

**FINANCIAL INDUSTRY REGULATORY AUTHORITY
LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER AND CONSENT
NO. 2013038505301**

TO: Department of Enforcement
Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA")

RE: Eric S. Springer, Respondent
Registered Representative
CRD No. 1627822

Pursuant to FINRA Rule 9216 of FINRA's Code of Procedure, I, Eric Springer, submit this Letter of Acceptance, Waiver and Consent ("AWC") for the purpose of proposing a settlement of the alleged rule violations described below. This AWC is submitted on the condition that, if accepted, FINRA will not bring any future actions against me alleging violations based on the same factual findings described herein.

I.

ACCEPTANCE AND CONSENT

- A. I hereby accept and consent, without admitting or denying the findings, and solely for the purposes of this proceeding and any other proceeding brought by or on behalf of FINRA, or to which FINRA is a party, prior to a hearing and without an adjudication of any issue of law or fact, to the entry of the following findings by FINRA:

BACKGROUND

Eric S. Springer entered the securities industry in February 1987 as an Investment Company/Variable Contracts Products Representative with a FINRA-registered firm. Between September 1989 and March 1998, Springer was not registered or associated with any broker-dealer. Springer has been registered as an Investment Company/Variable Contracts Products Representative with Woodbury Financial Services, Inc. ("Woodbury") since March 19, 1998.

RELEVANT DISCIPLINARY HISTORY

Springer has no relevant disciplinary history.

OVERVIEW

Between January 30, 2010 and March 5, 2014, Springer photocopied the signatures of 15 customers from documents already on file with Woodbury, and on 36 occasions, affixed the photocopied customer signatures onto the signature

pages of various forms required to be completed in connection with the purchase, liquidation or exchange of variable annuities, in violation of FINRA Rule 2010.

FACTS AND VIOLATIVE CONDUCT

1. On or about January 30, 2010 and February 6, 2010, Springer submitted to Woodbury a New Account form, Point of Sale forms, Qualified Transfer Requests forms, and Variable Annuity Application forms to effectuate the purchase or exchange of variable annuities from various accounts owned by customer VS. None of the documents were actually signed by VS. Springer instead photocopied the customer's signature and affixed the photocopied signature onto the documents before submitting them to Woodbury.
2. On or about February 6, 2010, Springer submitted to Woodbury two Request for Transfer or Exchange of Asset forms to effectuate the liquidation of variable annuities from various accounts owned by customer DS. None of the documents were actually signed by DS. Springer instead photocopied the customer's signature and affixed the photocopied signature onto the documents prior to submitting them to Woodbury.
3. On or about June 6, 2010, Springer submitted to Woodbury a Point of Sale form to effectuate the purchase or exchange of a variable annuity from an account owned by customer DS. The document was not actually signed by DS. Springer instead photocopied the customer's signature and affixed the photocopied signature onto the document before submitting it to Woodbury.
4. Between May 21, 2012 and March 5, 2014, Springer photocopied customer signatures and affixed the photocopied signature onto 28 additional documents related to the purchase of variable annuities, prior to submitting them to Woodbury.
5. By virtue of the foregoing, Respondent Springer violated FINRA Rule 2010.

B. I also consent to the imposition of the following sanctions:

1. a fine in the amount of \$5,000, and
2. a one-month suspension from association with any FINRA member firm in all capacities.

I agree to pay the monetary sanction upon notice that this AWC has been accepted and that such payment is due and payable. I have submitted an Election of Payment form showing the method by which I propose to pay the fine imposed.

I specifically and voluntarily waive any right to claim that I am unable to pay, now or at any time hereafter, the monetary sanction imposed in this matter.

I understand that if I am barred or suspended from associating with any FINRA member, I become subject to a statutory disqualification as that term is defined in Article III, Section 4 of FINRA's By-Laws, incorporating Section 3(a)(39) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Accordingly, I may not be associated with any FINRA member in any capacity, including clerical or ministerial functions, during the period of the bar or suspension (see FINRA Rules 8310 and 8311).

The sanctions imposed herein shall be effective on a date set by FINRA staff.

