

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND SECURITIES

PA DEPARTMENT OF  
BANKING AND SECURITY

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA	:	
DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND	:	
SECURITIES, BUREAU OF SECURITIES	:	
COMPLIANCE AND EXAMINATIONS	:	
	:	DOCKET No. 18 <u>0068</u> (SEC-CAO)
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
IFS SECURITIES, INC.	:	

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CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Department of Banking and Securities (“Department”), Bureau of Securities Compliance and Examinations (“Bureau”), has conducted an investigation of the business practices of IFS Securities, Inc. (“IFS”) and its officers and employees. Based on the results of its investigation, the Bureau has concluded that IFS has operated in violation of the Pennsylvania Securities Act of 1972, 70 P.S. § 1-101 *et seq* (“1972 Act”). IFS, in lieu of litigation, and without admitting or denying the allegations herein, and intending to be legally bound, hereby agrees to the terms of this Consent Agreement and Order (“Order”).

**BACKGROUND**

1. The Department is the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s administrative agency authorized and empowered to administer and enforce the 1972 Act.
2. The Bureau is primarily responsible for administering and enforcing the 1972 Act for the Department.

3. IFS (CRD # 40375) was, at all times material herein, a Pennsylvania corporation with an address at 3414 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1020, Atlanta, Georgia 30326-1184.

4. From in or about May 1996 until the present, IFS has been registered in Pennsylvania pursuant to Section 301(a) of the 1972 Act, 70 P.S. § 1-301(a), as a broker-dealer.

5. From in or about August 2016 until February 2018, IFS employed an agent to represent IFS who, while registered as an investment advisor representative with IFS Advisory, LLC, an affiliate of IFS, was neither registered nor exempt from registration as an agent pursuant to the 1972 Act.

#### **VIOLATION**

6. By engaging in the acts and conduct set forth in paragraphs 4 through 5 above, IFS employed an agent to represent IFS who was neither registered nor exempt from registration in violation of Section 301(b) of the 1972 Act, 70 P.S. § 1-301(b).

#### **RELIEF**

7. Within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date of this Order, as defined in paragraph 15, IFS shall pay the Department an administrative assessment in the amount of \$15,000.00. Payment shall be made by certified check or money order made payable to the "Department of Banking and Securities" and shall be mailed or delivered in person to the Bureau of Securities Compliance and Examinations located at 17 N. Second Street, Suite 1300, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101.

8. IFS is ORDERED to comply with the 1972 Act, and Regulations adopted by the Department, and in particular Section 301(b) of the 1972 Act, 70 P.S. § 1-301(c).

9. Should IFS fail to pay the assessment as set forth in paragraph 7 above, the sanctions set forth elsewhere in the Order shall continue in full force and effect until full payment is made. However, this provision shall not be construed as affording IFS the option of either paying the assessment or being indefinitely subject to the sanctions.

10. Should IFS fail to comply with any and/or all provisions of this Order, the Department may impose additional sanctions and costs and seek other appropriate relief subject to IFS's right to a hearing pursuant to the 1972 Act.

#### FURTHER PROVISIONS

11. Consent. IFS hereby knowingly, willingly, voluntarily and irrevocably consents to the entry of this Order pursuant to the Bureau's authority under the 1972 Act and agrees that it understands all of the terms and conditions contained herein. IFS, by voluntarily entering into this Order, waives any right to a hearing or appeal concerning the terms, conditions, and/or penalties set forth in this Order.

12. Entire Agreement. This Order contains the entire agreement between the Department and IFS. There are no other terms, obligations, covenants, representations, statements, conditions, or otherwise, of any kind whatsoever concerning this Order. This Order may be amended in writing by mutual agreement by the Department and IFS.

13. Binding Nature. The Department, IFS, and all officers, owners, directors, employees, heirs and assigns of IFS intend to be and are legally bound by the terms of this Order.

14. Counsel. This Order is entered into by the parties upon full opportunity for legal advice from legal counsel.

15. Effectiveness. IFS hereby stipulates and agrees that the Order shall become effective on the date the Bureau executes the Order ("Effective Date").

16. Other Enforcement Action.

(a) The Department reserves all of its rights, duties, and authority to enforce all statutes, rules, and regulations under its jurisdiction against IFS in the future regarding all matters not resolved by this Order.

(b) IFS acknowledges and agrees that this Order is only binding upon the Department and not any other local, state or federal agency, department, or office regarding matters within this Order.

17. Authorization. The parties below are authorized to execute this Order and legally bind their respective parties.

18. Counterparts. This Order may be executed in separate counterparts, by facsimile and/or by PDF.

19. Titles. The titles used to identify the paragraphs of this document are for the convenience of reference only and do not control the interpretation of this document.

20. Finding. The Department finds that it is necessary and appropriate in the public interest and for the protection of investors, and consistent with the purposes fairly intended by the policy and provisions of the 1972 Act to issue this Order.

**WHEREFORE**, in consideration of the foregoing, including the recital paragraphs, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Banking and Securities, Bureau of Securities Compliance and Examinations and IFS Securities, Inc., intending to be legally bound, do hereby execute this Consent Agreement and Order.

**FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND SECURITIES  
BUREAU OF SECURITIES COMPLIANCE AND EXAMINATIONS**

Redacted

Joseph J. Minisi, Deputy Secretary for Securities

Date: 10/4/18

**FOR IFS SECURITIES, INC.**

Redacted  
(Signature)

J. Thomas Sadler COO  
(Print Officer Name)

