

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
INSURANCE DEPARTMENT**

Docket No.: INS No. 21-003-EP

CONSENT ORDER

This Consent Order is made between the New Hampshire Insurance Department (“NHID”) and James Kenneth Couture (“Respondent”), the terms of which are as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACTS

1. The Respondent is a licensed non-resident New Hampshire insurance producer with a National Producer License number of 5927626 and a business address of Couture Wealth Management, 11 Foster Street, Suite 200, Worcester, MA 01608.

2. From 2009 through July 16, 2020 Respondent was registered as a General Securities Representative through LPL Financial LLC.

3. On or about July 16, 2020, Respondent’s registration was terminated because he allegedly altered identifying information, account balances, and distributions in a customer account statement, maintained comingled customer funds, and used an unapproved email address.

4. In June of 2020, FINRA began investigating the allegations above; though Respondent initially complied with FINRA’s requests, he eventually decided to cease complying with the inquiry and instead executed a Letter of Acceptance, Waiver, and Consent.

5. On or about October 21, 2020, Respondent entered into a Letter of Acceptance, Waiver, and Consent with FINRA; as part of that agreement, Respondent agreed to a bar with any FINRA member in any capacity.

6. To date, the Respondent has not notified the NHID of the administrative action by FINRA or his bar with any FINRA member in any capacity.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

7. Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and the applicable provision of law, the NHID concludes and finds the following Conclusions of Law:

- a. The Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the NHID; and;
- b. The Respondent violated RSA 402-J:17, I by failing to report the administrative action described above; and
- c. Respondent's bar with any FINRA member in any capacity is a consistent with the revocation of an insurance producer license as described in RSA 402-J:12, I(i) and is grounds for revocation of his NH insurance producer license.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, the NHID orders and Respondent consents to the following:

- a. The Respondent waives all rights to a formal administrative hearing in this matter and agrees that this Consent Order shall have the full force and effect of an Order fully entered in accordance with the adjudicatory procedure provided for in RSA Chapter 541-A and Ins Part 200.
- b. For the purposes of resolving this matter without a formal administrative hearing, the Respondent agrees to a permanent revocation of his New Hampshire insurance producer license.
- c. In the event that the Respondent fails to meet any of the terms set forth in this section, the NHID may institute further administrative proceedings under the authority of RSA 400-A:15, III or any other applicable law.
- d. By entering into this Consent Order, the NHID and the Respondent intend to fully resolve all issues relating to the above-mentioned matters. This Consent Order

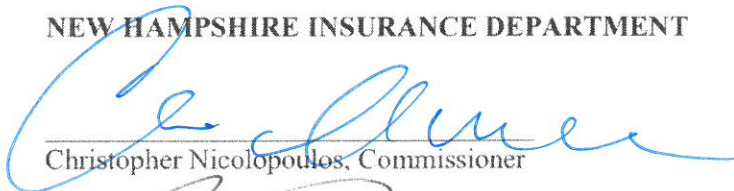
shall be deemed a complete settlement and full and final resolution and is in lieu of any other action(s) that has and could have been brought by the NHID relating to these matters. Provided however, notwithstanding the foregoing, the NHID may take any and all appropriate actions should the Respondent violate any provision of the State's insurance laws in the future.

- e. This Consent Order shall be fully enforceable in any Superior Court in the State of New Hampshire, and any actions to enforce this Consent Order shall be governed by the laws of the State of New Hampshire.
- f. This Consent Order is considered a public regulatory action and will be reported to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. The Respondent must, in the future, answer "YES" to any question which asks "have you ever been named or involved as party in an administrative proceeding" or any substantially similar question.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

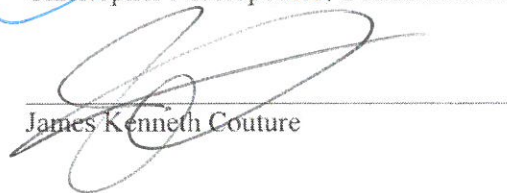
NEW HAMPSHIRE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

Date: 2/22/2021



Christopher Nicolopoulos, Commissioner

Date: 2/4/2021



James Kenneth Couture

