# Award FINRA Office of Dispute Resolution

In the Matter of the Arbitration Between:				
Claimant	Case Number:			
VS.				
Respondent Voya Financial Partners, LLC	Hearing Site: Augusta, Maine			
Nature of the Dispute: Associated Person vs. Member				
REPRESENTATION OF PARTIES				
For Claimant Dochtor Kennedy, AdvisorLaw LLC, Broomfield, Colorado.				
For Respondent Voya Financial Partners, LLC: Michelle Rosenberg, Voya Financial Partners, LLC, Windsor, Connecticut.				
CASE INFORMATION				
Statement of Claim filed on or about: February 20, 2017.  signed the Submission Agreement: February 20, 2017.				
Voya Financial Partners, LLC did not file an Answer or sign the Submission Agreement.				
CASE SUMMARY				
Claimant asserted the following causes of action: expungement.				

# RELIEF REQUESTED

In the Statement of Claim, Claimant requested compensatory damages in the amount of \$1.00, expungement of occurrence # and occurrence # from his CRD records and any and all other relief that the Arbitrator deems just and equitable.

At the close of the hearing, Claimant withdrew his request for compensatory damages.

#### OTHER ISSUES CONSIDERED AND DECIDED

The Arbitrator acknowledges that he has read the pleadings and other materials filed by the parties.

Respondent did not file with FINRA Office of Dispute Resolution a Statement of Answer or a properly executed Submission Agreement but is required to submit to arbitration pursuant to the Code of Arbitration Procedure ("Code") and is bound by the determination of the Panel on all issues submitted.

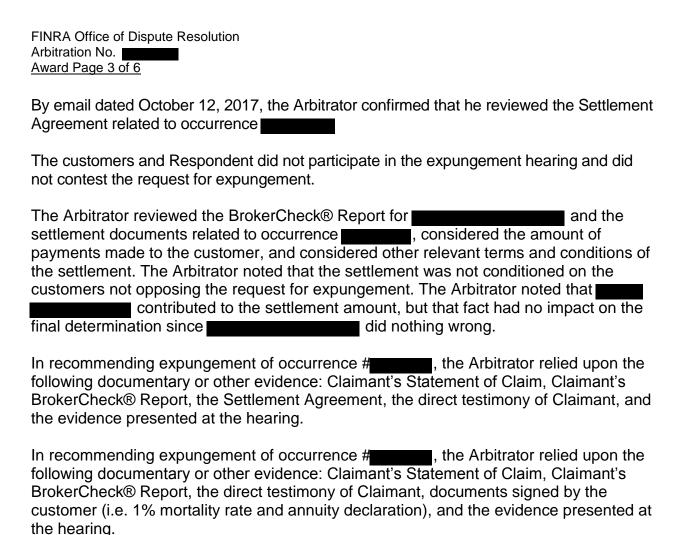
Respondent Voya Financial Partners, LLC did not appear at the evidentiary hearing. V е

Arbitrator determined that Respondent Voya Financial Partners, LLC has been properly served with the Statement of Claim and received due notice of the hearing, and that arbitration of the matter would proceed without said Respondent present, in accordance with the Code.
By letter dated May 30, 2017, Claimant notified the customers related to occurrence # and occurrence # of the expungement request and of their right to participate and testify at the expungement hearing and he provided the customers with a copy of the Statement of Claim.
The Arbitrator conducted a recorded telephonic expungement hearing on July 18, 2017 so the parties could present oral argument and evidence on request for expungement.
On July 24, 2017, the Arbitrator ordered Respondent to produce the Settlement Agreement related to occurrence # no later than August 4, 2017.
On August 13, 2017, Claimant notified FINRA Dispute Resolution that Respondent had not complied with the Arbitrator's July 24, 2017 Order.
On August 16, 2017, the Arbitrator ordered Respondent to produce the Settlement Agreement related to occurrence # or an Affidavit no later than August 18, 2017.
On Contember 10, 2017, Claimant natified FINDA Dispute Baselution that Despendent

On September 19, 2017, Claimant notified FINRA Dispute Resolution that Respondent produced an unsigned copy of the Settlement Agreement and agreed to give the Respondent additional time to locate any other documents.

