ſ	RECEIVED
	JAN 21 2020
OF	FICE OF THE SECRETARY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Before the SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING File No. 3-19371

In the Matter of

Patrick L. O'Connor

Respondent.

DIVISION OF ENFORCEMENT'S MOTION FOR DEFAULT AND OTHER RELIEF

The Division of Enforcement (the "Division"), pursuant to Rules 155(a) and 220(f) of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 17 C.F.R. §§ 201.155(a) and 201.220(f), moves for entry of an Order finding Respondent Patrick L. O'Connor, ("O'Connor") in default and determining this proceeding against him upon consideration of the record. The Division sets forth the grounds below.

I. <u>History of the Case</u>

This matter arises out of Patrick O'Connor's conviction for one count of wire fraud and one count of money laundering in connection with the misappropriation of over \$9.6 million of investor funds in <u>United States v. Patrick O'Connor</u>, No. 19-cr-00044 (W.D. Wis.). During the time of his misconduct, O'Connor was acting as an unregistered investment adviser. Between October 2011 and June 2018, O'Connor, a licensed real estate agent and real estate developer in Waunakee, Wisconsin, made fraudulent misrepresentations and material omissions in soliciting investors to invest over \$12 million with Madison Financial Services, LLC ("MFS"). According to the criminal information, O'Connor misappropriated most of the funds raised from investors by using the money for expenses tied to his real estate development business, and to pay for various personal expenses. While he used some of the funds for trading, he either lost or withdrew most of the funds, and the trading rarely yielded any profit. In order to fool investors into believing that his investment transactions were legitimate, O'Connor operated a Ponzi scheme by making payments to some investors with the money provided to him from other investors. In addition, O'Connor created and disseminated account statements with fake year-to-date profits and sham portfolio balances.¹

On April 4, 2019, O'Connor pleaded guilty in federal district court to one count of wire fraud and one count of money laundering. On July 30, 2019, O'Connor was sentenced to seven years' incarceration and ordered to pay \$9,180.748 in restitution.

The Commission issued the Order Instituting Proceedings ("OIP") on July 11, 2019 pursuant to Section 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 ("Advisers Act"). In summary, the OIP alleges that O'Connor, transacted business as an investment adviser without having registered as an adviser and made fraudulent misrepresentations and material omissions in soliciting investors.

On August 26, 2019, the Office of the Secretary ("OS") served O'Connor at the Federal Correctional Institution ("FCI") in Oxford, Wisconsin where he is currently incarcerated.² Under Rule 220(b) of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 17 C.F.R. § 201.220(b), O'Connor

¹ See Exhibit 1 (Information, U.S. v. O'Connor, Case No. No. 19-cr-00044 (W.D. Wis.)).

² The Office of the Secretary ("OS") served O'Connor via certified mail, return receipt. Both O'Connor and his counsel were served on August 26, 2019. *See* Exhibit 2 (Email from OS to the Division confirming service and attaching tracking sheets). To date, OS has not received the signed green card receipts. On September 5, 2019, the Division did receive a letter from Respondent's counsel stating that Respondent was willing to enter into a "consent or default type order whereby he would be barred from transacting business in the future for other persons as an investment adviser." *See* Exhibit 3.

was required to file an Answer to the OIP's allegations within 20 days after the service of the OIP.³ To date, O'Connor has not filed a response.⁴

II. Memorandum of Law

A. <u>O'Connor's Criminal Case</u>

On April 4, 2019, O'Connor pleaded guilty to one count related of wire fraud and one count of money laundering in a criminal action titled <u>United States v. Patrick O'Connor</u>.⁵ On July 30, 2019, he was sentenced to seven years' incarceration and ordered to pay \$9,180,748 in restitution.⁶

B. Facts

Based on O'Connor's default, the allegations of the OIP "may be deemed to be true." 17 C.F.R. § 201.155(a). Moreover, O'Connor's guilty plea binds him to the facts he admitted. *See Gary L. McDuff*, Exch. Act Rel. No. 74803, at 5 & n.18, 2015 WL 1873119 (Apr. 23, 2015); *Don Warner Reinhard*, Exch. Act Rel. No. 63720, at 11-12, 2011 WL 121451 (Jan. 14, 2011) (respondent who pleaded guilty "cannot now dispute the accuracy of the findings set out in the Factual basis for Plea Agreement); *Gary M. Kornman*, Exch. Act Rel. No. 59403, at 12, 2009 WL 367635 (Feb. 13, 2009) (criminal conviction based on guilty plea precludes litigation of issues in Commission proceedings), *aff'd*, 592 F.3d 173 (D.C. Cir. 2010).

The OIP as well as O'Connor's guilty plea establish the following:

³ OIP ¶ IV.

⁴ However as previously noted stated in a September 5th letter to the Division that Respondent was willing to enter into a "consent or default type order whereby he would be barred from transacting business in the future for other persons as an investment adviser." *See* Exhibit 3.

⁵ Exhibit 4 (Minute Entry, Plea of Guilty).

⁶ Exhibit 5 (Judgment and Commitment).

Between October 2011 and June 2018, O'Connor, a licensed real estate agent and real estate developer in Waunakee, Wisconsin, made fraudulent misrepresentations and material omissions in soliciting individual investors to invest over \$12 million with MFS which is not registered with the Commission in any capacity. The counts on which O'Connor pled guilty to were wire fraud and money laundering⁷

C. <u>Entry of Default is Appropriate</u>

Under Rule 155(a) of the Commission's Rules of Practice, a party who fails to file a timely answer "may be deemed to be in default and the Commission 'may determine the proceeding against that party upon consideration of the record, including the order instituting proceedings, the allegations of which may be deemed to be true' " 17 C.F.R. § 201.155(a). Here, O'Connor has not filed an answer. Accordingly, the proceeding should be determined against him based on the record.

