Settlement Agreement File No. 202069



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: Matthew Jason Bishop

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Staff of the Mutual Fund Dealers Association of Canada ("Staff") and the Respondent, Matthew Jason Bishop (the "Respondent"), consent and agree to settlement of this matter by way of this agreement (the "Settlement Agreement").

2. Staff conducted an investigation of the Respondent's activities which disclosed 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.

II. JOINT SETTLEMENT RECOMMENDATION

3. Staff and the Respondent jointly recommend that the Hearing Panel accept the Settlement Agreement.

4. The Respondent admits to the following violations of the By-laws, Rules or Policies of the Mutual Fund Dealers Association of Canada ("MFDA"):

Between June 2014 and December 2018, the Respondent obtained, possessed, and used to process transactions, 31 pre-signed account forms in respect of 15 clients, contrary to MFDA Rule 2.1.1.

- 5. Staff and the Respondent agree and consent to the following terms of settlement:
 - a) the Respondent shall pay a fine in the amount of \$12,500 in certified funds upon acceptance of the Settlement Agreement, pursuant to s. 24.1.1(b) of MFDA By-law No. 1;
 - b) the Respondent shall pay costs in the amount of \$2,500 in certified funds upon acceptance of the Settlement Agreement, pursuant to s. 24.2 of MFDA By-law No. 1;
 - c) the Respondent shall in the future comply with MFDA Rule 2.1.1; and
 - d) the Respondent will attend by videoconference, on the date set for the Settlement Hearing.

6. Staff and the Respondent agree to the settlement on the basis of the facts set out in Part III herein and consent to the making of an Order in the form attached as Schedule "A".

III. AGREED FACTS

Registration History

7. Since October 2004, the Respondent has been registered in Nova Scotia as a mutual fund salesperson/dealing representative¹ with Worldsource Financial Management Inc. (the "Member"), a Member of the MFDA.

8. From October 2010 to December 2015, and since September 2017, the Respondent has been registered in Ontario as a dealing representative with the Member.

9. From May 2012 to December 2013, the Respondent was registered in British Columbia as a dealing representative with the Member.

¹ In September 2009, the registration category mutual fund salesperson was changed to "dealing representative" when National Instrument 31-103 came into force.

10. At all material times, the Respondent conducted business in the Halifax, Nova Scotia area.

Pre-Signed Account Forms

11. At all material times, the Member's policies and procedures prohibited its Approved Persons from using pre-signed account forms.

12. Between June 2014 and December 2018, the Respondent obtained, possessed, and used to process transactions, 31 pre-signed account forms in respect of 15 clients.

13. The pre-signed account forms consisted of: 10 Transfer Authorization for Registered Investments Forms; 8 New Plan Application Forms; 5 Investment Application Forms; 3 TFSA Application Forms; 2 New Client Application Forms; 1 Transfer of Non-Registered Accounts Form; 1 External Automatic Transactions Form; and 1 Purchase Form.

The Member's Investigation

14. In May 2019, the Member identified some of the pre-signed account forms that are the subject of this Settlement Agreement as a result of a routine audit of the Respondent's sub-branch location.

15. The Member then reviewed all of the Respondent's client files and it identified the remainder of the pre-signed account forms that are the subject of this Settlement Agreement.

16. In May 2019, the Member placed the Respondent under close supervision for a period of 12 months, and it did not identify any additional pre-signed account forms during this period.

17. On May 23, 2019, the Member issued a cautionary letter to the Respondent with regard to his use of pre-signed account forms described herein.

18. In June 2019, the Member sent letters to all clients whose accounts the Respondent serviced informing the clients that they should review their accounts and notify the Member if any account activity was unauthorized. No clients reported concerns to the Member.

19. In June 2020, the Member conducted a further audit of the Respondent's sub-branch location, during which it did not identify any additional pre-signed account forms. The Member required the Respondent to pay \$750 toward the cost of this review.

Additional Factors

20. There is no evidence that the Respondent received any financial benefit from engaging in the misconduct described above beyond any commissions and fees that he would ordinarily be entitled to receive had the transactions been carried out in the proper manner.

