

NASD DISPUTE RESOLUTION AWARD
NASD DISPUTE RESOLUTION

CASE: 05-03588

New Castle Financial Group, Inc., (Claimant) vs. Robert Hodgins and Christopher Driscoll,
(Respondents)

ATTORNEYS:

For Claimant appeared in-house counsel Brett D. Zinner, Esq., Plainview, NY.

Respondent Robert Hodgins did not submit an Answer to the Statement of Claim.

Respondent Christopher Driscoll did not submit an Answer to the Statement of Claim.

NATURE OF DISPUTE: Member v. Associated Persons

DATE FILED: July 12, 2005

CASE SUMMARY: Claimant alleged that Respondents breached a contract by failing to repay monies owed pursuant to the terms of a Promissory Note. Claimant maintained that due to Respondents' actions, the firm suffered a financial loss.

Claim Data

Claim: \$15,500.00
Attorney Fees: \$7,500.00
Filing Fees: Unspecified
Other: \$3,940.65

Award Data

Award: \$15,500.00
Attorney Fees: \$2,575.00
Filing Fees: \$1,050.00
Other: \$3,940.65

AWARD: The undersigned arbitrator has decided and determined in full and final resolution of the issues submitted for determination as follows: 1) Respondents are jointly and severally liable and shall pay to the Claimant \$15,500.00. 2) Respondents are jointly and severally liable and shall pay to the Claimant \$2,575.00 for attorney fees pursuant to the terms of the Promissory Note dated March 2005 and executed by Respondents. 3) Respondents are jointly and severally liable and shall pay to the Claimant \$3,940.65 for other costs incurred. 4) NASD Dispute Resolution shall retain the \$1,050.00 filing fee that the Claimant deposited previously. 5) Respondents are jointly and severally liable and shall pay Claimant \$1,050.00 as reimbursement of the filing fee.

OTHER FEES: Pursuant to Rule 10333 of the Code, Claimant has paid to NASD Dispute Resolution the \$425.00 Member Surcharge previously invoiced.

OTHER ISSUES: Pursuant to the By-Laws of NASD Dispute Resolution, the arbitrator determined that Respondents Robert Hodgins and Christopher Driscoll were served notice of the Statement of Claim and Notification of Arbitrator by regular mail, and Overdue Notice by certified mail, and are therefore bound by the arbitrator's ruling and determination.

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Joseph M. Buffone, Esq.

Sole Non-Public Arbitrator

AFFIRMATION

I, Joseph M. Buffone, Esq., 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.

Joseph M. Buffone
Joseph M. Buffone, Esq.

December 7, 2005
(Signature Date)

December 9, 2005
Date of Service (For NASD-DR office use only)