

**BEFORE THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
OF THE STATE OF IDAHO**

STATE OF IDAHO, Department of Finance,
Securities Bureau,

Complainant,

vs.

SOLIUM FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC,

Respondent.

Docket No. 2019-7-13

CONSENT ORDER

The Director of the Department of Finance, State of Idaho ("Director"), as a member of the North American Securities Administrators Association, conducted a coordinated investigation of the conduct of Solium Financial Services LLC, ("Respondent"). Pursuant to said investigation, it appears that violations of *the Idaho Uniform Securities Act (2004)* ("Act"), *Idaho Code §30-14-101 et seq.* have occurred. The Director and Solium Financial Services LLC have agreed to resolve this matter without a public hearing. Therefore, the Director deems it appropriate and in the public interest that this Consent Order ("Order") be entered and the Respondent consents to the entry of this Order.

BACKGROUND

WHEREAS, Solium Financial Services LLC ("SFS") is a broker-dealer with a principal place of business at 50 Tice Boulevard, Suite A-18 Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey 07677, and registered as a broker-dealer with the Idaho Department of Finance on May 3, 2019, license number BD-15058.

WHEREAS, on May 1, 2019, Morgan Stanley acquired Solium Capital Inc., which included its subsidiaries Solium Holdings USA LLC and SFS (hereinafter collectively with SFS and its affiliates, "Solium");

WHEREAS, after the acquisition, SFS self-reported to state securities regulators that it had transmitted certain securities orders in certain jurisdictions at a time when SFS was not registered as a broker-dealer in such jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, certain members of the North American Securities Administrators Association, with Alabama serving as the lead state (collectively, the “State Regulators”) conducted a coordinated investigation of SFS to determine whether SFS’s activity was in violation of the relevant jurisdictions’ broker-dealer registration requirements;

WHEREAS, SFS has cooperated during the course of the investigation and has agreed to resolve the investigation with the State Regulators;

WHEREAS, SFS elects to permanently waive any right to a hearing and appeal under the Idaho Uniform Securities Act (“Act”) Sections 30-14-604 and 609, Idaho Code, and under the contested case provisions of the Idaho Administrative Procedures Act, Section 67-5240 through 5249, Idaho Code, with respect to this Administrative Consent Order;

WHEREAS, SFS, without admitting or denying the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein, voluntarily consents to the entry of this Consent Order (“Order”) pursuant to Section 30-14-604 of the Act with respect to this Order;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Director of Idaho Department of Finance finds this Order is in the public interest and hereby enters the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. SFS, CRD No. 147933, is a subsidiary of Solium Holdings USA LLC. SFS registered as a broker-dealer with the Idaho Department of Finance on May 3, 2019, license number BD-15058.

2. Solium provides equity plan administration software to employers. Employee-participants of employer-sponsored equity plans that utilize Solium's software can view and track the options and shares issued to them by their employers.

3. If an employee-participant residing in Idaho requests an exercise or liquidation through Solium's software, SFS transmits an order in the relevant account at a clearing broker-dealer registered in Idaho and then routes the proceeds to the employee-participant's account. SFS receives a share of the commissions earned on these transactions.

4. SFS does not provide advice to employee-participants or solicit transactions in any manner.

5. From at least January 2009 to May 3, 2019, SFS transmitted orders for employee-participants residing in Idaho when SFS was not registered as a broker-dealer with the Idaho Department of Finance.

6. SFS has provided substantial and timely cooperation to the State Regulators during the course of the referenced investigation.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. During the period from at least January 2009 to May 3, 2019, SFS acted as a "broker-dealer" in Idaho as the term broker-dealer is defined by Section 30-14-102(4) of the Act.

2. Section 30-14-401(a) states that it is unlawful for a person to transact business in Idaho as a broker-dealer unless such person is registered under the Act.

3. By engaging in the conduct set forth above, SFS acted as an unregistered broker-dealer in Idaho in violation of Section 30-14-401(a) of the Act.

4. As a result of the stated violation, SFS is subject to the assessment of a fine pursuant to Section 30-14-604 of the Act.

5. This Order is appropriate and in the public interest.

ORDER

On the basis of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and SFS's consent to the entry of this Order, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. This Order concludes the investigation by the Idaho Department of Finance and any other action that the Director could commence under applicable Idaho law as it relates to the substance of the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law herein, provided however, that the Director may pursue claims arising from SFS's failure to comply with the terms of this Order.

2. This Order is entered into solely for the purpose of resolving the investigation and is not intended to be used for any other purpose.

3. SFS shall cease and desist from violating Section 30-14-401(a) of the Act.

4. (a) SFS shall pay a fine in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) to the "Idaho Department of Finance" within ten (10) business days of the entry of this Order.

- (b) SFS shall pay back registration fees in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for the period 2014 through May 3, 2019 to the "Idaho Department of Finance" within ten (10) business days of the entry of this Order.

5. This Order is not intended to form the basis for any disqualification from registration as a broker-dealer, investment adviser, or issuer under the laws, rules, and regulations of Idaho and waives any disqualification from relying upon the securities registration exemptions or safe harbor provisions to which SFS or any of its affiliates may be subject under the laws, rules and regulations of Idaho.

6. Nothing in this Order is intended to form the basis for any disqualification under the laws of Idaho, any other state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin

Islands; under the rules or regulations of any securities or commodities regulator or self-regulatory organizations (SROs); or under the federal securities laws, including but not limited to, Section 3(a)(39) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Regulation A, Rules 504 and 506 of Regulation D under the Securities Act of 1933, and Rule 503 of Regulation CF. Further, nothing in this Order is intended to form the basis for disqualification under the FINRA rules prohibiting continuance in membership or disqualification under other SRO rules prohibiting continuance in membership. This Order is not intended to be a final order based upon any violation of any Idaho statute, rule, or regulation that prohibits fraudulent, manipulative, or deceptive conduct.

7. Except in an action by the Director to enforce the obligations in this Order, this Order is not intended to be deemed or used as (a) an admission of, or evidence of, the validity of any alleged wrongdoing or liability; or (b) an admission of, or evidence of, any such alleged fault or omission of SFS in any civil, criminal, arbitration, or administrative proceeding in any court, administrative agency, or other tribunal.

8. This Order is not intended to state or imply willful, reckless, or fraudulent conduct by SFS, or its affiliates, directors, officers, employees, associated persons, or agents.

9. SFS, through execution of this Order, voluntarily waives the right to a hearing and to judicial review of this Order under Sections 30-14-604 and 609, Idaho Code, and under the contested case provisions of the Idaho Administrative Procedures Act, Section 67-5240 through 5249, Idaho Code.

10. SFS enters into this Order voluntarily and represents that no threats, offers, promises, or inducements of any kind have been made by the Director or any member, officer, employee, agent, or representative of the Idaho Department of Finance to induce it to enter into this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED

DATED this 9th day of March, 2020.

STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE



PATRICIA R. PERKINS, Director of Finance



I hereby agree to the entry of this Consent Order; consent to all terms, conditions and orders contained therein; and waive any right to appeal from this Order.



Michael Hennessy, Managing Director
SOLIUM FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC

March 6, 2020

Date