# STATE OF ARIZONA FILED

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STATE OF ARIZONA

STATE OF ARIZONA DEPT OF INSURANCE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

In the Matter of:

LABINE, LAWRENCE MICHAEL

(National Producer Number 384626) (Legacy License ID Number 385787)

and

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LABINE INSURANCE SERVICES LLC

(National Producer Number 14271307) (Legacy License ID Number 946176) (License Number 1800007123)

Respondents.

No. 17A-072-INS

**ORDER** 

On April 24, 2018, the Office of Administrative Hearings, through Administrative Law Judge Thomas Shedden, issued an Administrative Law Judge Decision ("Recommended Decision"), received by the Interim Director of the Department of Insurance ("Interim Director") on April 26, 2018, a copy of which is attached and incorporated by this reference. The Interim Director of the Department of Insurance has reviewed the Recommended Decision and enters the following Order:

- The Interim Director adopts the Recommended Findings of Fact, Conclusions
  of Law and Order.
- The Interim Director revokes the Arizona resident insurance producer license
  of Lawrence Michael LaBine, National Producer Number 384626, effective
  immediately.

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 The Interim Director revokes the Arizona resident insurance producer license of LaBine Insurance Services, LLC, License Number 1800007123, effective immediately.

## **NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS**

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S.") § 41-1092.09, Respondents may request a rehearing with respect to this order by filing a written motion with the Interim Director of the Department of Insurance within 30 days of the date of this Order, setting forth the basis for relief under A.A.C. R20-6-114(B). Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.09, it is not necessary to request a rehearing before filing an appeal to Superior Court.

Respondents may appeal the final decision of the Interim Director to the Superior Court of Maricopa County for judicial review pursuant to A.R.S. § 20-166. A party filing an appeal must notify the Office of Administrative Hearings of the appeal within ten days after filing the complaint commencing the appeal, pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-904(B).

DATED this 27th day of April , 2018.

Keith A. Schraad, Interim Director Arizona Department of Insurance

COPY of the foregoing mailed this 30 h day of April , 2018, to:

Lawrence Michael LaBine Financial & Estate Planning 4300 N. Miller Rd., Ste-200 Scottsdale, AZ 85251-3621 Respondent

Lawrence Michael LaBine 9439 E. Yucca St. Scottsdale, AZ 85260 Respondent

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1	LaBine Insurance Services, LLC
2	c/o Lawrence Michael LaBine 14426 E. Shadow Canyon Dr.
3	Fountain Hills, AZ 85268 Respondent
4	Office of Administrative Hearings
5	1400 West Washington, Suite 101 Phoenix, Arizona 85007
6	COPY of the foregoing delivered, same date, to:
7	Mary Kosinski, Regulatory Legal Affairs Officer Catherine O'Neil, Consumer Legal Affairs Officer Steven Fromholtz, Assistant Director – Consumer Protection Division
8	
9	Wendy Greenwood, Investigator Sharyn Kerr, Consumer Protection Division
10	Arizona Department of Insurance 2910 North 44th Street, Suite 210
11	Phoenix, Arizona 85018
12	COPY of the foregoing delivered electronically, same date, to:
13	Lawrence Michael LaBine larry@larrylabine.com
14	Respondent
15	Lynette Evans Assistant Attorney General
16	AdminLaw@azag.gov
17	Attorney for the Department of Insurance
18	
19	Maidene Scheiner
20	Maidene Scheiner
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## IN THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

DEPT. OF INSURANCE

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LaBine, Lawrence Michael

(National Producer Number 384626) (Legacy License ID Number 385787)

and

In the Matter of:

LaBine Insurance Services LLC (National Producer Number 14271307) (Legacy License ID Number 946176) (License Number 1800007123)

Respondents.

No. 17A-072-INS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE **DECISION** 

HEARING: April 17, 2018

APPEARANCES: Lawrence Michael LaBine for Respondents; Liane Kido, Esq. for the Department of Insurance

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Thomas Shedden

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- On February 2, 2018, the Arizona Department of Insurance ("Department") issued a Notice of Hearing setting the above-captioned matter for hearing at 1:00 p.m. April 17, 2018 at the Office of Administrative Hearings.
- Lawrence Michael LaBine appeared and testified for Respondents. 2.
- The Department presented the testimony of its investigator Wendy Greenwood. 3.
- Mr. LaBine holds license No. 384626 and LaBine Insurance Services, LLC holds license No. 1800007123, both of which were issued by the Department.
- 5. Mr. LaBine's license is due to expire on January 31, 2019.
- LaBine Insurance Services, LLC's license expired on June 30, 2017. LaBine Insurance Services, LLC was terminated on June 5, 2017.

