

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT OF 1940
Release No. 6512 / December 21, 2023

Admin. Proc. File No. 3-20235

In the Matter of
GREGORY MOATS SAMPSON

ORDER STAYING PROCEEDINGS

On March 2, 2021, the Securities and Exchange Commission issued an order instituting proceedings (“OIP”) against Gregory Moats Sampson (“Respondent”) pursuant to Section 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.¹ Respondent was served with the OIP on October 20, 2023, and his answer to the OIP was due twenty days later. On December 11, 2023, the Commission issued an order directing Respondent to show cause by December 27, 2023, why he should not be deemed to be in default and why this proceeding should not be determined against him due to his failure to file an answer or to otherwise defend this proceeding.²

On December 18, 2023, the Division of Enforcement filed a Notice of Pending Settlement stating that it has received Respondent’s signed offer of settlement and that the Division anticipates settling this proceeding by February 2024.

We construe the Division’s filing as, in substance, a motion to stay proceedings pending Commission consideration of an offer of settlement. Although Rule of Practice 161(c)(2) governs such motions in administrative proceedings set before a hearing officer,³ it appears appropriate to apply similar standards here.⁴

¹ *Gregory Moats Sampson*, Advisers Act Release No. 5694, 2021 WL 796053 (Mar. 2, 2021).

² *Gregory Moats Sampson*, Advisers Act Release No. 6502, 2023 WL 8598443 (Dec. 11, 2023).

³ 17 C.F.R. § 201.161(c)(2).

⁴ *See Yao Lin*, Exchange Act Release No. 97201, 2023 WL 2631029 (Mar. 24, 2023) (applying the Rule 161(c)(2) standard to a motion to stay in a proceeding set before the

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that this proceeding, including the show-cause deadline, is stayed. The stay is contingent on the submission to the Commission of a signed offer of settlement from Respondent and the Division's accompanying recommendation no later than March 15, 2024. If this deadline is not met or if the Commission rejects an offer of settlement, the parties shall file a status report within seven days of either event.

For the Commission, by the Office of the General Counsel, pursuant to delegated authority.

Vanessa A. Countryman
Secretary

Commission); *Damian Ostertag*, Exchange Act Release No. 96838, 2023 WL 1819098 (Feb. 8, 2023) (same).