STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SECURITIES DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING whether there has been a violation of the Securities Act of Washington by:) Order No.: S-12-1127-13-CO01)
Dustin Lee Settle,)) CONSENT ORDER
Respondent.)

INTRODUCTION

On February 1, 2013, the Securities Administrator of the State of Washington issued a Statement of Charges and Notice of Intent to Enter Order to Cease and Desist, Deny Future Registrations, Impose Fines, and Charge Costs, S-12-1127-13-SC01, against Dustin Lee Settle. The Securities Division and Respondent Dustin Lee Settle do hereby enter into this CONSENT ORDER in settlement of the matters alleged in that Statement of Charges. Respondent, Dustin Lee Settle, neither admits nor denies the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as stated below.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Respondent

1. Dustin Lee Settle (Settle) is an individual residing in Gig Harbor, Washington. Settle is not currently registered with the Washington State Securities Division in any capacity. He was previously registered with the Washington State Securities Division as a securities salesperson for LPL Financial, LLC (LPL), a Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) member firm, from September 21, 2007 to April 13, 2011. Prior to that, he was registered as a securities salesperson for Northwestern Mutual Investment Services, LLC from March 24, 1997 to July 12, 2007. Settle has a Central Registration Depository (CRD) number of 2873230.

Nature of the Conduct

2. On September 17, 2008, Settle became the subject of a federal tax lien in the amount of \$76,388.98. Between September 25, 2009 and February 28, 2010, Settle entered into at least five financial compromises with creditors in order to avoid personal bankruptcy. On June 3, 2010, Settle became the subject of a federal tax lien in the amount of \$56,140. On December 6, 2010, Settle was arrested and charged with assault in the first degree and assault in the third consent order.

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Securities Division PO Box 9033 Olympia WA 98507-9033 360-902-8760

degree for allegedly running his wife over with his car. On February 18, 2011, Settle pled guilty to the lesser charge of felony harassment. On April 11, 2011, Settle informed his employer, LPL, that he pled guilty to a felony. Upon learning of Settle's felony conviction, LPL discharged Settle.

- 3. A Form U4, the Uniform Application for Securities Industry Registration or Transfer form, must be completed in order to register as a securities salesperson. The Form U4 contains history and background information of registered representatives, including, but not limited to, criminal history, financial compromises, and liens. Any person registered as a broker-dealer with the Washington State Securities Division (the Division) has a duty to keep current his/her Form U4 with the Division. If anything changes, the registered representative must file with the Division an amended Form U4 within 30 days. This amended Form U4 requires the applicant to explain the details of each change on a separate document called a Disclosure Reporting Page (DRP). Settle failed to file an amended Form U4 within 30 days of each of his financial compromises, his 2010 federal tax lien, his two felony charges, and his felony conviction.
- 4. The Form U4 asks whether the applicant, within the past ten years, has made any financial compromises with creditors. From November 13, 2009 through September 27, 2010, Settle filed five separate Form U4 disclosure amendments with the Division on which he falsely answered "no" to that question each time.
- 5. The Form U4 asks whether the applicant has any unsatisfied liens against him/her. From July 9, 2010 through March 12, 2011, Settle filed three separate Form U4 disclosure amendments with the Division. Although Settle answered "yes" to this question, he only disclosed on a DRP that, on September 17, 2008, he became subject to a federal tax lien. Settle did not disclose on a separate DRP that, on June 3, 2010, he became subject to another federal tax lien.
- 6. The Form U4 asks whether the applicant has ever been (a) charged with a felony or (b) convicted of a felony. On March 12, 2011, Settle filed a Form U4 disclosure amendment with the Division on which he falsely answered "no" to both of these questions.

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FINRA Action

- 7. From September 24, 2007 to April 13, 2011, Settle was registered with LPL, a FINRA member firm. Because Settle was associated with a FINRA member firm, he was required to comply with FINRA rules.
- 8. On or about August 22, 2012, Settle submitted to FINRA a Letter of Acceptance, Waiver, and Consent (AWC). FINRA accepted Settle's AWC on September 24, 2012. In Settle's AWC he consented, without admitting or denying the findings, to the entry of FINRA's findings that he willfully violated FINRA Rules 1122 and 2010, and Article V, Section 2 of the FINRA By-Laws when he failed to amend his Form U4, within 30 days, with each of his financial compromises, his federal tax lien, his two felony charges, and, within 10 days, his felony conviction. Further, Settle consented to the imposition of an eighteen month suspension from associating with any FINRA member firm.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based upon the above Findings of Fact, the following Conclusions of Law are made:

I.