The facts established by O'Connor's default and his guilty plea show that the Division is entitled to the relief it seeks under Advisers Act Section 203(f), which provides in relevant part:

The Commission, by order, shall censure or place limitations on the activities of any person associated, seeking to become associated, or, at the time of the alleged misconduct, associated or seeking to become associated with an investment adviser, or suspend for a period not exceeding 12 months or bar any such person from being associated with an investment adviser, broker, dealer, municipal securities dealer, municipal advisor, transfer agent, or nationally recognized statistical rating organization, if the Commission finds, on the record after notice and opportunity for hearing, that such censure, placing of limitations, suspension, or bar is in the public interest and that such person —

* * * *

(ii) has been convicted of any offense specified in [Advisers Act Section 203(e)(2)] within 10 years of the commencement of the proceedings under this paragraph

⁷ OIP ¶ II.B.1.

Here, O'Connor acted as an unregistered investment adviser. Section 202(a)(11) of the Advisers Act defines an investment adviser as any person who:

for compensation, engages in the business of advising others, either directly or through publications or writings, as to the value of securities or as to the advisability of investing in, purchasing, or selling securities, or who, for compensation and as part of a regular business, issues or promulgates analyses concerning securities...

Persons who manage the funds of others for compensation are investment advisers within the meaning of § 202(a)(11). <u>Abrahamson v. Fleschner</u>, 568 F.2d 862, 870 (2d Cir. 1977). Any "economic benefit" received by the investment adviser satisfies the "for compensation" element of Section 202(a)(11). <u>United States v. Elliott</u>, 62 F.3d 1304, 1311 (11th Cir. 1995).

In this case, O'Connor acted as an investment adviser within the meaning of Section 202(a)(11).⁸ O'Connor purported to advise his clients by deciding on the investments and strategy to be used by an investment fund called MFS Alpha Growth Fund ("MFS Alpha").⁹ The terms of the documentation provided that the funds invested in MFS Alpha would "be used to participate in capital growth investment strategies managed and directed by Patrick L. O'Connor." ¹⁰ As part of his solicitations, O'Connor represented that MFS Alpha would use their money for trading in an online TradeStation account. Also, O'Connor was to receive compensation for his services by charging annual fees for the managing the fund equal to 10% of the annual investment profit.¹¹ Consequently, each of the requirements of the provisions—timely issuance of the OIP, conviction under a qualifying statute, and misconduct committed while acting as an investment adviser are satisfied here.

¹¹ OIP ¶ II.B.3

⁸ OIP ¶ II.B.4.

⁹ OIP ¶ II.B.3.

¹⁰ See Exhibit 6 (MFS Alpha Growth Fund Agreement).

a. The Division Timely Filed this Action

The Division must commence a proceeding under Section 203(f) within "10 years" of the criminal conviction. *See Joseph Contorinis*, Advs. Act Rel. No. 3824, at 4-6, 2014 WL 1665995 (Apr. 25, 2014) (10-year limitations period governs Section 203(f) proceeding; limitations period runs from date of conviction, not underlying conduct). Here, O'Connor was convicted in July of 2019, and the OIP was issued on August 22, 2019. Therefore, this matter was timely filed.

b. O'Connor Was Convicted of a Qualifying Offense

Under the Advisers Act, the Commission may sanction O'Connor for an offense that "involves. . . embezzlement, fraudulent conversion, or misappropriation of funds." *See* Advisers Act Section 203(e)(2)(c). Here, O'Connor's conviction was for wire fraud and money laundering. Furthermore, his plea of guilty with respect to wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343 is also a specifically enumerated offense under Advisers Act Section 203(e)(2)(D). Therefore this condition is satisfied.

c.

O'Connor meets the requirements of having acted as an unregistered investment adviser within the meaning of Section 202(a)(11) by deciding on how to employ MFS Alpha' investments and strategy, and by receiving compensation for his services through annual fees for the managing the fund equal to 10% of the annual investment profit. According to the criminal information, O'Connor started soliciting individual investors to invest in MFS beginning in 2011 representing that MFS would invest their money on their behalf into an online TradeStation

O'Connor Acted as an Adviser at the Time of his Misconduct

account.¹² Moreover, deemed admitted is the OIP's allegation that O'Connor made fraudulent misrepresentations and material omissions between October 2011 and June 2018.¹³

d. An Industry Bar Is an Appropriate Sanction

In determining whether an industry bar is in the public interest, the Commission

considers, among other things:

the egregiousness of the respondent's actions, the isolated or recurrent nature of the infraction, the degree of scienter involved, the sincerity of the respondent's assurances against future violations, the respondent's recognition of the wrongful nature of his or her conduct, and the likelihood that the respondent's occupation will present opportunities for future violations.

Vladimir Boris Bugarski, Exch. Act Rel. No. 66842, at 5 & n.18, 2012 WL 1377357 (Apr. 20, 2012) (citing Steadman v. SEC, 603 F.2d 1126, 1140 (5th Cir. 1979), aff'd on other grounds, 450 U.S. 91 (1981)). "Absent extraordinary mitigating circumstances, an individual who has been convicted cannot be permitted to remain in the securities industry." Frederick W. Wall, Exch. Act Rel. No. 52467, at 8, 2005 WL 2291407 (Sept. 19, 2005) (quotation omitted); accord Shreyans Desai, Advs. Act Rel. No. 4656, at 6, 2017 WL 782152 (Mar. 1, 2017).

Here, these factors weigh in favor of an industry bar. First, O'Connor's actions were egregious. His conviction establishes a knowing conversion of a significant amount of funds for his own use. The second factor weighs in favor of O'Connor, since he pled only to a single episode of wire fraud and a single episode of money laundering. As to the third factor, the level of scienter is high, giving rise to a criminal conviction.

With respect to the fourth and fifth factors, notwithstanding his guilty pleas, O'Connor has not participated in this matter thus providing no assurances that he will avoid *future* violations of the law. Although "[c]ourts have held that the existence of a past violation, without

¹² See Exh.1 (Information).

¹³ OIP ¶ II.B.

more, is not a sufficient basis for imposing a bar. . . the existence of a violation raises an inference that it will be repeated." *Tzemach David Netzer Korem*, Exch. Act Rel. No. 70044, at 10 n.50, 2013 WL 3864511 (July 26, 2013) (quotation and alternations omitted). O'Connor has offered no evidence to rebut that inference. Sixth, although O'Connor is currently in custody, he will eventually be released, and unless barred from the securities industry he will have the chance to harm investors.

