

**FINANCIAL INDUSTRY REGULATORY AUTHORITY
LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER AND CONSENT
NO. 2007010287101**

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

RE: Harold Sheldon Minsky, Respondent
General Securities Representative
CRD No. 336507

RECEIVED

MAR 01 2010

FINRA
DISTRICT 9 NEW JERSEY

Pursuant to FINRA Rule 9216 of FINRA's Code of Procedure, I 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

On January 30, 1969, Harold Sheldon Minsky ("Minsky") first became registered with FINRA as a General Securities Representative. From November 24, 2004 through August 8, 2007, Minsky was registered in that capacity through former member firm Franklin Ross, Inc. Minsky is presently registered in that capacity through another FINRA member firm. He has no FINRA disciplinary history.

OVERVIEW

From May 2005 through January 2006, Minsky sold unregistered common stock shares in a customer's account. The shares and the transactions, however, were not exempt from registration. This conduct violated NASD Conduct Rule 2110.

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FACTS AND VIOLATIVE CONDUCT

From May 2005 through January 2006, Minsky sold, on an unsolicited basis, approximately 2.5 million shares of Sniffex, Inc. stock ("Sniffex") on behalf of customer PM, a Bulgarian citizen. The sales netted PM approximately \$6 million, which he subsequently wired to off-shore accounts.

The stock that PM sold through Minsky were unregistered and obtained pursuant to a Sniffex offering of approximately 15 million shares made in April 2005. This offering, ostensibly made pursuant to the exemption from registration provided by Rule 504 of the Securities Act of 1933, was actually a sham, designed to evade registration requirements and provide unrestricted shares to PM and three other non-registered individuals. Moreover, at the time of the sales, Minsky failed to conduct a reasonable inquiry or due diligence to determine, among other things, if the Sniffex shares that PM was selling were in fact exempt from registration.

By selling the unregistered Sniffex shares, Minsky contravened Section 5 of the Securities Act of 1933 and therefore violated NASD Conduct Rule 2110.

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

- a 30 calendar day suspension from association with any FINRA member firm in any capacity; and
- a fine in the amount of \$10,000.

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 Section 3(a)(39) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

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 prejudice 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 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;
- 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 response to public inquiries about my disciplinary record;
 - 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 right to take legal or factual positions in litigation or other legal proceedings in which FINRA is not a party; and
- 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.

2/19/2010
Date


Harold Sheldon Minsky
Respondent

Accepted by FINRA:

3/16/2010
Date

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



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