21. There is no evidence of client loss or lack of authorization for the underlying transactions.

22. The Respondent has not previously been the subject of MFDA disciplinary proceedings.

23. By entering into this Settlement Agreement, the Respondent has saved the MFDA the time, resources and expenses associated with conducting a full hearing of the allegations.

IV. ADDITIONAL TERMS OF SETTLEMENT

24. This settlement is agreed upon in accordance with section 24.4 of MFDA By-law No. 1 and Rules 14 and 15 of the MFDA Rules of Procedure.

25. The Settlement Agreement is subject to acceptance by the Hearing Panel which shall be sought at a hearing (the "Settlement Hearing"). At, or following the conclusion of, the Settlement Hearing, the Hearing Panel may either accept or reject the Settlement Agreement. MFDA Settlement Hearings are typically held in the absence of the public pursuant to section 20.5 of MFDA By-law No. 1 and Rule 15.2(2) of the MFDA Rules of Procedure. If the Hearing Panel accepts the Settlement Agreement, then the proceeding will become open to the public and a copy of the decision of the Hearing Panel and the Settlement Agreement will be made available at <u>www.mfda.ca</u>.

26. The Settlement Agreement shall become effective and binding upon the Respondent and Staff as of the date of its acceptance by the Hearing Panel. Unless otherwise stated, any monetary penalties and costs imposed upon the Respondent are payable immediately, and any suspensions, revocations, prohibitions, conditions or other terms of the Settlement Agreement shall commence, upon the effective date of the Settlement Agreement.

27. Staff and the Respondent agree that if this Settlement Agreement is accepted by the Hearing Panel:

- a) the Settlement Agreement will constitute the entirety of the evidence to be submitted respecting the Respondent in this matter;
- b) the Respondent agrees to waive any rights to a full hearing, a review hearing or appeal 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;
- c) Staff will not initiate any proceeding under the By-laws of the MFDA against the Respondent in respect of the facts and contraventions described in this Settlement Agreement. 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 this Settlement Agreement. Furthermore, nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall relieve the Respondent from fulfilling any continuing regulatory obligations;
- d) 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; and
- e) 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 the Respondent.

28. If, for any reason, this Settlement Agreement is not accepted 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 the Settlement Agreement or the settlement negotiations.

29. Staff and the Respondent agree that the terms of the 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.

30. The Settlement Agreement may be signed in one or more counterparts which together shall constitute a binding agreement. A facsimile copy of any signature shall be effective as an original signature.

DATED this 19th day of October, 2020.

"Matthew Jason Bishop"

Matthew Jason Bishop

<u>"JL"</u>

Witness - Signature

JL

Witness - Print name

"Charles Toth"

Staff of the MFDA Per: Charles Toth Vice-President, Enforcement

Order

File No.



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: Matthew Jason Bishop

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 MFDA By-law No. 1 in respect of Matthew Jason Bishop (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 ss. 20 and 24.1 of MFDA By-law No. 1;

AND WHEREAS the Hearing Panel is of the opinion that the Respondent, between June 2014 and December 2018, obtained, possessed, and used to process transactions, 31 pre-signed account forms in respect of 15 clients, contrary to MFDA Rule 2.1.1.

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

1. The Respondent shall pay a fine in the amount of \$12,500 in certified funds upon acceptance of the Settlement Agreement, pursuant to s. 24.1.1(b) of MFDA By-law No. 1;

2. The Respondent shall pay costs in the amount of \$2,500 in certified funds upon acceptance of the Settlement Agreement, pursuant to s. 24.2 of MFDA By-law No. 1;

3. The Respondent shall in the future comply with MFDA Rule 2.1.1; and

4. If at any time a non-party to this proceeding, with the exception of the bodies set out in section 23 of MFDA By-law No. 1, requests production of or access to exhibits in this proceeding that contain personal information as defined by the MFDA Privacy Policy, then the MFDA Corporate Secretary shall not provide copies of or access to the requested exhibits to the non-party without first redacting from them any and all personal information, pursuant to Rules 1.8(2) and (5) of the MFDA *Rules of Procedure*.

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

Name, Chair

Name, Industry Representative

Name, Industry Representative

DM# 780434