In addition, a bar is appropriate in this matter given counsel's statement to the Division that O'Connor was willing to enter into a "consent or default type order whereby he would be barred from transacting business in the future for other persons as an investment adviser." *See* Exhibit 3.

III. Conclusion

For the reasons discussed above, the Division asks the Commission to sanction O'Connor by barring him from association with any investment adviser, broker, dealer, municipal securities dealer, municipal advisor, transfer agent or NRSRO.

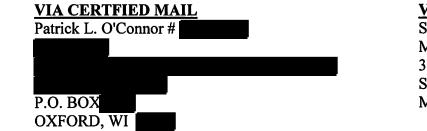
January 17, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Charles J. Kerstetter Charles J. Kerstetter Assistant Regional Director Division of Enforcement Securities and Exchange Commission Chicago Regional Office 175 W. Jackson Blvd., Suite 1450 Chicago, IL 60604 (312) 353-7435 (312) 353-7398 (Facsimile) kerstetterc@sec.gov Counsel for the Division of Enforcement

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that an original and three copies of the foregoing were filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of the Secretary, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549-9303, and that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served on this 17th day of January 2020, on the following persons entitled to notice:



VIA UPS Stephen L. Morgan Murphy Desmond S.C. 33 East Main Street Suite 500 Madison, WI 53703-3095

/s/ Charles J. Kerstetter Charles J. Kerstetter, Assistant Regional Director

			DOC NO	ED
IN THE UNITED ST. FOR THE WESTERN I	ATES DISTRICT COU DISTRICT OF WISCON	JSIN	HAR 27 AM	, .
			<u>UK HS MST</u> VD GF 90	<u> </u>
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	INFC	ORMATIO		
v.	Case No 19	CR	44	WMC
PATRICK O'CONNOR,	18 U.	S.C. § 1343 S.C. § 1956 S.C. § 981(a	(a)(1)(B)(i)	

18 U.S.C. § 982

Defendant.

THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY CHARGES:

COUNT 1

Background

1. At times material to this information:

a. Defendant PATRICK O'CONNOR was a licensed real estate

agent and a real estate developer in Waunakee, Wisconsin.

b. On October 1, 2015, O'CONNOR opened a business checking account (account number XX9201) at Associated Bank in the name of "Madison Financial Services LLC." O'CONNOR and his wife were the only authorized signers on the account.

c. Associated Bank used the Federal Reserve Bank to process all domestic wire transfers. There was not a Federal Reserve Bank in Wisconsin.

d. Madison Financial Services LLC was not registered with the
 Financial Industry Regulation Authority, Inc. (FINRA), or the Securities and
 Exchange Commission (SEC).

Scheme to Defraud

2. During the period beginning in or about October of 2011, and continuing to in or about June of 2018, in the Western District of Wisconsin and elsewhere, the defendant,

PATRICK O'CONNOR,

knowingly, and with the intent to defraud, devised and participated in a scheme to defraud investors, and to obtain money by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, omissions, and promises.

3. It was part of the scheme to defraud that O'CONNOR, beginning in 2011, started soliciting individuals to invest in "Madison Financial Services LLC." As part of his solicitations, O'CONNOR made various material misrepresentations to investors regarding Madison Financial Services. For example, O'CONNOR represented that Madison Financial Services would invest all of the funds on the investors' behalf into a TradeStation online brokerage account. O'CONNOR represented that he would use the TradeStation account to actively trade purchased securities and he projected an average annual return on the investment of 2% a month, or 24% annually. In fact, O'CONNOR used a large portion of the funds provided to him for investment in Madison Financial Services for his own personal

expenses, expenses related to his real estate development business, or to repay other investors. In addition, of the funds that O'CONNOR deposited into his TradeStation accounts and actively traded, he either lost or withdrew the vast majority of the funds and rarely generated any profit.

4. It was further part of the scheme to defraud that O'CONNOR used investment funds for Madison Financial Services to pay expenses related to his real estate development business and his personal lifestyle, including but not limited to:

- a. residence at , Waunakee, WI;
- b. real property located at Poynette, WI;
- c. real property described as "Grand Legacy at Lake Wisconsin," Poynette, WI;
- d. 2015 Bennington Boat model: 2550GBR with a VIN: ETWA6617I415;
- e. 2011 Caterpillar bulldozer model-D4KLGP, Serial No. RRR00424.

5. It was further part of the scheme to defraud that O'CONNOR provided investors with purported account statements from their investments with Madison Financial Services. The account statements were fictitious and showed the investors' supposed year-to-date profits and their supposed current portfolio balance. By sending the account statements, O'CONNOR intended to lull investors into believing that he was investing their money in a legitimate investment. O'CONNOR knew that the account statements were fictitious.

6. It was further part of the scheme to defraud that O'CONNOR made
payments to some investors using funds provided to him by other investors.
O'CONNOR told these investors that the payments were income earned from stock
trading, while in fact O'CONNOR knew his stock trades routinely lost money.

7. It was further part of the scheme to defraud that O'CONNOR failed to inform his investors that he lied to them about the true nature of their investment. O'CONNOR failed to tell the investors that he misappropriated their funds to pay for his personal expenses, real estate development expenses, and to provide returns to other investors.

8. It was further part of the scheme to defraud that O'CONNOR received \$12,442,318.63 in investor funds and used the vast majority of those funds for his own purposes and did not invest the vast majority of the funds on behalf of the investors.

9. On or about November 16, 2017, in the Western District of Wisconsin and elsewhere, the defendant,

PATRICK O'CONNOR,

for the purpose of executing the scheme, knowingly caused to be transmitted, by means of wire communications in interstate commerce, certain signals and sounds, namely: a bank wire transfer of \$200,000 from the account of T.W. at T.D. Bank in New York to the O'CONNOR's business checking account (account number

at Associated Bank in the name of "Madison Financial Services LLC" in Waunakee, Wisconsin.

