



**IN THE MATTER OF
THE MUTUAL FUND DEALER RULES**

AND

MICHAEL HENRY WOLFOND

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

PART I – INTRODUCTION

1. The Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization (“CIRO”)ⁱ will issue a Notice of Settlement Hearing to announce a settlement hearing pursuant to Mutual Fund Dealer Rule 7.4.4 and Rules 14 and 15 of the Mutual Fund Dealer Rules of Procedure (“Rules of Procedure”) to consider whether a Hearing Panel should accept this Settlement Agreement between Enforcement Staff and Michael Henry Wolfond (the “Respondent”).

PART II – JOINT SETTLEMENT RECOMMENDATION

2. Enforcement Staff and the Respondent jointly recommend that the Hearing Panel accept this Settlement Agreement in accordance with the terms and conditions set out below.

PART III – AGREED FACTS

3. For the purposes of this Settlement Agreement, the Respondent agrees with the facts as set out in Part III of this Settlement Agreement.

Registration History

4. The Respondent has been registered in the securities industry since approximately September 1987.
5. Between July 1, 2021 and December 27, 2023, the Respondent was registered in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, and Newfoundland and Labrador as a dealing representative with Investia Financial Services Inc. (“Investia”), a Dealer Member of CIRO (formerly a Member of the MFDA).

6. On December 27, 2023, the Respondent resigned from Investia.
7. Since January 25, 2024, the Respondent has been registered in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec as a dealing representative with Designed Securities Ltd. (“Designed Securities”), a Dealer Member of CIRO.¹
8. At all material times, the Respondent conducted business in the Regina, Saskatchewan and Calgary, Alberta areas.

Pre-Signed Account Forms

9. At all material times, Investia’s policies and procedures prohibited its dealing representatives from obtaining, possessing or using blank or incomplete pre-signed account forms.
10. Between February 12, 2018 and December 12, 2019, the Respondent obtained, possessed and used to process transactions, three pre-signed account forms in respect of five clients.
11. The pre-signed account forms included:
 - (i) two redemption forms; and
 - (ii) one systematic instruction form.

Altered Account Forms

12. At all material times, Investia’s policies and procedures prohibited its dealing representatives from altering or correcting any information on account forms without having the client initial the alteration to show that the alteration was authorized by the client.
13. Between January 2, 2017 and January 6, 2022, the Respondent altered and used to process transactions, 40 account forms in respect of 35 clients, by altering information on the account forms without having the clients initial the alterations to show that the alterations were authorized.

¹ The Respondent has also been registered as a Dealing Representative with Designed Securities in the Northwest Territories since March 4, 2024.

14. The altered account forms included:
- (i) 18 trade tickets;
 - (ii) 14 order entry forms;
 - (iii) two order instruction forms;
 - (iv) two systematic instruction forms;
 - (v) three transfer forms; and
 - (vi) one application form.
15. The alterations made to the account forms included changes to: fund selection; investment amounts; investment instructions; fund names, descriptions and codes; transfer types; account numbers; and dates.

Account Forms Processed Under Joint Representative Codes

16. At all material times, the Respondent, along with three other Approved Persons who were registered as dealing representatives with Investia, shared joint representative codes to collectively service Investia clients' accounts.
17. Investia had a policy that required all of the Approved Persons who shared a joint representative code to sign certain account documents that were processed pursuant to the joint representative code. The effect of this policy was that regardless of which Approved Person met with the client and completed the account form, the other Approved Persons who shared the joint representative code also had to sign the forms as an advisor of record.
18. As a result of Investia's joint representative code policy, in addition to the Respondent's conduct described above regarding pre-signed and altered account forms, there are 31 account forms (pre-signed by clients or with information altered on the form without obtaining the client's signature) that were obtained, possessed and used to process transactions which were signed by the Respondent and one or more of the other Approved Persons.

Investia's Investigation

19. In October 2022, during a branch review, Investia discovered some of the pre-signed and altered account forms described above. As a result, Investia conducted a full review of the client files maintained by the Respondent and discovered the remaining pre-signed and altered account forms.
20. As part of its investigation into the Respondent's conduct, Investia sent audit letters to the affected clients, along with copies of their transaction history and KYC information, to determine the accuracy of the information and whether the transactions were authorized. No clients responded to Investia with any concerns or complaints.
21. On November 21, 2022, Investia placed the Respondent under strict supervision until January 31, 2023. Investia reported that no concerns or further issues were identified while the Respondent was under strict supervision.
22. On May 5, 2023, Investia issued the Respondent a warning letter in respect of the conduct described in the Settlement Agreement.

Additional Factors

23. The Respondent's registration, while registered at his current Dealer Member, Designed Securities, is subject to terms and conditions. The Respondent is subject to close supervision and Designed Securities prepares monthly supervision reports on his sales activities and dealings with clients.
24. The Respondent has not previously been the subject of disciplinary proceedings commenced by the MFDA or CIRO.
25. No clients have complained to CIRO or Investia regarding the Respondent's conduct.
26. There is no evidence of client financial loss or lack of authorization for the underlying transactions.
27. By entering into this Settlement Agreement, the Respondent has saved CIRO the time, resources and expenses associated with conducting a contested hearing on the allegations.

