

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Release No. 63897 / February 11, 2011

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING
File No. 3-13130

In the Matter of	:	
	:	
	:	ORDER PERMITTING ATTORNEY TO
	:	RESUME APPEARING AND PRACTICING
	:	UNDER RULE 102(e)(5) OF THE
CHRISTOPHER L. MARTIN	:	COMMISSION'S RULES OF PRACTICE
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I.

On August 13, 2008, the Commission instituted proceedings against attorney Christopher L. Martin ("Martin") pursuant to Rule 102(e)(1)(i) of its Rules of Practice. *See* Order, Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Release No. 58356 (August 13, 2008). The basis for these proceedings was the permanent injunction against him entered in an action brought by the Commission in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas (*SEC v. Christopher L. Martin*, Civil Action No. 4:08-cv-02270). In that action, the Commission alleged that Martin, while General Counsel of HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. ("HCC"), helped facilitate a scheme to illegally backdate stock-option grants at HCC. On July 22, 2008, Martin consented to the entry of a Final Judgment by the district court permanently enjoining him from future violations of Sections 17(a)(2) and 17(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933, Sections 13(b)(5) and 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and Exchange Act Rules 13b2-1, 13b2-2, and 16a3, and aiding and abetting future violations of Sections 13(a), 13(b)(2)(A), 13(b)(2)(B), and 14(a) of the Exchange Act, and Exchange Act Rules 12b-20, 13a-1, 13a-11, 13a-13, 14a-3, and 14a-9.

In anticipation of the institution of that administrative proceeding, Martin consented to entry of the Order without admitting or denying the findings except as to the Commission's jurisdiction over him and the subject matter of the proceedings, and the findings contained in Section III.3 of the Order, which he admitted. The Order provided that Martin could apply to resume appearing and practicing before the Commission after a period of two years upon the submission of an affidavit stating, under penalty of perjury, that he has complied with the Commission's Order, that he is not subject to any suspension or disbarment as an attorney by a court of the United States or of any state, territory, district, commonwealth, or possession, and

that he has not been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude as set forth in Rule 102(e)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

II.

On or about August 16, 2010, more than two years after he had been suspended by the Commission, Martin filed an application for reinstatement. His application includes a personal affidavit in which he swore under penalty of perjury that he has complied with the Commission's Order, that he is not subject to any suspension or disbarment as an attorney by a court of the United States or of any state, territory, district, commonwealth, or possession, that he is a member in good standing of the bar of Texas, and that he has not been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude. Since the entry of the Order, no information has come to the attention of the Commission relating to Martin's character, integrity, professional conduct or qualifications to practice before the Commission that would be a basis for adverse action against him pursuant to Rule 102(e) of the Commission's Rules of Practice. In addition, he has paid the \$50,000 civil penalty required by the Judgment in SEC v. Christopher L. Martin, Civil Action No. 4:08-cv-02270 (S.D. of Texas).

III.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission has determined that it is appropriate to reinstate Martin, pursuant to Rule 102(e)(5), to appear or practice before the Commission.

Accordingly, it is HEREBY ORDERED that Martin may resume practicing as an attorney before the Commission.

By the Commission.

Elizabeth M. Murphy
Secretary

Service List

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