

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS RULINGS

Release No. 4382/November 22, 2016

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING

File No. 3-17650

In the Matter of

JOE LAWLER : POSTPONEMENT AND
: PROTECTIVE ORDER

The Securities and Exchange Commission instituted this proceeding with an Order Instituting Proceedings (OIP) on October 28, 2016, pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and the hearing was scheduled to commence on November 28, 2016. The proceeding is a follow-on proceeding based on *SEC v. Projaris Management, LLC*, No. 13-cv-849 (D.N.M. May 17, 2016), in which Respondent Joe Lawler was enjoined against violations of the registration and antifraud provisions of the securities laws. Lawler was served with the OIP in accordance with 17 C.F.R. § 201.141(a)(2)(i) on November 3, 2016.

The Division of Enforcement, with the consent of Lawler, has requested that the hearing be postponed and a prehearing conference scheduled. Since Lawler is currently incarcerated at FCI Herlong,¹ the Division is directed to contact that facility to determine his availability for a telephonic prehearing conference and to report on its efforts by December 12, 2016. The hearing will be postponed *sine die*, and the date for Lawler's Answer to the OIP will be postponed and set at the prehearing conference.

The Division has requested a protective order concerning its investigative file, to be made available to Lawler pursuant to 17 C.F.R. § 201.230, stating that it contains confidential account information, personally identifiable information, and the like. In general, disclosure of such information is presumed harmful and is specifically limited in various statutes, for example, Exemption 4 of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4), and the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552a. Accordingly, Lawler should keep the investigative file confidential within his ability to do so at FCI Herlong and not disclose the contents to any person except counsel. The Division may wish to confer with the facility concerning its procedures for inmates' reviewing legal materials.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

/S/ Carol Fox Foelak
Carol Fox Foelak
Administrative Law Judge

¹ See *United States v. Lawler*, No. 14-cr-2781 (D.N.M. Nov. 16, 2015) (conviction for wire fraud).