

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Release No. 69667 / May 30, 2013

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING
File No. 3-15343

In the Matter of

JOHN ALEXANDER GRANT,

Respondent.

**ORDER INSTITUTING
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS
PURSUANT TO RULE 102(e) OF THE
COMMISSION'S RULES OF PRACTICE,
MAKING FINDINGS, AND IMPOSING
REMEDIAL SANCTIONS**

I.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) deems it appropriate and in the public interest that public administrative proceedings be, and hereby are, instituted against John A. Grant (“Respondent”) pursuant to Rule 102(e)(3)(i)(A) of the Commission’s Rules of Practice.¹

II.

In anticipation of the institution of these proceedings, Respondent has submitted an Offer of Settlement (the “Offer”) which the Commission has determined to accept. Solely for the purpose of these proceedings and any other proceedings brought by or on behalf of the Commission, or to which the Commission is a party, and without admitting or denying the findings herein, except as to the Commission’s jurisdiction over him and the subject matter of these proceedings and the findings contained in Section III.2 below, which are admitted, Respondent consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Rule 102(e) of the Commission’s Rules of Practice, Making Findings, and Imposing Remedial Sanctions (“Order”), as set forth below.

¹ Rule 102(e)(3)(i)(A) provides, in relevant part, that:

The Commission, with due regard to the public interest and without preliminary hearing, may, by order, . . . suspend from appearing or practicing before it any attorney . . . who has been by name . . . permanently enjoined by any court of competent jurisdiction, by reason of his or her misconduct in an action brought by the Commission, from violating or aiding and abetting the violation of any provision of the Federal securities laws or of the rules and regulations thereunder.

III.

On the basis of this Order and Respondent's Offer, the Commission finds that:

1. John A. ("Jack") Grant, age 70, is a resident of Yarmouth Port, Massachusetts. He is and has been an attorney licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

2. On May 20, 2013, a final judgment was entered by consent against Jack Grant, permanently enjoining him from future violations of Sections 206(1) and 206(2) of the Advisers Act, in the civil action entitled Securities and Exchange Commission v. John A. Grant, et al., Civil Action Number 1:11-CV-11583, in the United States District Court for Massachusetts. Jack Grant was also ordered to pay \$50,000 in disgorgement plus prejudgment interest of \$1,392.27, and a \$150,000 civil penalty.

3. The Commission's complaint, filed on September 1, 2011, alleged that in 1988, the Commission obtained a permanent injunction against Jack Grant based on his sale of unregistered securities and misappropriation of investor funds. The Commission then issued an order barring Jack Grant from associating with a broker-dealer, investment adviser, investment company, or municipal securities dealer. It further alleged that since at least the mid-1990s, Jack Grant violated the Commission's bar order by providing investment advice for compensation, including advising clients to place their assets with First Wilshire Securities Management, Inc., and advising them to place their investment using his son Lee Grant, who worked first at First Wilshire itself, then at Wedbush Morgan Securities, and, since 2005, as the founder and sole owner of Sage Advisory Group LLC ("Sage"). Jack Grant is alleged to have continued to provide investment advice for compensation through 2011, advising individuals and small businesses on the management of their assets and investments, and associating with Sage, his son's investment advisory firm. The complaint alleges that Jack Grant, Lee Grant, and Sage did not disclose to Sage's advisory clients that Jack Grant is barred from associating with an investment adviser. In addition, Lee Grant and Sage are alleged not to have disclosed Jack Grant's disciplinary history in Sage's application for investment adviser registration on Form ADV.

IV.

In view of the foregoing, the Commission deems it appropriate and in the public interest to impose the sanction agreed to in Respondent's Offer.

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED, effective immediately, that John A. Grant is suspended from appearing or practicing before the Commission as an attorney.

By the Commission.

Elizabeth M. Murphy
Secretary