

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Release No. 59758 / April 13, 2009

ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING ENFORCEMENT
Release No. 2961 / April 13, 2009

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING
File No. 3-13441

In the Matter of

ANTONIO CANOVA (CPA),

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 pursuant to Rule 102(e) of the Commission’s Rules of Practice against Antonio Canova, CPA (“Canova” or “Respondent”).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

¹ Rule 102(e)(3)(i) 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 . . . accountant . . . 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.

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.3 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.

III.

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

1. Canova, age 46, is and has been a certified public accountant licensed to practice in the State of California. He served as Chief Financial Officer of Brocade Communications Systems, Inc. ("Brocade") beginning in 2001 through 2005.
2. Brocade was, at all relevant times, a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in San Jose, California. Brocade develops and sells computer storage networking products. Since May 1999 when it completed its initial public offering of stock, Brocade's securities have been traded on the Nasdaq National Market, and the company has had common stock registered with the Commission under Section 12(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act").
3. On April 6, 2009, a final judgment was entered by consent against Canova, permanently enjoining him from future violations of Sections 17(a)(2) and (3) of the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act") and Section 13(b)(5) of the Exchange Act and Rules 13b2-1, 13b2-2, and 13a-14 thereunder, and from aiding and abetting future violations of Sections 13(a), 13(b)(2)(A) and 13(b)(2)(B) of the Exchange Act and Rules 12b-20, 13a-1 and 13a-13 thereunder, in the civil action entitled *Securities and Exchange Commission v. Gregory L. Reyes, et al.*, No. 3:06-cv-04435-CRB, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California.
4. The Commission's complaint alleged that, during his tenure as CFO, Canova received information calling into question the integrity of Brocade's financial statements based on its options granting process carried out by Brocade's then chief executive officer. Canova received emails and other information suggesting that Reyes was backdating options grants to executives and others so that the grantees would receive in-the-money options that appeared to be granted at-the-money. The complaint further alleged that Canova did not, in a timely manner, investigate or review the impact of certain options grants on Brocade's financial statements, and that, as a consequence, Brocade issued materially misleading financial statements included in annual and quarterly reports filed on Forms 10-K and 10-Q with the Commission during the company's fiscal years 2001 through 2004, which Canova certified and which should have recorded a compensation expense for the in-the-money options grants but did not.

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:

A. Canova is suspended from appearing or practicing before the Commission as an accountant.

B. After three years from the date of this Order, Respondent may request that the Commission consider his reinstatement by submitting an application (Attention: Office of the Chief Accountant) to resume appearing or practicing before the Commission as:

1. a preparer or reviewer, or a person responsible for the preparation or review, of any public company's financial statements that are filed with the Commission. Such an application must satisfy the Commission that Respondent's work in his practice before the Commission will be reviewed either by the independent audit committee of the public company for which he works or in some other acceptable manner, as long as he practices before the Commission in this capacity; and/or

2. an independent accountant. Such an application must satisfy the Commission that:

(a) Respondent, or the public accounting firm with which he is associated, is registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board ("Board") in accordance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, and such registration continues to be effective;

(b) Respondent, or the registered public accounting firm with which he is associated, has been inspected by the Board and that inspection did not identify any criticisms of or potential defects in the Respondent's or the firm's quality control system that would indicate that the Respondent will not receive appropriate supervision;

(c) Respondent has resolved all disciplinary issues with the Board, and has complied with all terms and conditions of any sanctions imposed by the Board (other than reinstatement by the Commission); and

(d) Respondent acknowledges his responsibility, as long as Respondent appears or practices before the Commission as an independent accountant, to comply with all requirements of the Commission and the Board, including, but not limited to, all requirements relating to registration, inspections, concurring partner reviews and quality control standards.

C. The Commission will consider an application by Respondent to resume appearing or practicing before the Commission provided that his state CPA license is current and he has resolved all other disciplinary issues with the applicable state boards of accountancy. However,

if state licensure is dependent on reinstatement by the Commission, the Commission will consider an application on its other merits. The Commission's review may include consideration of, in addition to the matters referenced above, any other matters relating to Respondent's character, integrity, professional conduct, or qualifications to appear or practice before the Commission.

By the Commission.

Elizabeth M. Murphy
Secretary