

**Award**  
**FINRA Office of Dispute Resolution**

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In the Matter of the Arbitration Between:

Claimant  
[REDACTED]

Case Number: [REDACTED]

vs.

Respondent  
Great Eastern Securities, Inc.

Hearing Site: New York, New York

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Nature of the Dispute: Associated Person vs. Member

**REPRESENTATION OF PARTIES**

For Claimant [REDACTED]: Doctor Kennedy, Esq., AdvisorLaw, LLC, Broomfield, Colorado.

For Respondent Great Eastern Securities, Inc.: Jeffrey Ramson, Great Eastern Securities., Inc, New York, New York.

**CASE INFORMATION**

Statement of Claim filed on or about: March 13, 2018.  
Claimant signed the Submission Agreement: March 13, 2018.

Respondent did not submit an Answer or sign the Submission Agreement.

**CASE SUMMARY**

Claimant asserted the following cause of action: defamation on Form U5.

**RELIEF REQUESTED**

In the Statement of Claim, Claimant requested compensatory damages in the amount of \$1.00 and expungement of his Form U5.

### **OTHER ISSUES CONSIDERED AND DECIDED**

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

Respondent Great Eastern Securities Inc. did not file with FINRA Office of Dispute Resolution 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 Arbitrator on all issues submitted.

Respondent Great Eastern Securities Inc. did not appear at the evidentiary hearing. Upon review of the file and the representations made on behalf of the Claimant, the Arbitrator determined that Respondent Great Eastern Securities Inc. 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.

### **AWARD**

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

1. The Arbitrator recommends the expungement of the current Reason for Termination and Termination Explanation on the Form U5 filed by Great Eastern Securities Inc. on May 30, 2002 for Claimant [REDACTED] (CRD# [REDACTED]) maintained by the Central Registration Depository ("CRD") based on the defamatory nature of the information. The Arbitrator recommends that the Reason for Termination Section 3 to be changed to "Voluntary" and that the Termination Explanation appear blank. This recommendation applies to all subsequent disclosures concerning this event. The Form U5 is not automatically amended to include the changes indicated above. Claimant [REDACTED] must forward a copy of this Award to FINRA's Registration and Disclosure Department for review.

2. 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
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*\*The filing fee is made up of a non-refundable and a refundable portion.*

**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, Great Eastern Securities, Inc. is assessed the following:

Member Surcharge	= \$ 150.00
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**Postponement Fees**

Postponements granted during these proceedings for which fees were assessed or waived:

November 6, 2018 postponement by Claimant	= \$ 50.00
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Total Postponements Fees	= \$ 50.00
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The Arbitrator has assessed the \$50.00 postponement fees to Claimant.

**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 session with a single arbitrator @ \$50.00/session	= \$ 50.00
Pre-hearing conference: June 29, 2018	1 session

One (1) hearing session on expungement request @ \$50.00/session	= \$ 50.00
Hearing Date: August 1, 2018	1 session

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Total Hearing Session Fees	= \$100.00
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The Arbitrator has assessed the \$100.00 session fees to Claimant.

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

**ARBITRATOR**

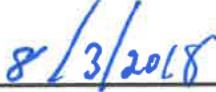
Michael H. DuBoff

- Sole Public Arbitrator

I, the undersigned Arbitrator, 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.

**Arbitrator's Signature**

  
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Michael H. DuBoff  
Sole Public Arbitrator

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

**August 7, 2018**

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