PART IV – CONTRAVENTIONS

28. By engaging in the conduct described above, the Respondent committed the following contravention of CISO requirements:
- (i) Between January 2, 2017 and January 6, 2022, the Respondent failed in his obligations regarding the proper execution of client account documents, resulting in the collection, possession and use of pre-signed and altered client account forms, contrary to Mutual Fund Dealer Rule 2.1.1.

PART V – TERMS OF SETTLEMENT

29. The Respondent agrees to the following sanctions and costs:
- (i) the Respondent shall pay a fine in the amount of \$20,000 in certified funds, pursuant to Mutual Fund Dealer Rule 7.4.1.1(b);
 - (ii) the Respondent shall pay costs in the amount of \$3,000 in certified funds, pursuant to Mutual Fund Dealer Rule 7.4.2;
 - (iii) the Respondent shall in the future comply with Mutual Fund Dealer Rule 2.1.1; and
 - (iv) the Respondent shall attend on the date set for the Settlement Hearing.
30. If this Settlement Agreement is accepted by the Hearing Panel, the Respondent agrees to pay the amounts referred to above immediately upon such acceptance, unless otherwise agreed between Enforcement Staff and the Respondent.

PART VI – STAFF COMMITMENT

31. If the Hearing Panel accepts this Settlement Agreement, Enforcement Staff will not initiate any further action against the Respondent in relation to the facts set out in Part III and the contraventions in Part IV of this Settlement Agreement, subject to the provisions of the paragraph below.
32. If the Hearing Panel accepts this Settlement Agreement and the Respondent fails to comply with any of the terms of this Settlement Agreement, Enforcement Staff may bring proceedings under Mutual Fund Dealer Rule 7 against the Respondent. These proceedings

may be based on, but not limited to, the facts set out in Part III of this Settlement Agreement.

PART VII – PROCEDURE FOR ACCEPTANCE OF SETTLEMENT

33. This Settlement Agreement is conditional on acceptance by the Hearing Panel.
34. This Settlement Agreement shall be presented to a Hearing Panel at a settlement hearing in accordance with Mutual Fund Dealer Rule 7.4.4, and Rules of Procedure 14 and 15, in addition to any other procedures that may be agreed upon between the parties.
35. Enforcement Staff and the Respondent agree that this Settlement Agreement will form all the agreed facts that will be submitted at the settlement hearing, unless the parties agree that additional facts should be submitted at the settlement hearing. If the Respondent does not appear at the settlement hearing, Staff may disclose additional relevant facts, if requested by the Hearing Panel.
36. If the Hearing Panel accepts this Settlement Agreement, the Respondent agrees to waive all rights under the Rules and By-law No. 1 of CIRO, and any applicable legislation to any further hearing, appeal, and review.
37. If the Hearing Panel rejects this Settlement Agreement, Enforcement Staff and the Respondent may enter into another settlement agreement or Enforcement Staff may proceed to a disciplinary hearing based on the same or related allegations.
38. The terms of this Settlement Agreement are confidential unless and until this Settlement Agreement has been accepted by the Hearing Panel.
39. This Settlement Agreement will become available to the public upon its acceptance by the Hearing Panel and CIRO will post a copy of this Settlement Agreement on the CIRO website. CIRO will publish a notice and news release of the facts, contraventions, and the sanctions agreed upon in this Settlement Agreement and the Hearing Panel's written reasons for its decision to accept this Settlement Agreement.

40. If this Settlement Agreement is accepted, the Respondent agrees that neither they nor anyone on their behalf, will make a public statement inconsistent with this Settlement Agreement.
41. This Settlement Agreement is effective and binding upon the Respondent and Enforcement Staff as of the date of its acceptance by the Hearing Panel.

PART VIII – EXECUTION OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

42. This Settlement Agreement may be signed in one or more counterparts which together will constitute a binding agreement.
43. An electronic copy of any signature will be treated as an original signature.

DATED this 31st day of March, 2025.

“Witness”

Witness

“Respondent”

Respondent

“Tyler Beazer”

Tyler Beazer
Enforcement Counsel on behalf of
Enforcement Staff of the
Canadian Investment Regulatory
Organization

The Settlement Agreement is hereby accepted this 15th day of April, 2025 by the following Hearing Panel:

Per: “Richard Yaffe”

Chair

Per: “Annette Stephens”

Industry Member

Per: “Greg Wiebe”
Industry Member

ⁱ Where the rules, by-laws, and policies of the Mutual Fund Dealers Association of Canada (the “MFDA”) that were in force immediately prior to amalgamation of the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada and the MFDA have been incorporated into the Mutual Fund Dealer Rules, Enforcement Staff have referenced the relevant section of the Mutual Fund Dealer Rules.