## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Before the SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 Release No. 56580 / September 28, 2007

**ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING** File No. 3-12861

In the Matter of

MICHAEL B. UPTON,

Respondent.

ORDER INSTITUTING
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS
PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(b) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934,
MAKING FINDINGS, AND IMPOSING
REMEDIAL SANCTIONS

I.

The Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") deems it appropriate and in the public interest that public administrative proceedings be, and hereby are, instituted pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") against Michael B. Upton ("Upton" or "Respondent").

II.

In anticipation of the institution of these proceedings, Respondent has submitted an Offer of Settlement (the "Offer") which the Commission has determined to accept. Solely for the purpose of these proceedings and any other proceedings brought by or on behalf of the Commission, or to which the Commission is a party, and without admitting or denying the findings herein, except as to the Commission's jurisdiction over him and the subject matter of these proceedings, and the findings contained in Sections III.2. and III.3. below, which are admitted, Respondent consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Making Findings, and Imposing Remedial Sanctions ("Order"), as set forth below.

III.

On the basis of this Order and Respondent's Offer, the Commission finds that:

- 1. Upton, age 60, resides in Santa Ana, California. Upton worked as a registered representative with MCL Financial Group, Inc. from July 2003 until his retirement in February 2006. Upton holds Series 6, 7, 22, 63, and 65 licenses.
- 2. On September 26, 2007, a final judgment was entered by consent against Respondent permanently enjoining him from future violations of Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act") and Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, in the civil action entitled Securities and Exchange Commission v. Michael B. Upton, Civil Action Number 07-06180 (CAS) (AGRx), in the United States District Court for the Central District of California.
- 3. The Commission's complaint alleges that, from August 2003 through March 2005, Upton made materially false and misleading statements and omitted to disclose material information to investors in connection with 27 securities offerings. The complaint further alleges that Upton misrepresented to investors the investment risks and also that certain shares would soon be publicly traded despite his knowledge that his representations were false. Additionally, the complaint alleges that Upton failed to disclose to investors that he earned override commissions in addition to sales commissions on the sale of the securities. Upton profited from such misrepresentations by way of undisclosed commissions of \$287,496.

## IV.

In view of the foregoing, the Commission deems it appropriate and in the public interest to impose the sanctions agreed to in Upton's Offer.

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED:

Pursuant to Section 15(b)(6) of the Exchange Act, that Respondent Upton be, and hereby is, barred from association with any broker or dealer;

Any reapplication for association by the Respondent will be subject to the applicable laws and regulations governing the reentry process, and reentry may be conditioned upon a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the satisfaction of any or all of the following (a) any disgorgement ordered against the Respondent, whether or not the Commission has fully or partially waived payment of such disgorgement; (b) any arbitration award related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order; (c) any self-regulatory organization arbitration award to a

customer, whether or not related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order; and (d) any restitution order by a self-regulatory organization, whether or not related to the conduct that served as the basis for the Commission order.

By the Commission.

Nancy M. Morris Secretary