of this Consent Order
- 7. The Respondent may not take any action or make or permit to be made any public statement, including in regulatory filings or otherwise, denying, directly or indirectly, any allegation in this Consent Order or create the impression that the Consent Order is without factual basis. Nothing in this provision affects the Respondent's testimonial obligations or right to take legal positions in litigation in which the State of New Hampshire is not a party.

- 8. Should Respondent fail to fully comply with this Consent Order, the Bureau may rescind the Consent Order without a hearing and institute formal enforcement proceedings under RSA 421-B.
- III. Based on the foregoing, the Bureau deems it appropriate and in the public interest to Order that:
  - 1. Respondent's securities agent license privileges in the State of New Hampshire are hereby suspended for thirty days upon full execution of this Consent.
  - 2. Respondent shall cease and desist from violating FINRA Rule 2210 and RSA 421-B:4-402.
  - 3. Respondent shall pay an administrative fine of \$12,500 as stated above.
  - 4. Respondent shall comply with all undertakings and sanctions.

Executed this 15 day of 5apt, 2023.

Corev J. Walker

Please print name below:

Corey J Walker
Executed this 18th day of Sept., 2023.

Deputy Secretary