

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Release No. 73926 / December 23, 2014

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING
File No. 3-16327

In the Matter of

FOTIOS GEIVELIS, JR.,

Respondent.

**ORDER INSTITUTING PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS
PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(b) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934,
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 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”) against Fotios Geivelis, Jr. also known as Frank Anastasio (“Geivelis” or “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 Section III.2 and III.4 below, which are admitted, Respondent consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Public Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 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. Geivelis, also known as Frank Anastasio, age 33, was the sole managing member and owner of Worldwide Funding III Limited, LLC ("Worldwide Funding"), a Florida limited liability company. During 2012 and 2013, Geivelis resided in Wyckoff, New Jersey and Tampa, Florida. Geivelis was not registered as, or associated with, a broker or dealer that was registered with the Commission.

2. On August 29, 2013, the Commission filed a complaint against Geivelis and others in SEC v. Bernard H. Butts, Jr., et al. (S.D. Fla. Civil Action No. 1:13-cv-23115-JEM). On December 9, 2014, the court entered an order permanently enjoining Geivelis, by consent, from future violations of Sections 10(b) and 15(a) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, and Sections 5 and 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act"). Geivelis was also ordered jointly and severally to pay \$2,149,680.00 in disgorgement of ill-gotten gains from his conduct alleged in the complaint, and \$126,708.08 in prejudgment interest; and a \$2,149,680.00 civil money penalty.

3. The Commission's complaint alleged, among other things, that from April 2012 through August 2013, Geivelis obtained millions of dollars by defrauding investors through the offer and sale of investments in a fictitious prime bank instrument trading program. The complaint also alleged Geivelis told investors that a \$60,000 to \$90,000 investment would generate profits of at least €6,660,000 (Euros) within 15 to 45 business days and earn profits of approximately 14% per week for 40 to 42 weeks. In addition, the complaint alleged that Geivelis falsely promised that investors' funds were deposited into an attorney's trust account, and would not be released until proof was received that a €10,000,000 Standby Letter of Credit ("SBLC") had been deposited into a securities trading program. Further, the complaint alleged Geivelis did not disclose that instead of using the funds to obtain SBLCs, he misappropriated investors' funds with the attorney and him each taking approximately 45% of the investors' funds and paying approximately 10% to sales agents who located the investors. The complaint also alleged that contrary to the defendants' representations, the acquisition of the SBLCs never occurred, no loans were obtained, and no returns were earned in a trading program or paid to investors. Furthermore, the complaint alleged that over more than a year, the defendants obtained at least \$3.5 million from approximately forty-five investors nationwide and in foreign countries by making false and misleading statements or omitting material facts in the offer and sale of these unregistered securities.

4. On March 18, 2014, Geivelis pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud in violation of Title 18 United States Code, Section 1343 before the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, in United States v. Fotios Geivelis, Jr., Crim. No. 2:13-cr-307-NBF-1.

5. The criminal indictment to which Geivelis pled guilty alleged, among other things, that:

- a. Geivelis operated Worldwide Funding III Limited (“WWF”), a Florida limited liability company which solicited Internet applications for multi-million dollar loans.
- b. From April 2012, through September 2013, Geivelis knowingly and intentionally devised a scheme and artifice to defraud and for obtaining money and property by investors by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises.
- c. Geivelis made false representations to investors including that a \$60,000 to \$90,000 payment would enable an investor to obtain a \$10,000,000 loan; the loan would be funded within 15 banking days; and would be repaid through private placement trading facilitated by Geivelis; that the investor’s money would be held in a Paymaster’s escrow account until confirmation of a multi-million dollar SBLC at the foreign bank; and that the investor’s money would be returned if WWF did not perform on the contract.
- d. Geivelis executed the scheme and artifice by obtaining approximately \$3.9 million in wire transfers to the Paymaster’s escrow accounts from more than 3 dozen investors seeking multi-million dollar overseas loans; providing false documentations to investors in order to reassure them that the WWF program was legitimate, assuring investors that their money would be held by the Paymaster in escrow, pending SBLC confirmation by foreign banks; failing to hold investors’ money in escrow and instead distributing it to the Paymaster, to brokers who introduced investors to WWF, and to himself for his own use; dissipating investors’ money on personal expenses, including hotels, casinos, restaurants, strip clubs, automobiles, clothing and jewelry; and failing to obtain any loans for investors and making few refunds of investors’ funds.
- e. On or about August 24, 2012, Geivelis executed the scheme and artifice to defraud by causing to be transmitted in interstate commerce by means of wire communications, certain writings, signs and signals in the form of a bank wire transfer of \$120,000 from M.D. First National Bank of Pennsylvania in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania to B.B. JPMC account in Miami, Florida in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

IV.

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

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED, pursuant to Section 15(b)(6) of the Exchange Act that Geivelis be, and hereby is barred from association with any broker, dealer, investment adviser, municipal securities dealer, municipal advisor, transfer agent, or nationally recognized statistical rating organization; and barred from participating in any offering of a penny stock, including: acting as a promoter, finder, consultant, agent or other person who engages in activities with a broker, dealer or issuer for purposes of the

issuance or trading in any penny stock, or inducing or attempting to induce the purchase or sale of any penny stock.

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, the satisfaction of any or all of the following: (a) any disgorgement ordered against the Respondent, whether or not the Commission has fully or partially waived payment of such disgorgement; (b) any arbitration award related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order; (c) 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 (d) 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.

Brent J. Fields
Secretary