(In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343).

COUNT 2

1. Paragraphs 1-9 of Count 1 are incorporated here.

2. On or about January 28, 2014, in the Western District of Wisconsin and elsewhere, the defendant,

PATRICK O'CONNOR,

knowingly conducted a financial transaction affecting interstate commerce, namely, the negotiation of cashier's check number drawn on O'CONNOR's BMO Harris personal checking account ending in drawn on O'CONNOR's BMO involved the proceeds of a specified unlawful activity, that is wire fraud in violation of Title 18 United States Code, Section 1343, knowing that the transaction was designed in whole or in part to conceal and disguise the nature, ownership, control, and source of the proceeds of the specified unlawful activity, and that while conducting and attempting to conduct such financial transaction knew that the property involved in the financial transaction represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity.

(In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(a)(1)(B)(i)).

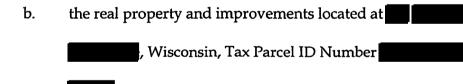
FORFEITURE ALLEGATION

1. The allegations contained in Counts 1-2 are realleged and

incorporated here for the purpose of alleging forfeitures pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Sections 981(a)(1)(C), 982 and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

2. Upon conviction of the offense in Count 1, the defendant, PATRICK O'CONNOR, shall forfeit to the United States of America, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Sections 981(a)(1)(C) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), any property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the offenses. The property to be forfeited includes, but is not limited to, the following:

Money Judgment – a sum of money equal to \$9,686,848.00 in
 United States currency, representing the amount of proceeds
 obtained as a result of wire fraud;



c. the real property and improvements located at Road, Poynette, Wisconsin, Tax Parcel ID: 11032.A1 11010;

- d. \$285,146.31 in funds previously seized from TradeStation Securities, Inc. account number
- e. \$50,000 in funds previously seized from TradeStation Securities, Inc. account number

- f. \$11,173.06 in funds previously seized from BMO Harris bank account
- g. 2015 Bennington Boat model: 2550GBR with a VIN: ETWA6617I415.
- h. 2011 Caterpillar bulldozer model-D4KLGP, Serial No. RRR00424.

3. If any of the property described above, as a result of any act or

- a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
- c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the court;
- d. has been substantially diminished in value; or
- e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty,

the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), as incorporated by Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(b)(1) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

3-27-19

omission of the defendant:

Date

lander for SCOTT C. BLADER

United States Attorney

Kerstetter, Charles J.

	From:	Baldwin, Margaret
	Sent:	Wednesday, October 2, 2019 12:26 PM
	Vasios, George; Richards, Gwendolyn (Contractor)	
	Cc:	Kerstetter, Charles J.; Stockwell, Timothy J; Adekunle, Opeyemi (Contractor)
	Subject:	RE: Re: Administrative Proceeding Matters
	Attachments:	3-19371 USPS tracking 2.pdf; 3-19371 USPS tracking.pdf; 3-19245 USPS tracking.pdf

Hello George,

I have attached the three tracking sheets (Patrick O'Connor was served twice - once to his prison address and once to his attorney. The tracking indicates they were served but we have not received the signed green card (receipt) back yet. If we receive the green cards, Ope (cc'd on this email) will scan and send them to you.

Maggie

-----Original Message-----

From: Vasios, George <VasiosG@SEC.GOV>

Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2019 4:44 PM

To: Baldwin, Margaret <baldwinm@SEC.GOV>; Richards, Gwendolyn (Contractor) <richardsgw@SEC.GOV> Cc: Kerstetter, Charles J. <KerstetterC@SEC.GOV>; Stockwell, Timothy J <stockwellt@SEC.GOV>

Subject: Re: Administrative Proceeding Matters

Good afternoon,

Could you please provide me with the return receipts for the two matters listed below?

1)Kimm C. Hannan (C-08575)
 2)Patrick L. O' Connor (C-08587)

Thank you,

George Vasios

, manul		
-	USPS Tracking [®]	FAQs >
Ē	Track Another Package +	
-		
-		
-	Tracking Number: 70160910000166579738	Remove X
.	Your item was delivered at 8:52 am on August 26, 2019 in OXFORD, WI 53952	,
	♂ Delivered	Feed
,,	August 26, 2019 at 8:52 am Delivered OXFORD, WI 53952	Feedback
-	Get Updates V	
ſ	Text & Email Updates	~
	Tracking History	\sim
	Product Information	\checkmark
	See Less 🔨	

Feedback

.

.

¢

Can't find what you're looking for?

ļ

-

ave:

AND C

1

ı,

Go to our FAQs section to find answers to your tracking questions.

FAQs

1		
-	USPS Tracking [®]	FAQs >
-	Track Another Package +	
-		
, ,	Tracking Number: 70153430000092719223	Remove X
لععا	Your item was delivered at 6:28 am on August 26, 2019 in MANSFIELD	, OH 44901.
	♂ Delivered	T eec
-	August 26, 2019 at 6:28 am Delivered MANSFIELD, OH 44901	reedback
	Get Updates V	
-	Text & Email Updates	~
_	Tracking History	\checkmark
_	Product Information	\checkmark
-	See Less 🔨	

Feedback

,

,

, **•**

Can't find what you're looking for?

.

Go to our FAQs section to find answers to your tracking questions.

FAQs

33 East Main Street Suite 500 Madison, WI 53703-3095 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2038 Madison, WI 53701-2038 Phone: 608.257.7181 Fax: 608.257.2508

www.murphydesmond.com

Stephen L. Morgan Direct Line 608.268.5572 Facsimile 608.257.4333 smorgan@murphydesmond.com



5 September 2019

VIA EMAIL Charles J. Kerstetter, Esq. Division of Enforcement Chicago Regional Office 175 W. Jackson Blvd. Suite 1450 Chicago, IL 60604

Re: In the Matter of Patrick O'Connor, File No. 3-19371

Dear Attorney Kerstetter:

Please be advised that for the limited issues described in this letter that I am representing Mr. Patrick O'Connor but I will not be representing him if my proposal herein is not accepted.

