

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
AT RICHMOND, JULY 26, 2024

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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, *ex rel.*

2024 JUL 26 P 3: 30

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

v.

CASE NO. SEC-2024-00020

FERRIS S.J. AHN,
Defendant

SETTLEMENT ORDER

The State Corporation Commission's ("Commission") Division of Securities and Retail Franchising ("Division") conducted an investigation of Ferris S.J. Ahn ("Ahn" or "Defendant") pursuant to § 13.1-518 of the Virginia Securities Act ("Act"), § 13.1-501 *et seq.* of the Code of Virginia ("Code").

Based on its investigation, the Division alleges that between June 2022 and January 2023, the Defendant violated 21 VAC 5-20-280 B (6) of the Commission's rules governing Broker-Dealers, Broker-Dealer Agents and Agents of the Issuer, 21 VAC 5-20-10 *et seq.* ("Rules"), by executing transactions on behalf of a customer without the authority to do so. The investigation revealed that Ahn placed 39 unauthorized trades in two brokerage accounts for a Wells Fargo brokerage client without having the required prior approval of the client.

If any provisions of the Act or Rules are violated, the Commission is authorized by § 13.1-519 of the Act to issue temporary or permanent injunctions; by § 13.1-521 A of the Act to impose a civil penalty; by § 13.1-521 C of the Act to order a defendant to make rescission and restitution; and by § 12.1-15 of the Code to settle matters within its jurisdiction.

The Defendant neither admits nor denies the allegations made herein but admits to the Commission's jurisdiction and authority to enter this Settlement Order ("Order").

As a proposal to settle all matters arising from these allegations, the Defendant has made an offer of settlement to the Division wherein the Defendant will abide by and comply with the following terms:

(1) The Defendant will pay to the Treasurer of Virginia the total amount of Thirty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$32,000) in monetary penalty. The amount of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) shall be paid contemporaneously with the entry of this Order. The Defendant shall pay the remainder of the penalty by making twelve (12) monthly installments of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000), with the first installment due within 30 days of the entry of this Order. The subsequent installments will be due on or before the 1st day of each month thereafter.

(2) The Defendant will pay to the Treasurer of Virginia, contemporaneously with the entry of this Order, the amount of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000) to defray the costs of investigation in this matter; and

(3) The Defendant will not violate the Act in the future.

The Division supports the Defendant's settlement offer and has recommended that the Commission accept the settlement.

NOW THE COMMISSION, having considered this matter, is of the opinion and finds that the settlement should be accepted.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- (1) The settlement is accepted.
- (2) The Defendant shall fully comply with the terms of the settlement stated herein.
- (3) The Commission shall retain jurisdiction in this matter for all purposes, including the institution of a show cause proceeding, or taking such other action it deems appropriate on account of the Defendant's failure to comply with the terms of the settlement.

A COPY hereof shall be sent by the Clerk of the Commission to: Ferris S.J. Ahn,
8111 Lewinsville Road, McLean, Virginia 22102; and a copy shall be delivered to the
Commission's Office of General Counsel and the Division of Securities and Retail Franchising.

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FERRIS S.J. AHN,
Defendant

ADMISSION AND CONSENT

Ferris S.J. Ahn ("Defendant") admits to the jurisdiction of the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") as to the party and subject matter hereof. The Defendant, while neither admitting nor denying the allegation made herein by the Division of Securities and Retail Franchising, hereby consents to the form, substance and entry of the foregoing Settlement Order ("Order").

The Defendant further states that no offer, tender, threat or promise of any kind whatsoever has been made by the Commission or any member, subordinate, employee, agent or representative thereof in consideration of the foregoing Order.

Ferris S.J. Ahn

Date: 7/3/2024

