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# Award FINRA Dispute Resolution

In the Matter of the Arbitration Between:

Claimants

Alan Jacobson
Richard M. Schwartz

VS.

Respondent

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

<u>Case Number</u>: 11-02261

Hearing Site: New York, New York

Nature of the Dispute: Associated Persons vs. Member

## **REPRESENTATION OF PARTIES**

For Claimants Alan Jacobson ("Jacobson") and Richard M. Schwartz ("Schwartz"), hereinafter collectively referred to as "Respondents": Raquel Terrigno, Esq., and Barry Lax, Esq., Lax & Neville, LLP, New York, New York.

For Respondent Morgan Stanley Smith Barney ("Respondent"): Joseph E. Gehring, Jr., Esq., Gehring & Satriale LLC, New York, New York.

# **CASE INFORMATION**

Statement of Claim filed on or about: June 6, 2011. Jacobson signed the Submission Agreement: May 9, 2011. Schwartz signed the Submission Agreement: May 9, 2011.

Statement of Answer filed by Respondent on or about: August 2, 2011. Respondent signed the Submission Agreement: July 29, 2011.

# **CASE SUMMARY**

Claimants asserted the following causes of action: breach of express and implied contract, unjust enrichment, restitution, quantum meruit, and violation of New York Labor Law.

Unless specifically admitted in its Answer, Respondent denied the allegations made in the Statement of Claim and asserted various affirmative defenses.

05:35:50 p.m. 08-23-2012 6/11

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## RELIEF REQUESTED

In the Statement of Claim, Claimants requested compensatory damages in the amount of \$263,219.00, interest, attorneys' fees, costs, unspecified other relief, and injunctive relief.

Respondent requested dismissal of the Statement of Claim in its entirety.

## OTHER ISSUES CONSIDERED AND DECIDED

The Arbitrators acknowledge that they have each read the pleadings and other materials filed by the parties.

The parties have agreed that the Award in this matter may be executed in counterpart copies or that a handwritten, signed Award may be entered.

## AWARD

After considering the pleadings, the testimony and evidence presented at the hearing, the Panel has decided in full and final resolution of the issues submitted for determination as follows:

- 1. Respondent is liable for and shall pay to Jacobson compensatory damages in the amount of \$131,609.50 plus interest at the rate of 9% per annum accruing from October 5, 2010 until the award is paid in its entirety.
- 2. Respondent is liable for and shall pay to Schwartz compensatory damages in the amount of \$131,609.50 plus interest at the rate of 9% per annum accruing from October 5, 2010 until the award is paid in its entirety.
- 3. Any and all relief not specifically addressed herein is denied.

#### **FEES**

Pursuant to the Code, the following fees are assessed:

#### Filing Fees

FINRA Dispute Resolution assessed a filing fee\* for each claim: Initial Claim Filing fee

=\$ 1,425.00

\*The filing fee is made up of a non-refundable and a refundable portion.

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### **Member Fees**

Member fees are assessed to each member firm that is a party in these proceedings or to the member firm that employed the associated person at the time of the events giving rise to the dispute. Accordingly, as a party, Morgan Stanley Smith Barney is assessed the following:

Member Surcharge	=\$ 1,700.00
Pre-Hearing Processing Fee	=\$ 750.00
Hearing Processing Fee	=\$ 2,750.00

## **Hearing Session Fees and Assessments**

The Panel has assessed hearing session fees for each session conducted. A session is any meeting between the parties and the arbitrators, including a pre-hearing conference with the arbitrators, that lasts four (4) hours or less. Fees associated with these proceedings are:

One (1) Pre-hearing session with Pre-hearing conference:	n a single arbitrator @ June 5, 2012	\$450.00/session 1 session	= \$ 450.00
One (1) Pre-hearing session with Pre-hearing conference:	(1) Pre-hearing session with the Panel @ \$1,125.00/session hearing conference: November 17, 2011 1 session		= \$1,125.00
Four (4) Hearing sessions @ \$1,125.00/session			= \$4,500.00
Hearing Date:	August 7, 2012	2 sessions	
-	August 8, 2012	2 sessions	
Total Hearing Session Fees	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	,	= \$6,075.00

The Panel has assessed \$6,075.00 of the hearing session fees to Respondent.

All balances are payable to FINRA Dispute Resolution and are due upon receipt.

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## **ARBITRATION PANEL**

Ira S. Cure

Public Arbitrator, Presiding

Chairperson

Terrance J. Nolan

**Public Arbitrator** 

Peter M. Pfau

Non-Public Arbitrator

I, the undersigned Arbitrator, do hereby affirm, pursuant to Article 7507 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules, that I am the individual described herein and who executed this instrument which is my award.

# **Concurring Arbitrators' Signatures**

Ira S. Cure

Public Arbitrator, Presiding Chairperson

Signature Date

Terrance J. Nolan

Public Arbitrator

Signature Date

Peter M. Pfau Non-Public Arbitrator

Signature Date

August 23, 2012

Date of Service (For FINRA Dispute Resolution office use only)

08-23-2012

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## **ARBITRATION PANEL**

Ira S. Cure Terrance J. Nolan Public Arbitrator, Presiding Chairperson **Public Arbitrator** 

Peter M. Pfau

Non-Public Arbitrator

I, the undersigned Arbitrator, do hereby affirm, pursuant to Article 7507 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules, that I am the individual described herein and who executed this instrument which is my award.

## **Concurring Arbitrators' Signatures**

Ira S. Cure Public Arbitrator, Presiding Chairperson Signature Date

Terrance J. Nolan **Public Arbitrator** 

Signature Date

Peter M. Pfau

Non-Public Arbitrator

August 23, 2012

Date of Service (For FINRA Dispute Resolution office use only)