**Settlement Agreement** 

File No. 201120



Mutual Fund Dealers Association of Canada Association canadienne des courtiers de fonds mutuels

# IN THE MATTER OF A SETTLEMENT HEARING PURSUANT TO SECTION 24.4 OF BY-LAW NO. 1 OF THE MUTUAL FUND DEALERS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

## **Re: Chad Mackenzie Peters**

# SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. By Notice of Settlement Hearing, the Mutual Fund Dealers Association of Canada ("MFDA") will announce that it proposes to hold a hearing on March 19, 2012 to consider whether, pursuant to s. 24.4 of MFDA By-law No. 1, a hearing panel of the Central Regional Council of the MFDA ("Hearing Panel") should accept the settlement agreement entered into between Staff of the MFDA ("Staff") and the Respondent, Chad Mackenzie Peters ("Respondent") ("Settlement Agreement").

### II. JOINT SETTLEMENT RECOMMENDATION

2. Staff conducted an investigation into the Respondent's activities. The investigation disclosed that the Respondent had engaged in activity for which the Respondent could be penalized on the exercise of the discretion of the Hearing Panel pursuant to s. 24.1 of By-law No. 1.

3. Staff and the Respondent recommend settlement of the matters disclosed by the investigation in accordance with the terms and conditions set out below. The Respondent agrees to the settlement on the basis of the facts set out in Part IV herein and consents to the making of an Order in the form attached as Schedule "A".

4. Staff and the Respondent agree that the terms of this Settlement Agreement, including the attached Schedule "A", will be released to the public only if and when the Settlement Agreement is accepted by the Hearing Panel.

## III. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

5. Staff and the Respondent agree with the facts set out in Part IV herein for the purposes of this Settlement Agreement only and further agree that this agreement of facts is without prejudice to the Respondent or Staff in any other proceeding of any kind including, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, any proceedings brought by the MFDA (subject to Part XI) or any civil or other proceedings which may be brought by any other person or agency, whether or not this Settlement Agreement is accepted by the Hearing Panel.

### IV. AGREED FACTS

### **Registration History**

6. From February 3, 2009 to December 24, 2010, the Respondent was registered in Ontario as a mutual fund salesperson with Royal Mutual Funds Inc. ("Royal"), a Member of the MFDA since May 22, 2001.

7. The Respondent was also employed by Royal Bank of Canada ("RBC") as an Account Manager from November 3, 2008 to December 24, 2010.

8. On December 24, 2010, the Respondent was terminated by Royal and RBC as a result of the events described herein.

9. The Respondent is not currently registered in the securities industry in any capacity.

### **Falsification of Account Document**

10. On or about November 29, 2010, client EG met with the Respondent, in his capacity as an Approved Person of Royal, for the purposes of opening a registered retirement income fund ("RRIF") account. The account was being opened in anticipation of client EG's funds being transferred in to Royal.

11. The Respondent arranged for client EG to complete and sign most of the documents required to open the RRIF account but omitted or neglected to have client EG complete and sign a Know-Your-Client form ("KYC") for the RRIF account.

12. Over the ensuing weeks, the Respondent's branch manager regularly requested that the Respondent contact client EG for the purpose of arranging for client EG to complete and sign the missing KYC form. The Respondent states that he was waiting for the funds to be transferred in, at which time his intention was to have client EG complete and sign the KYC form.

13. On or about December 22, 2010, without the knowledge or permission of client EG, the Respondent completed a KYC form for client EG which identified client EG's risk tolerance as "none" and client EG's investment objectives as "secure". The Respondent then falsified client EG's signature and the date of December 22, 2010 on the KYC form and submitted it to Royal.

14. The Respondent states that he undertook this course of action because he wished to fulfill his branch manager's request for the missing KYC. Additionally, client EG had just lost her husband and the Respondent did not wish to 'bother' client EG for a signature in advance of the funds being transferred in.

15. No trades were executed by the Respondent in client EG's account.

#### **Providing False and Misleading Responses to the Member**

16. On December 23, 21010, the Royal branch manager at the Respondent's branch was reviewing the previous day's trading activity and observed that the Respondent had submitted the missing KYC form in respect of client EG's RRIF account. The branch manager had not seen

client EG attend at the branch the previous day.

17. On December 23, 2010, the branch manager made inquiries of other staff at the branch, each of whom stated that they also had not seen client EG in the branch the previous day.

18. On December 23, 2010, the branch manager then telephoned client EG, and asked her whether various issues had been resolved when she came in to sign the KYC, to which client EG responded that she had "not seen [the Respondent] over the last few days".

19. The branch manager then compared the signature of client EG as it appeared on the KYC form dated December 22, 2010 with a previous KYC form signed by client EG dated September 2010 and concluded that the two signatures did not match.

