

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Release No. 61761 / March 23, 2010

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING
File No. 3-13826

In the Matter of

JOSEPH P. COLLINS, ESQ.,
Respondent.

ORDER OF SUSPENSION PURSUANT
TO RULE 102(e)(2) OF THE
COMMISSION'S RULES OF PRACTICE

I.

The Securities and Exchange Commission deems it appropriate to issue an order of forthwith suspension of Joseph P. Collins, Esq. pursuant to Rule 102(e)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice [17 C.F.R. § 200.102(e)(2)].¹

II.

The Commission finds that:

1. Collins is an attorney admitted to practice law in Illinois.
2. On March 17, 2010, a judgment of conviction was entered against Collins in *United States v. Collins*, S1 07 CR 1170 (RPP), in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, finding him guilty of one count of conspiracy, two counts of securities fraud, and two counts of wire fraud. Collins was convicted for his role in fraudulent conduct that occurred at Refco Group Ltd., a former financial services firm that was his longtime client, and its corporate successor, Refco Inc.
3. As a result of this conviction, Collins was sentenced to 7 years imprisonment in a federal correctional facility.

III.

¹ Rule 102(e)(2) provides in pertinent part: "Any . . . person who has been convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude shall be forthwith suspended from appearing or practicing before the Commission."

In view of the foregoing, the Commission finds that Collins has been convicted of a felony within the meaning of Rule 102(e)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

Accordingly, it is ORDERED, that Joseph P. Collins, Esq. is forthwith suspended from appearing or practicing before the Commission as an attorney pursuant to Rule 102(e)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

By the Commission.

Elizabeth M. Murphy
Secretary