

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

**SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**  
**Release No. 80442 / April 12, 2017**

**INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT OF 1940**  
**Release No. 4684 / April 12, 2017**

**ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING**  
**File No. 3-17926**

**In the Matter of**

**TRAVIS A. WETZEL,**

**Respondent.**

**ORDER INSTITUTING  
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(b) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
AND 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 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”) and Section 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (“Advisers Act”) against Travis A. Wetzel (“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, Respondent admits the Commission’s jurisdiction over him and the subject matter of these proceedings, and the findings contained in paragraph III.2 below and consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and 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. Wetzel, age 37, is a resident of Frederick, Maryland. From approximately December 2005 through July 2012, Wetzel was a registered sales associate with LPL Financial LLC (“LPL”), a broker-dealer and investment adviser registered with the Commission. In addition, from approximately 2009 through 2012, Wetzel served as the Branch Operations Manager of LPL’s Rockville, Maryland branch office, which also conducted business as Reutemann Financial Services, Inc.

2. On November 18, 2014, Wetzel pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343 and one count of money laundering in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1957 before the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, in United States v. Travis Wetzel, Case No. 8:14-cr-00255-DKC. On February 23, 2015, the Court sentenced Wetzel to 42 months imprisonment followed by three years of supervised release, and ordered Wetzel to pay restitution.

3. The counts of the criminal indictment to which Wetzel pleaded guilty alleged, among other things, that from July 2010 through September 2012, Wetzel misappropriated \$1,282,224.32 from an elderly LPL customer. The customer owned a variable annuity that she had purchased through her registered representative at LPL. Wetzel, a registered LPL sales associate, was responsible for servicing the customer’s brokerage account, and falsely represented to the issuer that Wetzel’s wife was the daughter of the elderly LPL customer. Thereafter, Wetzel repeatedly transferred or caused to be transferred \$1,282,224.32 from the customer’s account to bank accounts controlled by Wetzel and his wife.

### IV.

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

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED pursuant to Section 15(b)(6) of the Exchange Act, and Section 203(f) of the Advisers Act, that Respondent Wetzel 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

Pursuant to Section 15(b)(6) of the Exchange Act Respondent Wetzel be, and hereby is 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