20. On or about December 23, 2010, the branch manager questioned the Respondent about the signature on the KYC form dated December 22, 2010. The Respondent had been working at a sub-branch on December 22, 2010, and initially stated that while he was working at the sub-branch, client EG had come in and signed the KYC at that sub-branch.

21. The branch manager then informed the Respondent that she had spoken with client EG, who had informed the branch manager that she (client EG) had not met with the Respondent recently.

22. The Respondent then admitted to completing parts of the KYC form and falsifying client EG's signature on it.

### **Respondent's Personal Circumstances**

23. The Respondent lives and works in Windsor, Ontario. He has a young family and is working in the landscaping industry.

24. There is no evidence of misappropriation, unauthorized trading, or client harm in this matter.

25. There have not been any complaints by client EG or any other clients.

26. The Respondent did not intend to receive, nor did he receive, any financial benefit from engaging in the misconduct.

27. Staff is satisfied that the Respondent accepts his conduct was improper.

28. The Respondent has no prior disciplinary history with the MFDA. He has been fully cooperative with Staff, in a manner which reduced the need for a full investigation or contested hearing.

### V. CONTRAVENTIONS

- 29. The Respondent admits that:
  - i) on or about December 22, 2010, he completed parts of an account opening document for client EG and falsified the signature of client EG on the document, contrary to MFDA Rule 2.1.1; and
  - ii) on or about December 23, 2010, he interfered with the ability of the Member to conduct a reasonable supervisory investigation of his conduct by providing a false response to the Member in the course of its investigation, before admitting to the falsification, contrary to MFDA Rules 1.1.2, 2.5.1, and MFDA Rule 2.1.1.

#### VI. TERMS OF SETTLEMENT

- 30. The Respondent agrees to the following terms of settlement:
  - i) the Respondent shall be prohibited from conducting securities related business in any capacity while in the employ of or associated with any MFDA Member for a period of two years, commencing from the date of the Hearing Panel's Order herein, pursuant to s. 24.1.1(e) of MFDA By-law No. 1;
  - ii) the Respondent shall pay costs in the amount of \$1,000, pursuant to s. 24.2 of MFDA By-law No. 1;
  - iii) the Respondent shall attend in person at the Settlement Hearing; and

iv) the Respondent shall in the future comply with all MFDA By-laws, Rules and Policies, and all applicable securities legislation and regulations.

#### VII. STAFF COMMITMENT

31. If this Settlement Agreement is accepted by the Hearing Panel, Staff will not initiate any proceeding under the By-laws of the MFDA against the Respondent in respect of the facts set out in Part IV and the contraventions described in Part V of this Settlement Agreement, subject to the provisions of Part XI below. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement precludes Staff from investigating or initiating proceedings in respect of any facts and contraventions that are not set out in Parts IV and V of this Settlement Agreement or in respect of conduct that occurred outside the specified date ranges of the facts and contraventions set out in Parts IV and V, whether known or unknown at the time of settlement. Furthermore, nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall relieve the Respondent from fulfilling any continuing regulatory obligations.

#### VIII. PROCEDURE FOR APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT

32. Acceptance of this Settlement Agreement shall be sought at a hearing of the Central Regional Council of the MFDA on March 19, 2012, as agreed to by Staff and the Respondent.

33. Staff and the Respondent may refer to any part, or all, of the Settlement Agreement at the settlement hearing. Staff and the Respondent also agree that if this Settlement Agreement is accepted by the Hearing Panel, it will constitute the entirety of the evidence to be submitted respecting the Respondent in this matter, and the Respondent agrees to waive his rights to a full hearing, a review hearing before the Board of Directors of the MFDA or any securities commission with jurisdiction in the matter under its enabling legislation, or a judicial review or appeal of the matter before any court of competent jurisdiction.

34. Staff and the Respondent agree that if this Settlement Agreement is accepted by the Hearing Panel, then the Respondent shall be deemed to have been penalized by the Hearing Panel pursuant to s. 24.1.2 of By-law No. 1 for the purpose of giving notice to the public thereof in accordance with s. 24.5 of By-law No. 1.

35. Staff and the Respondent agree that if this Settlement Agreement is accepted by the Hearing Panel, neither Staff nor the Respondent will make any public statement inconsistent with this Settlement Agreement. Nothing in this section is intended to restrict the Respondent from making full answer and defence to any civil or other proceedings against him.

