

Award
NASD Regulation, Inc.

In the Matter of the Arbitration Between

Names of Claimants

George Hughes Money Purchase Pension Plan
George Hughes Profit Sharing Plan

Case No. 99-04126

Names of Respondents

Robert R. Blagojevich
Invest Financial Corporation

REPRESENTATION OF PARTIES

For George Hughes Money Purchase Pension Plan (the "Pension Plan") and George Hughes Profit Sharing Plan (the "Profit Sharing Plan") (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Claimants"): George D. Hughes, Trustee of the Pension Plan and the Profit Sharing Plan, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

For Robert R. Blagojevich ("Blagojevich") and Invest Financial Corporation ("Invest") (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Respondents"): Gerry Gunderson, Esq., In-House Counsel for Respondent Invest, Bismark, North Dakota.

CASE INFORMATION

Statement of Claim filed on or about: September 7, 1999.

Claimants signed Uniform Submission Agreements on: August 27, 1999 and March 16, 2000.

Statement of Answer filed by Respondent Blagojevich on or about: November 9, 1999.

Respondent Blagojevich signed the Uniform Submission Agreement on: November 17, 1999.

Statement of Answer filed by Respondent Invest on or about: March 29, 2000.

Respondent Invest signed the Uniform Submission Agreement on: March 27, 2000.

CASE SUMMARY

Claimants alleged that Respondents are liable for damages caused by transfer delays of mutual funds in Keogh accounts with Respondent Invest to an IRA account with Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association, College Retirement Equities Fund.

Unless specifically admitted in its Answer, Respondents denied the allegations made in the Statement of Claim and asserted the following defenses: 1) Respondent Blagojevich is not a proper party; 2) Claimants failed to state a claim upon which relief can be granted; 3) Respondent Invest's actions were proper and within industry standards; and 4) Claimants failed to allege provable damages.

RELIEF REQUESTED

Claimants requested that the Arbitrator award compensatory damages in the amount of \$10,000.00, inclusive of costs.

Respondents requested that the Arbitrator dismiss the Statement of Claim and enter an award in favor of Respondents.

OTHER ISSUES CONSIDERED AND DECIDED

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, and the post-hearing submissions (if any), the Arbitrator has decided in full and final resolution of the issues submitted for determination as follows:

All claims asserted in this arbitration are hereby dismissed with prejudice.

FEES

Pursuant to the Code, the following fees are assessed:

Filing Fees

NASD Regulation, Inc. will retain or collect the non-refundable filing fees for each claim:

Initial claim filing fee = \$75.00

Member Fees

Member fees are assessed to each member firm that is a party in these proceedings or to the member firm(s) that employed the associated person(s) at the time of the event(s) giving rise to the dispute. In this matter, the member firm is a party.

Member surcharge = \$300.00

Adjournment Fees

Adjournments requested during these proceedings:

There were no adjournments requested during these proceedings.

Forum Fees and Assessments

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

One (1) Pre-hearing session with the Arbitrator x \$250.00 = \$250.00
Pre-hearing conference: March 9, 2000 1 session

Two (2) Hearing sessions x \$250.00 = \$500.00
Hearing Date: May 16, 2000 2 sessions

Total Forum Fees = \$750.00

The Arbitrator has assessed \$375.00 of the forum fees jointly and severally to Claimants.
The Arbitrator has assessed \$375.00 of the forum fees to Respondent Invest.

Administrative Costs

Administrative costs are expenses incurred due to a request by a party for special services including, but not limited to, additional copies of arbitrator awards beyond those provided without charge, copies of audio transcripts, retrieval of documents from archives, interpreters, and security.

No administrative costs were incurred during these proceedings.

Fee Summary

Claimants be and hereby are jointly and severally liable for:

Initial Claim Filing Fee	= \$ 75.00
Forum Fees	= \$375.00
Total Fees	= \$450.00
<u>Less payments</u>	<u>= \$325.00</u>
Balance Due NASD Regulation, Inc.	= \$125.00

Respondent Invest be and hereby is solely liable for:

Member Fees	= \$300.00
Forum Fees	= \$375.00
Total Fees	= \$675.00
<u>Less payments</u>	<u>= \$ 0.00</u>
Balance Due NASD Regulation, Inc.	= \$675.00

All balances are due and payable to NASD Regulation, Inc.

Arbitrator Signature

/s/
Seymour Freed, Public Arbitrator

Signature Date

June 7, 2000
Date of Service (For NASD office use only)

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Hearing Date: May 16, 2000 2 sessions

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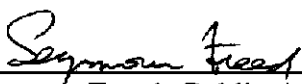
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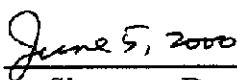
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Balance Due NASD Regulation, Inc.	= \$675.00

All balances are due and payable to NASD Regulation, Inc.

Arbitrator Signature


Seymour Freed, Public Arbitrator


Signature Date

Date of Service (For NASD office use only)