Mr. O'Connor is willing to enter into a consent or default type order whereby he would be barred from transacting business in the future for other persons as an investment adviser. It is my understanding from our discussion last week that, if you decide to proceed with a consent or a default order, that upon any needed signatures for agreement, you would present such an order to the administrative law judge and that judge could permit the entry of the order if there were no objections.

Please let me know if this request to proceed in the above manner is acceptable to your office. Thank you for your courtesies extended.

Sincerel Stephen L Mor

SLM:lcg 35541.180928 Kerstetter lt cc: Patrick O'Connor 4851-8477-6612, v. 1 Case: 3:19-cr-00044-wmc Document #: 3 Filed: 03/27/19 Page 1 of 7

		DOC NO
	U.S. Department of Justice	7910 MAR 27 All 10: 38
	Scott C. Blader United States Attorney Western District of Wiscons	Telephone 608/264-5158 TTY 608/264-5006 Administrative Facsimile 608/264-5183 III Civil Division Facsimile 608/264-5724 Criminal Division Facsimile 608/264-5054
<u>Address:</u> 222 West Washington Avenue Suite 700 Madison, Wisconsin 53703		
	March 26, 2019	

CR

WMC

44

Bruce J. Rosen Murphy Desmond S.C 33 East Main Street, Suite 500 Madison, WI 53703

> Re: United States v. Patrick O'Connor Case No. 19-cr-___

Dear Mr. Rosen:

This is the proposed plea agreement between the defendant and the United States in this case.

19

1. The defendant agrees to waive indictment and plead guilty to the two-count information filed by the U.S. Attorney in this case. Count 1 charges a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343, which carries maximum penalties of 20 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, a three-year period of supervised release, a \$100 special assessment, and the entry of an appropriate restitution order. Count 2 charges a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i), which carries maximum penalties of 20 years in prison, a \$500,000 fine, a three-year period of supervised release, a \$100 special assessment, and the entry of an appropriate restitution order. In addition to these maximum penalties, any violation of a supervised release term could lead to an additional term of imprisonment pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3583. The defendant agrees to pay the special assessment at or before sentencing. The defendant understands that the Court will enter an order pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3013 requiring the immediate payment of the special assessment. In an appropriate case, the defendant could be held in contempt of court and receive an additional sentence for failing to pay the special assessment as ordered by the Court.

2. The defendant acknowledges, by pleading guilty, that he is giving up the following rights: (a) to plead not guilty and to persist in that plea; (b) to a jury trial; (c) to be represented by counsel—and if necessary have the Court appoint counsel—at trial and at every other stage of the trial proceedings; (d) to confront and cross-examine adverse

witnesses; (e) to be protected from compelled self-incrimination; (f) to testify and present evidence; and (g) to compel the attendance of witnesses.

3. The defendant understands that upon conviction, if he is not a United States citizen, he may be removed from the United States, denied citizenship, and denied future admission to the United States. The defendant nevertheless affirms that he wants to plead guilty regardless of any removal and immigration consequences that his plea may entail, even if the consequence is automatic removal from the United States.

4. The United States agrees to recommend that the Court, in computing the advisory Sentencing Guideline range, and in sentencing the defendant, give the defendant the maximum available reduction for acceptance of responsibility. This recommendation is based upon facts currently known to the United States and is contingent upon the defendant accepting responsibility according to the factors set forth in USSG § 3E1.1. Further, the United States' agreement to recommend a reduction for acceptance of responsibility is also based on the defendant providing a full and truthful accounting in the required financial statement. The United States is free to withdraw this recommendation if the defendant has previously engaged in any conduct which is unknown to the United States and is inconsistent with acceptance of responsibility, or if he engages in any conduct between the date of this plea agreement and the sentencing hearing which is inconsistent with acceptance of responsibility. This recommendation is contingent on the defendant signing this plea letter on or before March 26, 2019.

5. The United States agrees that this guilty plea will completely resolve all possible federal criminal violations that have occurred in the Western District of Wisconsin provided that both of the following conditions are met: (a) the criminal conduct relates to the conduct described in the information; and (b) the criminal conduct was known to the United States as of the date of this plea agreement. This agreement not to prosecute is limited to those types of cases for which the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Wisconsin has exclusive decision-making authority. The defendant also understands that the United States will make its full discovery file available to the Probation Office for its use in preparing the presentence report.

6. The defendant agrees that total loss amount under U.S.S.G § 2B1.1(b)(1) is \$9,686,848.00.

7. The defendant agrees to forfeit to the United States immediately and voluntarily any and all assets and property, or portions thereof, subject to forfeiture, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), whether in the possession or control of the United States or in the possession or control of the defendant or defendant's nominees. The assets to be forfeited specifically include a money judgment in the amount of \$9,686,848.00

representing proceeds obtained as a result of wire fraud in Count 1 and all losses covered by the same course of conduct or common scheme or plan. Defendant agrees that during the period beginning in or about October of 2011, and continuing to in or about June of 2018, in the Western District of Wisconsin and elsewhere, he knowingly, and with the intent to defraud, devised and participated in a scheme to defraud investors, and to obtain money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, omissions, and promises. The defendant further agrees that it was part of the scheme to defraud that he used investor funds to pay expenses related to his real estate development business and his personal lifestyle, including but not limited to his residence at Waunakee, WI; real , Poynette, WI; real property described as property located at "Grand Legacy at Lake Wisconsin," Poynette, WI; 2015 Bennington Boat model: 2550GBR with a VIN: ETWA6617I415; and 2011 Caterpillar bulldozer model-D4KLGP, Serial No. RRR00424. The defendant also hereby agrees that the forfeiture described herein is not excessive and, in any event, the defendant waives any constitutional claims that he may have that the forfeiture constitutes an excessive fine.

