

**FINANCIAL INDUSTRY REGULATORY AUTHORITY
OFFICE OF HEARING OFFICERS**

DEPARTMENT OF MARKET REGULATION,

Complainant,

v.

LAWRENCE R. KAJMOWICZ
(CRD No. 4637591),

and

BEN JAMES RAATZ
(CRD No. 4637287),

Respondents.

Disciplinary Proceeding
No. 20080148227-02

Hearing Officer—DRS

ORDER DEFERRING RULING ON JOINT MOTION TO STAY PROCEEDINGS

Yesterday, the parties filed a Joint Motion to Stay Proceedings because they have reached an agreement in principle to resolve the case ("Motion"). The parties represent that Market Regulation has conferred with the Office of Disciplinary Affairs ("ODA") about the proposed settlement terms and has received preliminary approval. Also, the parties state that they anticipate finalizing the Offer of Settlement by December 5, 2016.

At this point I will not grant the stay. It is the practice in this forum to grant a stay based on a settlement in principle when two conditions are met: (1) respondents have signed an Offer of Settlement and (2) ODA has given preliminary approval to all settlement terms. It does not appear that adhering to that standard practice in this case would impose an undue burden on the parties; the next deadline under the Second Amended Pre-Hearing Scheduling Order—the deadline for Respondents to file revised witness lists, exhibit lists, and any revised exhibits—is not until December 19, 2016 ("Scheduling Order"). Accordingly, I will **DEFER** ruling on the Motion until Market Regulation files a supplement notifying me that it has received a signed Offer of Settlement from both Respondents and that ODA has given preliminary approval to that signed Offer of Settlement. If Market Regulation does not file this supplement by **December 9,**

This Order has been published by FINRA's Office of Hearing Officers and should be cited as OHO Order 16-31 (20080148227-02).

2016, then, by that date, it shall file a status report. Unless and until I grant the requested stay, all deadlines contained in the Scheduling Order shall remain in effect.

SO ORDERED.

David R. Sonnenberg
Hearing Officer

Date: November 23, 2016

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