

NASD
LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER AND CONSENT
NO. E3A2004034801

TO: Department of Enforcement
NASD

RECEIVED

AUG 10 2005

RE: Jace R. Hermanson, Respondent
CRD No. 4630946

NASD DIST # 3

Pursuant to Rule 9216 of NASD Code of Procedure, I [or Respondent] submit this Letter of Acceptance, Waiver and Consent ("AWC") for the purpose of proposing a settlement of the alleged rule violations described in Part II below. This AWC is submitted on the condition that, if accepted, NASD will not bring any future actions against me alleging violations based on the same factual findings.

I understand that:

1. Submission of this AWC is voluntary and will not resolve this matter unless and until it has been reviewed and accepted by NASD's Department of Enforcement and National Adjudicatory Council ("NAC") Review Subcommittee or Office of Disciplinary Affairs ("ODA"), pursuant to NASD Rule 9216;
2. If this AWC is not accepted, its submission will not be used as evidence to prove any of the allegations against me; and
3. If accepted:
 - a. this AWC will become part of my permanent disciplinary record and may be considered in any future actions brought by NASD or any other regulator against me;
 - b. this AWC will be made available through NASD's public disclosure program in response to public inquiries about my disciplinary record;
 - c. NASD may make a public announcement concerning this agreement and the subject matter thereof in accordance with NASD Rule 8310 and IM-8310-2; and
 - d. 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 allegation in this AWC or create the impression that the

AWC is without factual basis. Nothing in this provision affects my testimonial obligations or right to take legal or factual positions in litigation or other legal proceedings in which NASD is not a party.

I also understand that my experience in the securities industry and disciplinary history may be factors that will be considered in deciding whether to accept this AWC. That experience and history are as follows:

I entered the securities industry in January 2003 as an associated person of a member of NASD. In April 2003, I became registered as an Investment Company-Variable Contracts Products representative. My association with that member terminated in April 2005 and I am not presently associated with a member. I have not previously been the subject of disciplinary action.

I.

WAIVER OF PROCEDURAL RIGHTS

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

- A. To have a Formal Complaint issued specifying the allegations against me;
- B. To be notified of the Formal 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 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 General Counsel, 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 Rule 9143 or the separation of functions prohibitions of 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.

II.

ACCEPTANCE AND CONSENT

A. I hereby accept and consent, without admitting or denying the allegations or findings, and solely for the purposes of this proceeding and any other proceeding brought by or on behalf of NASD, or to which NASD 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 NASD:

1. On or about July 28, 2003, while registered as an Investment Company-Variable Products Representative, Respondent commenced employment with ALC, an entity that arranged and/or provided loans to members of the public. Respondent was employed as a loan originator. He remained employed in that capacity until on or about April 21, 2004. Between July 28, 2003, and December 31, 2003, Respondent accepted compensation of \$1,582.54 for his activity as a loan originator.
2. Respondent's employment as a loan originator, as described in paragraph 3 above, constituted business activity outside the scope of his relationship with his NASD member-employer. Pursuant to NASD Conduct Rule 3030, Respondent was required to provide to his employer-member prompt written notice of his employment as a loan originator and his acceptance of compensation for such activity. Respondent failed to provide his employer-member with written notice of his affiliation with ALC.
3. The failure to provide prompt written notice of outside employment and the acceptance of compensation therefor, as described above, constituted a violation of NASD Conduct Rule 3030 by Respondent Hermanson. Further, such conduct was inconsistent with high standards of commercial honor and just and equitable principles of trade and a violation of NASD Conduct Rule 2110 by Respondent Hermanson.

B. I also consent to the imposition, at a maximum, of the following sanctions:

A fine in the amount of \$6,582.54 and a suspension from association with any member of NASD in any capacity for a period of three months.

The fine shall be due and payable either immediately upon reassociation with a member firm following the three-month suspension noted above, or prior to any application or request for relief from any statutory disqualification resulting from this or any other event or proceeding, whichever is earlier.

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

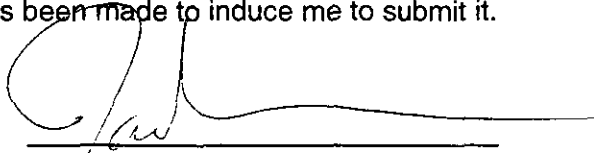
III.

OTHER MATTERS

- A. I understand that 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 NASD, nor does it reflect the views of NASD or its staff.
- B. I agree to pay any monetary sanctions imposed on me upon re-entry as noted above.
- C. I specifically and voluntarily waive any right to claim that I am unable to pay, now or at any time hereafter, any monetary sanction imposed in this matter.
- D. I understand that if I am suspended from associating with any NASD member, I become subject to a statutory disqualification as that term is defined in Section 3(a)(39) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, during the period of suspension. Accordingly, I may not be associated with any NASD member in any capacity, including clerical or ministerial functions, during the period of the suspension. (See NASD Rule 8310 and IM-8310-1.)

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, and that no offer, threat, inducement, or promise of any kind, other than the terms set forth herein, has been made to induce me to submit it.

Aug 1, 2005
Date


Jace R. Hermanson

Reviewed by:

Counsel for Respondent

Accepted by NASD:

Date


Joseph M. McCarthy, Associate Vice
President and District Director
Signed on behalf of the Director of ODA,
by delegated authority