#### IX. FAILURE TO HONOUR SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

36. If this Settlement Agreement is accepted by the Hearing Panel and, at any subsequent time, the Respondent fails to honor any of the Terms of Settlement set out herein, Staff reserves the right to bring proceedings under section 24.3 of the By-laws of the MFDA against the Respondent based on, but not limited to, the facts set out in Part IV of the Settlement Agreement, as well as the breach of the Settlement Agreement. If such additional enforcement action is taken, the Respondent agrees that the proceeding(s) may be heard and determined by a hearing panel comprised of all or some of the same members of the hearing panel that accepted the Settlement Agreement, if available.

### X. NON-ACCEPTANCE OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

37. If, for any reason whatsoever, this Settlement Agreement is not accepted by the Hearing Panel or an Order in the form attached as Schedule "A" is not made by the Hearing Panel, each of Staff and the Respondent will be entitled to any available proceedings, remedies and challenges, including proceeding to a disciplinary hearing pursuant to sections 20 and 24 of By-law No. 1, unaffected by this Settlement Agreement or the settlement negotiations.

38. Whether or not this Settlement Agreement is accepted by the Hearing Panel, the Respondent agrees that it he will not, in any proceeding, refer to or rely upon this Settlement Agreement or the negotiation or process of approval of this Settlement Agreement as the basis for any allegation against the MFDA of lack of jurisdiction, bias, appearance of bias, unfairness, or any other remedy or challenge that may otherwise be available.

### XI. DISCLOSURE OF AGREEMENT

39. The terms of this Settlement Agreement will be treated as confidential by the parties

hereto until accepted by the Hearing Panel, and forever if, for any reason whatsoever, this Settlement Agreement is not accepted by the Hearing Panel, except with the written consent of both the Respondent and Staff or as may be required by law.

40. Any obligations of confidentiality shall terminate upon acceptance of this Settlement Agreement by the Hearing Panel.

## XII. EXECUTION OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

41. This Settlement Agreement may be signed in one or more counterparts which together shall constitute a binding agreement.

42. A facsimile copy of any signature shall be effective as an original signature.

Dated: March 12, 2012

"Liana Peters"

"Chad Mackenzie Peters"

Witness- Signature

Chad Mackenzie Peters

<u>Liana Peters</u> Witness – Print Name

> "Shaun Devlin" Staff of the MFDA Per: Shaun Devlin Vice-President, Enforcement

Schedule "A"

Order File No. 201120



Mutual Fund Dealers Association of Canada Association canadienne des courtiers de fonds mutuels

# IN THE MATTER OF A SETTLEMENT HEARING PURSUANT TO SECTION 24.4 OF BY-LAW NO. 1 OF THE MUTUAL FUND DEALERS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

**Re: Chad Mackenzie Peters** 

## ORDER

**WHEREAS** on [date], the Mutual Fund Dealers Association of Canada (the "MFDA") issued a Notice of Settlement Hearing pursuant to section 24.4 of By-law No. 1 in respect of Chad Mackenzie Peters (the "Respondent");

**AND WHEREAS** the Respondent entered into a settlement agreement with Staff of the MFDA, dated [date] (the "Settlement Agreement"), in which the Respondent agreed to a proposed settlement of matters for which the Respondent could be disciplined pursuant to sections 20 and 24.1 of By-law No. 1;

**AND WHEREAS** the Hearing Panel is of the opinion that the Respondent:

- i) on or about December 22, 2010, completed parts of an account opening document for client EG and falsified the signature of client EG on the document, contrary to MFDA Rule 2.1.1; and
- ii) on or about December 23, 2010, interfered with the ability of the Member to conduct a reasonable supervisory investigation of his conduct by providing

a false response to the Member in the course of its investigation, before admitting to the falsification, contrary to MFDA Rules 1.1.2, 2.5.1, and MFDA Rule 2.1.1.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT** the Settlement Agreement is accepted, as a consequence of which:

- the Respondent shall be prohibited from conducting securities related business in any capacity while in the employ of or associated with any MFDA Member for a period of two years, commencing from the date of this Order, pursuant to s. 24.1.1(c) of MFDA By-law No. 1;
- the Respondent shall pay costs in the amount of \$1,000, pursuant to s. 24.2 of MFDA By-law No. 1;
- 3. the Respondent shall in the future comply with all MFDA By-laws, Rules and Policies, and all applicable securities legislation and regulations; and
- 4. if at any time a non-party to this proceeding requests production of, or access to, any materials filed in, or the record of, this proceeding, including all exhibits and transcripts, the MFDA Corporate Secretary shall not provide copies of, or access to, the requested documents to the non-party without first redacting from them any and all intimate financial or personal information, pursuant to Rules 1.8(2) and (5) of the MFDA Rules of Procedure.

**DATED** this [day] day of [month], 20[].

Per: [Name of Public Representative], Chair

- Per: [Name of Industry Representative]
- Per: [Name of Industry Representative]