

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
SECRETARY OF STATE
SECURITIES DEPARTMENT**

IN THE MATTER OF: Michael Lee Romero

FILE NO. 1300187

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO THE RESPONDENT:

Michael Lee Romero
1014 Valley Drive
Windsor, CO 80550

Stephen A. Kohn & Associates, Ltd
3232 South Vance Street
Lakewood, CO 80227

You are hereby notified that pursuant to Section 11.F of the Illinois Securities Law of 1953 [815 ILCS 5] (the "Act") and 14 Ill. Adm Code 130, Subpart K, a public hearing will be held at 69 West Washington Street, Suite 1220, Chicago, Illinois 60602 on the 19th day of June, 2013 at the hour of 10:00 a.m. or as soon as possible thereafter, before James Kopecky, or such other duly designated Hearing Office of the Secretary of State.

Said hearing will be held to determine whether an order shall be entered revoking Michael Lee Romero (the "Respondent") registration as a Salesperson in the State of Illinois and/or granting such other relief as may be authorized under the Act including but not limited to the imposition of a monetary fine in the Maximum amount pursuant to Section 11.E(4) of the Act, payable within ten (10) business days of the entry of the Order.

The grounds for such proposed action are as follows:

1. That at all relevant times, the Respondent was registered with the Secretary of State as a Salesperson in the State of Illinois pursuant to Section 8 of the Act
2. That on December 11, 2012 FINRA entered LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER AND CONSENT ("AWC or "ORDER") submitted by the Respondent regarding Disciplinary Proceeding No. 2010021431201 which sanctioned the Respondent at follows:

Notice of Hearing

2

- a. suspended from association with any FINRA member in any capacity for Forty Five (45) business days; and
 - b. fined \$10,000.
3. That the order found:

Facts and Violative Conduct

1. From April 2006 through August 2008. Romero recommended that customers J.& N.A. purchase \$760,000 of non-publicly traded Regulation D offerings and real estate investment trusts [REIT's].
 2. According to a new account application that J.&N.A. signed in April 2006. they had investment objectives of long-term growth and capital preservation and income. They also had a moderate risk tolerance.
 3. The investments in the Regulation D offerings and REITs constituted almost all of the customers' liquid net worth and roughly 46% of their total net worth.
 4. Romero's recommendations to purchase these Regulation D offerings and REITs were inconsistent with the customers' financial situation and needs.
- [5] Through this conduct, Romero violated NASD Conduct Rules 2310 and 2110.
4. That Section 8.E(1)(j) of the Act provides, inter alia, that the registration of a salesperson may be revoked if the Secretary of State finds that such Salesperson has been suspended by any self-regulatory organization Registered under the Federal 1934 Act or the Federal 1974 Act arising from any fraudulent or deceptive act or a practice in violation of any rule, regulation or standard duly promulgated by the self-regulatory Organization.
 5. That FINRA is a self-regulatory organization as specified in Section 8.E(1)(j) of the Act
 6. That by virtue of the foregoing, the Respondent Michael Lee Romero's registration as an Salesperson in the State of Illinois is subject to revocation pursuant to Section 8 E(1)(j) of the Act.

Notice of Hearing

3

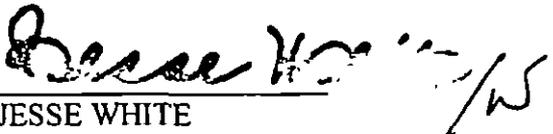
You are further notified that you are required pursuant to Section 130 1104 of the Rules and Regulations (14 ILL. Adm. Code 130) (the "Rules"), to file an answer to the allegations outlined above within thirty (30) days of the receipt of this Notice. A failure to file an answer within the prescribed time shall be construed as an admission of the allegations contained in the Notice of Hearing.

Furthermore, you may be represented by legal counsel; may present evidence; may cross-examine witnesses and otherwise participate. A failure to so appear shall constitute default; unless any Respondent has upon due notice moved for and obtained a continuance.

A copy of the Rules, promulgated under the Act and pertaining to hearing held by the Office of the Secretary of State, Securities Department, can be found at www.cyberdriveillinois.com

Delivery of Notice to the designated representative of any Respondent constitutes service upon such Respondent.

Dated: This 19th day of April 2013



JESSE WHITE
Secretary of State
State of Illinois

Attorney for the Secretary of State:

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Hearing Officer:
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