

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

DEPARTMENT OF ENFORCEMENT,

Complainant,

v.

D. ALLEN BLANKENSHIP
(CRD No. 2842335),

Respondent.

Disciplinary Proceeding
No. 2019064333401

Hearing Officer–LOM

**ORDER RESCHEDULING DATES FOR
HEARING AND FINAL PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE**

The hearing in this FINRA disciplinary proceeding was initially set for eight consecutive business days in July 2024. However, after all the preliminaries leading to the hearing had been completed and the hearing was about to begin, the parties agreed to a temporary stay of the proceeding pending developments in a federal district court case Respondent had filed challenging the constitutionality of FINRA disciplinary proceedings like this.¹ On September 4, 2024, the district court in that case dismissed the case for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. That meant that the stay was no longer in effect.

I held a pre-hearing conference (“PHC”) on September 20, 2024. During the PHC, the parties discussed new hearing dates but were unable to find a block of eight days in which both parties were available. Consequently, I scheduled the hearing to begin on October 31, 2024, and run through November 15, 2024, in three two-day segments (October 31–November 1, November 7–8, and November 14–15, 2024), with a possible additional segment to be scheduled later if more than six days proved necessary to complete the hearing.

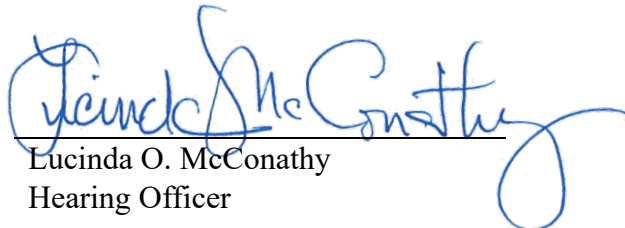
On October 21, 2024, I held another PHC. At that PHC, I explained that I had become increasingly concerned that the hearing could not be completed in six days and would have to be even more fragmented. I asked the parties to consult their calendars to see whether we could hold the hearing for an eight-day block of time on February 18–21, 2025, and February 24–27, 2025, dates that Respondent’s counsel had previously said they were available. After the parties consulted their calendars, they confirmed their availability on those dates. Accordingly, I rescheduled the hearing for February 18–21, 2025, and February 24–27, 2025.

¹ *Blankenship v. Financial Industry Regulatory Authority* (Civil Action No. 2:24-cv-03003-JFM) (E.D. Pa.).

As indicated during the PHC, the hearing is rescheduled for **February 18–21, 2025, and February 24–27, 2025**, in FINRA's Philadelphia District Office. The parties will be notified of the time and location of the hearing as the hearing date approaches.

The Hearing Officer will conduct the Final Pre-Hearing Conference by Zoom videoconference on **February 10, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. (Eastern Time)**. All parties are required to attend. Case Administrator Susan Cadeaux will invite attendees to the videoconference by email.

SO ORDERED.


Lucinda O. McConathy
Hearing Officer

Dated: October 23, 2024

Copies to:

Dochtor D. Kennedy, Esq. (via email)
Alex Padla, Esq. (via email)
Justin W. Arnold, Esq. (via email)
John R. Baraniak, Jr., Esq. (via email)
Tina Lawrence, Esq. (via email)
Jennifer L. Crawford, Esq. (via email)