8. The defendant agrees that the United States shall, at its option, be entitled to forfeiture of any property (substitute assets) of the defendant up to the value of \$9,686,848.00 in order to satisfy the money judgment. This Court shall retain jurisdiction to settle any disputes arising from application of this clause. The defendant agrees that forfeiture of substitute assets as authorized herein shall not be deemed an alteration of the defendant's sentence. The defendant agrees that the United States is not limited to the forfeiture of property specifically identified for forfeiture in this Plea Agreement. If the United States determines that as a result of any act or omission of defendant, property of the defendant identified for forfeiture cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence; has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party; has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the court; has been substantially diminished in value; or has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty, defendant agrees the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), as incorporated by Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(b)(1) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c). The defendant expressly consents to the forfeiture of any substitute assets sought by the United States. The defendant agrees that forfeiture of substitute assets as authorized here shall not be deemed an alteration of defendant's sentence.

9. The defendant agrees to take whatever steps are necessary to pass clear title to the United States of any assets sought to satisfy the money judgment. These steps include, but are not limited to, the surrender of title, the signing of a consent decree of forfeiture, and signing of any other documents necessary to effectuate such

transfers.

10. The defendant further agrees to take all steps necessary to locate property which could be used to satisfy the money judgment and to pass title to the United States before the defendant's sentencing. To that end, the defendant agrees to fully assist the government in the recovery and return to the United States of any assets, or portions thereof, as described above wherever located. The defendant agrees to make a full and complete disclosure of all assets over which he exercises control and those which are held or controlled by a nominee.

11. Forfeiture of the defendant's assets shall not be treated as full satisfaction of any fine, restitution, cost of imprisonment, or any other penalty this Court may impose upon the defendant in addition to forfeiture.

12. The defendant agrees not to file a claim to any property in any civil, administrative or judicial proceeding, which has already been initiated or which may be initiated in the future including the forfeiture of the property located at **Sector 100** Poynette, Waunakee, Wisconsin, and the property located at **Sector 100** Poynette, Wisconsin. The defendant agrees to waive all time limits and his right to notice of any forfeiture proceeding involving these properties. The defendant further agrees not to file a claim or assist others in filing a claim or attempting to establish an interest in any forfeiture proceeding.

13. The defendant agrees that he has an ownership interest in Madison Financial Services LLC, MFS 1 LLC, and Grand Developments LLC. On behalf of his interest in these corporate entities, the defendant waives Madison Financial Services LLC's, MFS 1 LLC's, and Grand Developments LLC's rights, if any exist, to file a claim or assist others in filing a claim or attempting to establish an interest in any forfeiture proceeding.

14. The defendant agrees that he is the joint owner, along with his wife, of the property located at **Sector 1999**, Waunakee, Wisconsin. The defendant also agrees that "Grand Developments LLC" is the sole owner of the property located at **Sector** Poynette, Wisconsin. The defendant agrees to hold the United States, its agents, and employees harmless from any claims in connection with the seizure or forfeiture of these two properties.

15. The defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives his right to a jury trial on the forfeiture of assets. The defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives all constitutional, legal, and equitable defenses to the forfeiture of these assets in any proceeding. The defendant agrees to waive any jeopardy defense or claim of double

jeopardy, whether constitutional or statutory.

16. The defendant agrees to take all steps requested by the United States to pass clear title to forfeitable assets to the United States, and to testify truthfully in any judicial forfeiture proceeding. The defendant acknowledges that all property covered by this agreement is subject to forfeiture as proceeds of the illegal conduct.

17. In the event any federal, state, or local law enforcement agency having custody of the property decides not to pursue forfeiture of the property due to its minimal value, the defendant hereby abandons any interest he has in the property and consents to the destruction or any other disposition of the property by the federal, state, or local agency without further notice or obligation owing to the defendant.

18. The defendant agrees that the forfeiture provisions of this plea agreement are intended to, and will, survive the defendant, nothwithstanding the abatement of any underlying criminal conviction after the execution of this agreement. The forfeitability of any particular property pursuant to this agreement shall be determined as if the defendant had survived, and that determination shall be binding upon defendant's heirs, successors, and assigns until the agreed forfeiture, including satisfaction of any preliminary order of forfeiture for proceeds.

19. The parties agree that the appropriate restitution figure based upon the defendant's relevant conduct in this case is \$9,686,848.00. It is the intent of the parties that any payments or monetary transfers made before sentencing by the defendant either to the victims or to trust accounts held for the benefit of the victims, should be credited towards the total restitution amount. The total amount of such credits shall be determined by the Court at sentencing. As of the date of this agreement, the parties agree that the total payments or monetary transfers made by the defendant to the victims or to trust accounts held for the benefit of the victims is \$693,285.40. It is also intention of the parties that the restitution amount should also be reduced by the value of the funds seized by the government from three bank accounts belonging to the defendant, which totaled approximately \$346,319.37. The defendant further agrees that the full amount of restitution, reduced by the credits discussed above, is due and payable immediately. The defendant acknowledges that immediate payment means payment in good faith from the liquidation of all non-exempt assets beginning immediately, including but not limited to the properties located at Poynette, Wisconsin, and all the assets Waunakee, Wisconsin, and listed in Attachment A.

20. The defendant agrees to complete the enclosed financial statement and

return it to this office within one week of the guilty plea hearing. The defendant agrees that this financial statement will be a full and truthful accounting, including all available supporting documentation. The defendant also authorizes the U.S. Attorney's Office to run his credit report. The defendant also agrees that the probation office may disclose to the United States the net worth and cash flow statements to be completed by the defendant in connection with the preparation of the presentence report, together with all supporting documents. Finally, the defendant understands, as set forth in Paragraph 4 above, that the United States' agreement to recommend a reduction for acceptance of responsibility will be based, in part, on the defendant's full and truthful accounting, and the defendant's efforts to make the agreed-upon immediate restitution payments.

21. In the event of an appeal by either party, the United States reserves the right to make arguments in support of or in opposition to the sentence imposed by the Court.

22. The defendant understands that sentencing discussions are not part of the plea agreement. The defendant should not rely upon the possibility of a particular sentence based upon any sentencing discussions between defense counsel and the United States.