By Order dated September 20, 2017, the Arbitrator ordered the Respondent to produce the executed Settlement Agreement no later than October 2, 2017.

On September 28, 2017, FINRA received the executed Settlement Agreement related to occurrence



The Arbitrator noted that disclosures in the CRD.

#### <u>AWARD</u>

After considering the pleadings, the testimony and evidence presented at the telephonic expungement hearing, the Arbitrator has decided in full and final resolution of the issues submitted for determination as follows:

1. The Arbitrator recommends the expungement of all references to occurrence

# from registration records maintained by the Central Registration

Depository ("CRD"), for (CRD # (CRD #

Unless specifically waived in writing by FINRA, parties seeking judicial confirmation of an arbitration award containing expungement relief must name FINRA as an additional party and serve FINRA with all appropriate documents.

Pursuant to Rule 13805 of the Code, the Arbitrator has made the following Rule 2080 affirmative finding of fact:

The claim, allegation, or information is false.

The Arbitrator has made the above Rule 2080 finding based on the following reasons:

The allegations were false because the mathematical calculations were wrong, as computed by the customer. The customer did not calculate dollar cost averaging and diversification across numerous funds. As a result, the customer's calculation was over \$10,000.00. When explained the error in the account, which was due to a brokerage firm error, the proper calculation of the financial error was approximately \$4,400.00, well less than the amount required to be reported and placed on CRD. The \$4,400.00 settlement was accepted by the customer.

2. The Arbitrator recommends the expungement of all references to occurrence from registration records maintained by the Central Registration Depository ("CRD"), for (CRD "Manual") with the understanding that, pursuant to Notice to Members 04-16, must obtain confirmation from a court of competent jurisdiction before the CRD will execute the expungement directive.

Unless specifically waived in writing by FINRA, parties seeking judicial confirmation of an arbitration award containing expungement relief must name FINRA as an additional party and serve FINRA with all appropriate documents.

Pursuant to Rule 13805 of the Code, the Arbitrator has made the following Rule 2080 affirmative finding of fact:

The claim, allegation, or information is false.

The Arbitrator has made the above Rule 2080 finding based on the following reasons:

The customer had over 20 years of investment experience as Finance Professor. The customer's investment allocations and recommendations were routinely reviewed for over ten years. The customer's investments were not discretionary. The customer was provided all disclosures, fees and prospectus. Therefore, did nothing wrong.

3. Any and all claims for relief not specifically addressed herein are denied.

## **FEES**

Pursuant to the Code of Arbitration Procedure, the following fees are assessed:

### Filing Fees

FINRA Office of Dispute Resolution assessed a filing fee\* for each claim:

Initial Claim Filing Fee

=\$ 50.00

#### **Member Fees**

Member fees are assessed to each member firm that is a party in these proceedings or to the member firm that employed the associated person at the time of the events giving rise to the dispute. Accordingly, as a party, Respondent Voya Financial Partners, LLC is assessed the following:

Member Surcharge

=\$ 150.00

### **Hearing Session Fees and Assessments**

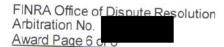
The Arbitrator has assessed hearing session fees for each session conducted. A session is any meeting between the parties and the arbitrator, including a pre-hearing conference with the arbitrator, that lasts four (4) hours or less. Fees associated with these proceedings are:

One (1) pre-hearing se Pre-hearing conference	ession with a single arbitrate: June 23, 2017	ator @ \$50.00/session 1 session	=\$ 50.00
One (1) hearing session on expungement request @ \$50.00/session Hearing Date: July 18, 2017 1 session			=\$ 50.00
Total Hearing Session Fees			=\$ 100.00

The Arbitrator has assessed the \$100.00 hearing session fees to Respondent.

All balances are payable to FINRA Office of Dispute Resolution and are due upon receipt.

<sup>\*</sup>The filing fee is made up of a non-refundable and a refundable portion.



# **ARBITRATOR**

Samuel H. Chorches

Sole Public Arbitrator

I, the undersigned Arbitrator, do hereby affirm that I am the individual described herein and who executed this instrument which is my award.

Arbitrator's Signature

Samuel H. Chorches Sole Public Arbitrator

Signature Date

October 18, 2017

Date of Service (For FINRA Office of Dispute Resolution office use only)