II.

WAIVER OF PROCEDURAL RIGHTS

I specifically and voluntarily waive the following rights granted under FINRA's Code of Procedure:

- A. To have a Complaint issued specifying the allegations against me;
- B. To be notified of the Complaint and have the opportunity to answer the allegations in writing;
- C. To defend against the allegations in a disciplinary hearing before a hearing panel, to have a written record of the hearing made and to have a written decision issued; and
- D. To appeal any such decision to the National Adjudicatory Council ("NAC") and then to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and a U.S. Court of Appeals.

Further, I specifically and voluntarily waive any right to claim bias or prejudgment of the Chief Legal Officer, the NAC, or any member of the NAC, in connection with such person's or body's participation in discussions regarding the terms and conditions of this AWC, or other consideration of this AWC, including acceptance or rejection of this AWC.

I further specifically and voluntarily waive any right to claim that a person violated the ex parte prohibitions of FINRA Rule 9143 or the separation of functions prohibitions of FINRA Rule 9144, in connection with such person's or body's participation in discussions regarding the terms and conditions of this AWC, or other consideration of this AWC, including its acceptance or rejection.

III.

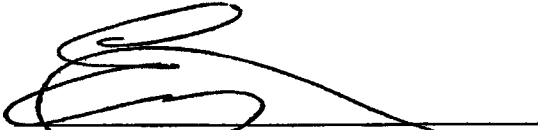
OTHER MATTERS

I understand that:

- A. Submission of this AWC is voluntary and will not resolve this matter unless and until it has been reviewed and accepted by the NAC, a Review Subcommittee of the NAC, or the Office of Disciplinary Affairs ("ODA"), pursuant to FINRA Rule 9216;**
- B. If this AWC is not accepted, its submission will not be used as evidence to prove any of the allegations against me; and**
- C. If accepted:**
 - 1. this AWC will become part of my permanent disciplinary record and may be considered in any future actions brought by FINRA or any other regulator against me;**
 - 2. this AWC will be made available through FINRA's public disclosure program in accordance with FINRA Rule 8313;**
 - 3. FINRA may make a public announcement concerning this agreement and the subject matter thereof in accordance with FINRA Rule 8313; and**
 - 4. I 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 finding in this AWC or create the impression that the AWC is without factual basis. I may not take any position in any proceeding brought by or on behalf of FINRA, or to which FINRA is a party, that is inconsistent with any part of this AWC. Nothing in this provision affects my: (i) testimonial obligations; or (ii) right to take legal or factual positions in litigation or other legal proceedings in which FINRA is not a party.**
- D. I may attach a Corrective Action Statement to this AWC that is a statement of demonstrable corrective steps taken to prevent future misconduct. I understand that I may not deny the charges or make any statement that is inconsistent with the AWC in this Statement. This Statement does not constitute factual or legal findings by FINRA, nor does it reflect the views of FINRA or its staff.**

I certify that I have read and understand all of the provisions of this AWC and have been given a full opportunity to ask questions about it; that I have agreed to its provisions voluntarily; and that no offer, threat, inducement, or promise of any kind, other than the terms set forth herein and the prospect of avoiding the issuance of a Complaint, has been made to induce me to submit it.

3/22/17
Date (mm/dd/yyyy)


Eric S. Springer, Respondent

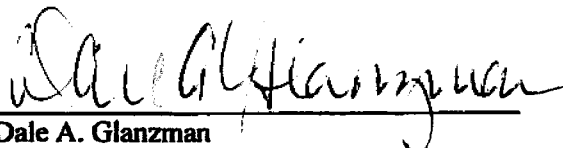
Reviewed by:


Sandra Smalley-Fleming, Esq.
Counsel for Respondent
Frederickson
200 S. Sixth Street, Suite 4000
Minneapolis, MN 55402
(612) 4927497

Accepted by FINRA:

04/05/2007
Date

Signed on behalf of the
Director of ODA, by delegated authority


Dale A. Glanzman
Senior Regional Counsel
FINRA Department of Enforcement
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Chicago, IL 60603
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Attachment: Election of Payment Form