23. If your understanding of our agreement conforms with mine as set out above, please obtain the necessary signatures and return the plea letter to me. By his signature below, the defendant acknowledges his understanding that the United States has made no promises or guarantees regarding the sentence which will be imposed. The defendant also acknowledges his understanding that the Court is not required to accept any recommendations which may be made by the United States and that the Court can impose any sentence up to and including the maximum penalties set out

above.

Very truly yours,

SCOTT C. BLADER United States Attorney

By:

AARON WEGNER Assistant United States Attorney

19

3-26-19

Date

Trace BRUCE ROSEM Attorney for the Defendant

PATRICK O'CONNOR

Defendant

3-/26/19

	AO 245 B (Rev. 3/01)(N.H. Rev.)		PATRICK O'CONNOR 0758 3:19CR00044-001		Judgment - Page 1
, 1	Unit	ed States Western Distri			
-	UNITED STATES OF AME	RICA		IN A CRIMINAL CASE ted on or after November 1, 1	
	V .		Case Number:	0758 3:19CR00044-0	001
	Patrick O'Connor	Defe	endant's Attorney:	Bruce Rosen	
_	The defendant, Patrick O'Connor, pl	eaded guilty to Counts 1	and 2 of the informa	ition.	
	The defendant has been advised of	his right to appeal.			
	ACCORDINGLY, the Court has adju	dicated the defendant g	uilty of the following o		
		f Offense ud, Class C felony		Date Offense Concluded June 2018	Count Number(s) 1
	18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B) Money L	aundering, Class C felo	ny	June 2018	2
-	The defendant is sentenced as provi Sentencing Reform Act of 1984.	ided in pages 2 through	6 of this judgment.	The sentence is impose	d pursuant to the
اسا	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the				
	of any change of name, residence imposed by this judgment are ful	ly paid. If ordered to	pay restitution, the	e defendant shall notif	
(111)	United States Attorney of any mat	erial change in the def	endant's economic	circumstances.	
	Defendant's Date of Birth:	1958		July 30, 1	2019
	Defendant's USM No.:	11560-090		Date of Imposition	n of Judgment
1999	Defendant's Residence Address:	Waunakee, WI		/s/ William	Conley
	Defendant's Mailing Address:	Same as above		William M.	•
(and				District J	uage
				July 31, 3	2019
m				Date Sig	ined:

,

٠

•

٠

۰,

—	
	AO 245 B (Rev. 3/01)(N.H. Rev.) DEFENDANT: PATRICK O'CONNOR AO 245 B (Rev. 3/01)(N.H. Rev.) CASE NUMBER: 0758 3:19CR00044-001 Judgment - Page 2
F	
	IMPRISONMENT
_	
	As to Counts 1 and 2 of the information, it is adjudged that the defendant is committed to the custody of the Bureau of Prisons for a term of 84 months on each count, to run concurrently.
	I recommend that the defendant be placed at an institution as close to his family in Madison, Wisconsin, as possible, ideally the Satellite Camp at Oxford, Wisconsin.
-	I also recommend that the defendant be afforded prerelease placement in a residential reentry center with work release privileges.
(mm)	The U.S. Probation Office is to notify local law enforcement agencies, and the state attorney general, of defendant's release to the community.
	The defendant is neither a flight risk nor a danger to the community. Accordingly, execution of the sentence of imprisonment
-	is stayed until August 30, 2019, between the hours of noon and 2:00 p.m., when defendant is to report to an institution to be designated by further court order. The defendant's present release conditions are continued until that time.
- .	
Ē	
	RETURN
-	I have executed this judgment as follows:
-	
	Defendant delivered on to to
Lend	at, with a certified copy of this judgment.
	United States Marshal
	P.
—	By Deputy Marshal
,	
, 199	
÷	

_					
	AO 245	B (Rev. 3/01)(N.H. Rev.)		PATRICK O'CONNOR 0758 3:19CR00044-001	Judgment - Page 3
(and)					
			SUPERVISE	ED RELEASE	
	the nat special	ure of the offense and the def	endant's personal histor ih 4, 8, 9, and 11 throu	y, I adopt mandatory c gh 17 as proposed and	rms of supervised release. In light of onditions numbers 1 through 3 and I justified in the presentence report,
-	superv				ed release, either the defendant or the no longer appropriate, either one may
		stant offense is not drug relate set forth at 18 U.S.C. § 3583(as no history of drug us	se. Therefore, the requirement for drug
_	Defend	lant is to abide by the statutor	y mandatory conditions.		
-,			Statutory Mand	atory Conditions	
-	felony				ant that has been convicted of a r destructive device pursuant to 18
)		lant shall not illegally possess §§ 3563(a)(5) and 3583(d).	a controlled substance.	The defendant is subje	ect to drug testing according to 18
-		ant shall cooperate with the c Services Office as required b		U.S. Justice Departme	nt and/or the U.S. Probation and
-,	any su		ins unpaid at the comm	encement of the term o	pervised release that defendant pay f supervised release in accordance ment.
-1	Defend	ant shall comply with the star	idard and special condit	ions that have been ad	opted by this court.
			Standard Conditi	ons of Supervision	
-j	1)	Defendant shall not knowir permission of the Court or p	ngly leave the judicial robation officer;	district in which defen	dant is being supervised without the
-1 -1	2)	written report within the firs officer's instructions. The n	t five days of each mo nonthly report and the a to incriminate defendar	nth, answer inquiries b nswer to inquiries shall	ation officer and shall submit a complete y the probation officer, and follow the be truthful in all respects unless a fully ant's constitutional rights, in which case
- 1	3)				nroll and participate in a course of study ess excused by the probation officer or
9	4)	Defendant shall notify the pr change in job classification;	obation officer within se	venty-two hours of any	change in residence, employer, or any

