

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  
**Before the**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT OF 1940**  
**Release No. 6152 / September 27, 2022**

**ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING**  
**File No. 3-21163**

**In the Matter of**

**Donald J. Kellen,**

**Respondent.**

**ORDER INSTITUTING**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS**  
**PURSUANT TO SECTION 203(f) OF THE**  
**INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT OF 1940,**  
**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 pursuant to Section 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (“Advisers Act”) against Donald J. Kellen (“Respondent”).

**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 paragraph III.2 below, which are admitted, Respondent consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Section 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, Making Findings, and Imposing Remedial Sanctions (“Order”), as set forth below.

### III.

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

1. From September 2011 through September 2015, Kellen served as an investment adviser representative associated with Laurel Wealth Advisors, Inc. ("LWA"), an SEC-registered investment adviser since May 2011. Kellen, 78 years old, is a resident of Palos Verdes Estates, California.

2. On September 16, 2022, a final judgment was entered by consent against Kellen, permanently enjoining him from future violations of Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, in the civil action entitled Securities and Exchange Commission v. Donald J. Kellen, Civil Action Number 2:20-cv-03861, in the United States District Court for the Central District of California.

3. The Commission's complaint alleged that, in connection with the offer, purchase, or sale of securities, Kellen engaged in a scheme to defraud clients, and engaged in acts, practices or courses of business that operated as a fraud upon clients, by placing trades for himself and his clients in an omnibus account from which shares or proceeds of trades could be, and were, allocated to specific accounts after the trades were made, and cherry-picking profitable trades for his own accounts and allocating unprofitable trades to his clients' accounts.

### IV.

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

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED pursuant to Section 203(f) of the Advisers Act that Respondent Kellen be, and hereby is barred from association with any investment adviser, broker, dealer, municipal securities dealer, municipal advisor, transfer agent, or nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

Any reapplication for association by the Respondent will be subject to the applicable laws and regulations governing the reentry process, and reentry may be conditioned upon a number of factors, including, but not limited to, compliance with the Commission's Order and payment of any or all of the following: (a) any disgorgement or civil penalties ordered by a Court against the Respondent in any action brought by the Commission; (b) any disgorgement amounts ordered against the Respondent for which the Commission waived payment; (c) any arbitration award related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission Order; (d) any self-regulatory

organization arbitration award to a customer, whether or not related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission Order; and (e) any restitution order by a self-regulatory organization, whether or not related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission Order.

By the Commission.

Vanessa A. Countryman  
Secretary