



**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: Giuseppe Cichello**

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**SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

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**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. Staff of the Mutual Fund Dealers Association of Canada (“Staff”) and the Respondent, Giuseppe Cichello (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 MFDA:

- a) between May 11, 2015 and May 13, 2015, the Respondent falsified 3 client signatures on account forms, and used the account forms to process transactions, 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 be prohibited from conducting securities related business in any capacity while in the employ of or associated with a MFDA Member for a period of 5 months pursuant to s. 24.1.1(e) of MFDA By-law No. 1;
- b) the Respondent shall pay costs in the amount of \$1,000 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 in person, 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. Between May 7, 2014 and June 12, 2015, the Respondent was registered in Ontario as a mutual fund salesperson (now known as a Dealing Representative) with TD Investment Services Inc. ("TD"), a Member of the MFDA.

8. On June 8, 2015, TD terminated the Respondent as a result of the conduct set out in this Settlement Agreement.

9. The Respondent is no longer registered in the securities industry in any capacity.
10. At all material times, the Respondent conducted business in the Etobicoke, Ontario area.

### **Falsification of Client Signatures**

11. At all material times, TD's policies and procedures prohibited its Representatives, including the Respondent, from falsifying client signatures.
12. At all material times, client RM was the client of TD whose account was serviced by the Respondent.
13. Between May 11, 2015 and May 13, 2015, the Respondent falsified the signature of client RM on 3 Transaction and Account Maintenance Forms (the "Forms"), and used the Forms to process transactions.

### **TD's Investigation**

14. On May 21, 2015, TD became aware of the conduct that is the subject of this Settlement Agreement after client RM attended at the Respondent's branch to sign the Forms, and alerted the Respondent's branch manager to the fact that the Forms contained falsified signatures.
15. TD's subsequent follow up review identified no further falsified client signatures.

### **Additional Factors**

16. There is no evidence that the Respondent received any benefit from the conduct set out above beyond the commissions or fees he would ordinarily be entitled to receive had the transactions been carried out in the proper manner.
17. There is no evidence of client loss or lack of authorization.

18. The Respondent cooperated with TD during its investigation into his conduct.
19. The Respondent has not previously been the subject of MFDA disciplinary proceedings.
20. By entering into this Settlement Agreement, the Respondent has saved the MFDA the time, resources, and expenses associated with conducting a full hearing on the allegations.

#### **IV. ADDITIONAL TERMS OF SETTLEMENT**

21. 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.
22. 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.
23. 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.
24. Staff and the Respondent agree that if this Settlement Agreement is accepted by the Hearing Panel:
25. the Settlement Agreement will constitute the entirety of the evidence to be submitted respecting the Respondent in this matter;
  - a) the Respondent waives any 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;

- b) 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;
- c) 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
- d) 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.

26. 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.

27. 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.

28. 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 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2016.

“Giuseppe Cichello”  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Giuseppe Cichello

“CC”  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness – Signature

CC  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness – Print Name

“Shaun Devlin”  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Shaun Devlin  
Staff of the MFDA  
Per: Shaun Devlin  
Senior Vice-President,  
Member Regulation – Enforcement

Schedule "A"

Order

File No. 201693



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**ORDER**

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**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 [Respondent] (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 By-law No. 1;

**AND WHEREAS** the Hearing Panel is of the opinion that between May 11, 2015 and May 13, 2015, the Respondent falsified 3 client signature on account forms, and used the account forms to process transactions, 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 be prohibited from conducting securities related business in any capacity while in the employ of or associated with a MFDA Member for a period of 5 months pursuant to s. 24.1.1(b) of MFDA By-law No. 1;
2. 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 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[ ].

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
[Name of Public Representative], Chair

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
[Name of Industry Representative]

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
[Name of Industry Representative]