—		١					
	AO 245	B (Rev. 3/01)(N.H. Rev.)			PATRICK O'CONNOR 0758 3:19CR00044-001	Judgment - Page 4	
_		<u></u>					
	5)	Not imposed;					
199	6)	Not imposed;					
	7)	Not imposed;					
()	8)	location designated t				r at some other mutually convenient ermit confiscation of any contraband	
ليستة	9)	Defendant shall noti enforcement officer;	fy the probation officer w	ithin	seventy-two hours of bei	ng arrested or questioned by a law	
	10)	Not imposed;					
-	11)					s released within 72 hours of release ion officer to report within a different	
	12)	Defendant shall not p	oossess a firearm, ammun	ition	, destructive device, or dar	igerous weapon;	
	13) As directed by the probation officer, defendant shall notify employers and third parties providing volunteer opportunities, where defendant has any kind of fiduciary responsibility, of defendant's criminal record. The probation officer may also take steps to confirm defendant's compliance with this notification requirement or provide such notifications directly.						
			Special C	ond	itions of Release		
ليسرا		ovide the supervising L I tax returns.	S. Probation Officer any	and	all requested financial infor	mation, including copies of state and	
Ē			w credit charges, opening rvising U.S. Probation Off			ning other financial accounts without	
_		ot transfer, give away, ising U.S. Probation O		any	asset worth more than \$2	00 without the prior approval of the	
-			maintaining any employm he supervising U.S. Proba			financial or fiduciary-related duties,	
1-1	ACKN	OWLEDGMENT OF C	ONDITIONS				
,	have b	een provided a copy of	them. I understand that	upor		ment, and I fully understand them. I ation or supervised release, the Court conditions of supervision.	
1							
	Defer	ndant		Da	te		
ر ایسیا	U.S. I	Probation Officer		Da	te		

-

۰,

_					
	AO 245 B (Rev. 3/01)(N.H. Rev.)	DEFEND CASE NUN			Judgment - Page 5
1-4	,				
	C	CRIMINAL MO	NETARY P	ENALTIES	
-	Defendant shall pay the following	total financial penaltie	es in accordance	with the schedule of payments	set forth below.
, -,	Count	<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Fine</u>	Restitution	
	1 2	\$100.00 \$100.00	\$0.00	\$9,180,748.00	
—	Total	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$9,180,748.00	
-	It is adjudged that the defendant is of Court for the Western District of				nviction) to the Clerk
-	The defendant does not have the release from custody.	means to pay a fine u	nder § 5E1.2(c) v	vithout impairing his ability to s	upport himself upon
		RE	STITUTION		
	The defendant is also to pay mar District of Wisconsin to be disburs economic resources to allow him schedule of payments. Pursuant \$250 each month, beginning withi	sed to the victims as r self to make full payr to 18 U.S.C. § 3664(1	noted in the present nent of restitution f)(3)(B), he is to h	entence report. The defendant n in the foreseeable future un begin making nominal payme	obviously lacks the der any reasonable
	While no interest is to accrue on t General of any material change	he unpaid portion of t	he restitution, the	defendant shall notify the Co	
فيبينا	restitution.				
()					
ſ					
[
-					

•

	AO 245 B (Rev. 3/01)(N.H. Rev.)	DEFENDANT: CASE NUMBER:	PATRICK O'CONNOR 0758 3:19CR00044-001		Judgment - Page 6
_					
	SC	HEDULE C	F PAYMENTS	5	
	Payments shall be applied in the following o	rder:			
	·		essment;		
(mail)		(3) fine	principal;		
		(4) cost (5) inter	t of prosecution; rest;		
~		(6) pen	alties.		
	The total fine and other monetary penalties	shall be due in fu	II immediately unless	otherwise stated elsewi	here
—					
—	Unless the court has expressly ordered oth	onviso in the sn	ecial instructions abo	ve if the judgment imp	oses a neriod of
	imprisonment, payment of monetary penal	ties shall be due	e during the period o	of imprisonment. All ci	iminal monetary
-	penalties, except those payments made thr are made to the clerk of court, unless other				
	The defendant shall receive credit for all page	yments previously	y made toward any cr	iminal monetary penaltic	es imposed.
, 1	In the event of a civil settlement between				
	settlement to the Court, U.S. Probation offic	e, and U.S. Attor	ney's office so that de	fendant's account can t	be credited.
, 1					
,					
1					
					

, ---

٠

١,

_

MFS MADISON FINANCIAL SERVICES, LC

M F S ALPHA CAPITAL GROWTH FUND

RECEIPT OF INVESTMENT FUND DEPOSIT

Madison Financial Services, LLC (MFS) has received Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) on this 13th day of January, 2017 from **Service Service** Investor, of **Service Services** These funds will purchase 24,674.79 investment units in the MFS Alpha Capital Growth Fund priced at \$10.1318 per unit (priced on 1-17-2017). Investor now holds a total of 76,659.94 Units on January 17, 2017.

These investment funds will be used to participate in capital growth investment strategies managed and directed by Patrick L. O'Connor of MFS. The funds will be held in the MFS TradeStation Securities Broker-Dealer investment brokerage account.

The investment objective of the MFS Alpha Capital Growth Fund is to seek short and long term capital appreciation by investing in U.S. equity and debt instruments, including the S&P 500 Stock Index (SPX) futures contracts. The nature of this investment is for a participation period longer than one year, thought the Investors may withdraw any or all funds at any time with a ten day written request given to MFS at Waunakee, WI

It is understood and agreed that the annual fee for the management of this fund will be ten percent (10%) of the annual investment profit. In the event that there is no annual profit, there will be no fee earned by MFS or payable by Investor. MFS will calculate and provide Investor with an invoice for the earned fee by January 20th of the year following the investment period.

Investors represent that they meet the qualification of an "Accredited Investor" defined by the Securities and Exchange Commission as a person with an annual income of \$200,000 or having a net worth of \$1,000,000 (excluding their personal residence). Investors hereby state they understand and accept the inherent economic and market risks of investing in investment securities and the S&P 500 Stock Index (SPX) futures contract.

Investment results will be provided to Investors on a quarterly statement basis.

Dated this 17th day of January, 2017 by

Investor

O'Connor, MFS Patrick L.

BUSINESS, FINANCIAL & ESTATE PLANNING	 REALUSTA 	IE DEVELOPMENT	•	INVESTMENTS	٠	MrS REALTORS

2124102421

2'd

124201906:46p 2124105421