Dustin Lee Settle violated RCW 21.20.350 by filing six Form U4 disclosure amendments with the Division that falsely answered and/or failed to disclose his financial compromises, federal tax lien, felony charges, and/or felony conviction. These six Form U4 amendments were false or misleading in a material respect. Such conduct is grounds for suspension of his salesperson registration and grounds for imposition of a fine pursuant to RCW 21.20.110(1)(a) and RCW 21.20.110(1)(b).

II.

Dustin Lee Settle violated WAC 460-22B-060 by failing to file a Form U4 disclosure amendment with the Division to report his financial compromises, federal tax lien, felony charges, and felony conviction within 30 days of the occurrence of the event. Such conduct is grounds for suspension of his salesperson registration and grounds for imposition of a fine pursuant to RCW 21.20.110(1)(a) and RCW 21.20.110(1)(b).

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III.

Dustin Lee Settle was convicted of felony harassment. This felony involved moral turpitude and is grounds for suspension of his salesperson registration and grounds for imposition of a fine pursuant to RCW 21.20.110(1)(c).

IV.

Dustin Lee Settle violated FINRA rule 1122, FINRA Rule 2010, and Article V, Section 2 of the FINRA By-Laws by failing to disclose to his employer or FINRA, within 30 days, that he entered into at least five financial compromises with creditors, that he was subject to a federal tax lien, that he was charged with two felonies, and, within 10 days, that he was convicted of a felony. Such conduct is a dishonest or unethical practice as defined by WAC 460-22B-090(19), and is grounds for suspension of his salesperson registration and grounds for imposition of a fine pursuant to RCW 21.20.110(1)(g).

V.

Dustin Lee Settle's eighteen month suspension by FINRA, a self-regulatory organization, from associating with any FINRA member firm is grounds for suspension of his salesperson registration and grounds for imposition of a fine pursuant to RCW 21.20.110(e)(iii).

CONSENT ORDER

Based upon the foregoing and finding it in the public interest:

IT IS AGREED AND ORDERED that Respondent Dustin Lee Settle shall cease and desist from violating RCW 21.20.350, the false filing section of the Securities Act of Washington.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED AND ORDERED that Respondent Dustin Lee Settle's securities salesperson license shall be, and hereby is, suspended for eighteen months beginning retroactively on October 1, 2012 and ending on March 31, 2014.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED AND ORDERED that, pursuant to RCW 21.20.110, Respondent Dustin Lee Settle shall be liable for and pay a fine in the amount of \$10,000.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED AND ORDERED that Respondent Dustin Lee Settle shall pay investigative costs of \$2500.

CONSENT ORDER

IT IS FURTHER AGREED AND ORDERED that the payment of the fine and costs described above shall be made as follows: Respondent Dustin Lee Settle shall pay \$500.00 towards the investigative costs on or before the entry of this Consent Order. Respondent Dustin Lee Settle shall then pay the remaining investigative costs and fines in monthly payments for the following twenty-four consecutive months, with each monthly payment in the amount of \$500.00. The first \$2,000 in payments will pay the investigative costs balance and the remaining \$10,000 in payments will pay the fine. Each payment shall be due on the first day of the month, unless the first day of the month falls on a weekend or holiday, in which case payment shall be due on the first business day following the first day of the month.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that the Securities Division has jurisdiction to enter this Consent Order.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that Respondent Dustin Lee Settle entered into this Consent Order freely and voluntarily and with a full understanding of its terms and significance.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that in consideration of the foregoing, Respondent Dustin Lee Settle waives his right to a hearing and to judicial review of this matter pursuant to RCW 21.20.440 and Chapter 34.05 RCW.

WILLFUL VIOLATION OF THIS ORDER IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

Signed this 23rd day of October, 2013.

Signed by:

____/s/ Dustin Settle____ Dustin Lee Settle, Individually

CONSENT ORDER

SIGNED and ENTERED this 30th day of October, 2013. 1 2 3 4 5 Approved by: 6 7 An Elm Suzanne Sarason Chief of Enforcement 10 11 Jack McClellan Financial Legal Examiner Supervisor 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23

William Beats

William M. Beatty Securities Administrator

Presented by:

Fin | June

Brian J. Guerard Financial Legal Examiner

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