# ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING BEFORE THE SECURITIES COMMISSIONER OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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IN THE MATTER OF: Richard Eugene Whitley, CRD No. 1029728, Respondent.

# **ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

Matter No. 15072

WHEREAS, Richard Eugene Whitley, CRD No. 1029728 (the "Respondent"), was a broker-dealer agent registered with the Securities Division of the Office of the Attorney General of South Carolina pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 35-1-402 between July of 1999 and December of 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") is a self-regulatory organization, and, between 1992 and 2014, the Respondent was associated with HD Vest Investment Securities, Inc., CRD No. 13686, a member of FINRA; and

WHEREAS, on or about August 4, 2015, FINRA, under Disciplinary Proceeding No. 2013036068201, barred the Respondent from associating with any FINRA member in any capacity; and

WHEREAS, the Securities Commissioner of the State of South Carolina (the "Securities Commissioner") has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 35-1-601(a); and

WHEREAS, S.C. Code Ann. § 35-1-412(b) authorizes the Securities Commissioner to issue an order revoking, suspending, conditioning, or limiting the registration of a registrant if

the Commissioner finds that the order is in the public interest and subsection (d) of S.C. Code Ann. § 35-1-412 authorizes the action; and

WHEREAS, S.C. Code Ann. § 35-1-412(c) authorizes the Securities Commissioner to issue an order censuring, barring, or imposing a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 for each violation, on a registrant, if the Commissioner finds that the order is in the public interest and subsection (d) of S.C. Code Ann. § 35-1-412 authorizes the action; and

WHEREAS, S.C. Code Ann. § 35-1-412(d)(5)(C) states that a person who:

is the subject of an order, issued after notice and opportunity for hearing [by] the Securities and Exchange Commission or a self-regulatory organization suspending or expelling the registrant from membership in the self-regulatory organization

is subject to discipline pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §§ 35-1-412(a), (b), and (c); and

WHEREAS, FINRA, a self-regulatory organization, barred the Respondent from associating with any FINRA member in any capacity; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate, in the public interest, for the protection of investors, and consistent with the purposes fairly intended by the policy and provisions of the South Carolina Uniform Securities Act, S.C. Code Ann. § 35-1-101, *et seq.*, to permanently bar the Respondent from the securities and investment advisory business in the State of South Carolina.

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED that the Respondent is permanently barred from the securities business in the State of South Carolina; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Respondent's failure to file a written answer, including any request for a hearing, within thirty (30) days from the date of this Order, shall be deemed a waiver by the Respondent of the right to a hearing and shall result in this Order becoming final as to the Respondent by operation of law.

**ENTERED**, this the  $18^{tb}$  day of March, 2016.

ALAN WILSON SECURITIES COMMISSIONER

By: TRACY A. MEYERS

TRACY A. MEYERS Deputy Securities Commissioner

ISSUANCE REQUESTED BY:

IAN P. WESCHLER Assistant Attorney General Securities Division Rembert C. Dennis Building 1000 Assembly Street Columbia, South Carolina 29201

### STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SECURITIES DIVISION

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AND AFFIDAVIT OF COMPLIANCE File Number 15072

I hereby certify that I served upon the individual/entity listed below a copy of the document indicated below and dated March 18, 2016, by serving a copy of said document upon the Securities Commissioner of the State of South Carolina and by placing a copy of said document in the United States mail, certified mail, return receipt requested, first class postage prepaid and addressed to:

Mr. Richard Eugene Whitley 179 Sandy Lane Mount Airy, NC 27030

Document(s): Administrative Order

Mailed March 18, 2016 from Columbia, South Carolina.

I further hereby certify, swear and affirm that, service of the above-listed entity is in compliance with Section 35-1-611, Code of Laws of South Carolina.

Thresechia P. Navarro South Carolina Attorney General's Office Securities Division Post Office Box 11549 Columbia, SC 29211-1549 (803) 734-4731

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this  $\frac{180}{180}$  day of  $\frac{180}{180}$ , 2016.

and

Notary Public for South Carolina

My commission expires: 3-10-18

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