Office of Administrative Hearings 1740 West Adams Street, Lower Level Phoenix, Arizona 85007 (602) 542-9826

- 7. On November 22, 2005, the NASD issued an Order Accepting Offer of Settlement it which it suspended Mr. LaBine from registration with any member for fifteen days, issued a fine against Mr. LaBine of \$25,000, and required Mr. LaBine to requalify as a securities representative.
- 8. Mr. LaBine did not report to the Department the 2005 NASD Order.
- 9. On January 19, 2007, Mr. LaBine filed with the Department a renewal application. In that application, Mr. LaBine answered "no" to the question of whether he had ever had any business license or certification suspended that he had not previously reported to the Department. This answer was false because Mr. LaBine had been suspended from registration through the 2005 NASD Order.
- 10. On March 9, 2007, the Illinois Secretary of State issued a Consent Order of Withdrawal in which Mr. LaBine agreed to have his registration as a salesperson withdrawn, that he would not reapply for such a registration for the next eighteen months, and that he repay the costs of the investigation.
- 11. The March 2007 Consent Order shows that Mr. LaBine had made unsuitable recommendations to five customers, which resulted in losses to those customers, and were violations of NASD Conduct Rules 2310 and 2110. These unsuitable recommendations were part of the NASD's basis for issuing the November 2005 Order.
- 12. Mr. LaBine did not report to the Department the 2007 Illinois Secretary of State Consent Order.
- 13. On January 28, 2011, Mr. LaBine filed with the Department a renewal application. In that application, Mr. LaBine answered "no" to the question of whether he had ever had any business license or certification suspended that he had not previously reported to the Department. This answer was false because Mr. LaBine had been suspended from registration through the 2005 NASD Order and had withdrawn his salesperson's registration in Illinois as part of the 2007 Consent Order.
- 14. On April 8, 2016, FINRA issued an Order Accepting Offer of Settlement showing that Mr. LaBine had violated NASD Rules 2310 and 2110, and FINRA rule 2010. Mr. LaBine was barred from association with any FINRA member.
- 15. Mr. LaBine did not report to the Department the April 2016 FINRA Order.

16. Through an undated Notice, the Securities and Exchange Commission found that an Initial Decision dated March 2, 2016 had become final. Through the Notice, the SEC ordered Mr. LaBine to cease and desist from violating various law and rules, that he disgorge \$100,000, that he be barred for two years from associating with any investment broker or advisor, and that he was prohibited from participating in investment companies for two years.

- 17. Mr. LaBine did not report to the Department the March 2016 SEC Initial Decision or Notice finalizing that Decision.
- 18. On November 7, 2016, the California Insurance Commissioner issued an Order of Summary Revocation, revoking Mr. LaBine's California insurance producer's licenses.
- 19. Mr. LaBine did not report to the Department the November 2016 California Order.
- 20. On July 13, 2017, the Arizona Corporation Commission issued an Order of Revocation through which it revoked Mr. LaBine's registration as a securities salesman and his license as an investment advisor representative.
- 21. Mr. LaBine did not report to the Department the July 2017 Corporation Commission Order.
- 22. Mail sent by the Department to Mr. LaBine's and LaBine Insurance Services' addresses of record was returned to the Department.
- 23. Mr. Greenwood learned that although Mr. LaBine's lease had not expire, he had not been to the premises for over a year, that landlord had retaken possession of those premises, and that Mr. LaBine had left behind files that the landlord shredded with Mr. LaBine's permission.
- 24. Mr. LaBine testified to the effect that NASD, FINRA and SEC information was public, and that he had left employees in charge of his office space.
- 25. Mr. LaBine also testified to the effect that the investments at issue in his disciplinary matters were not bad investments, but some losses are to be expected when investing.
- 26. Mr. LaBine sees the benefits that life insurance provides to consumers and testified that he needed to keep his license because he is behind on child support and for his own living expenses.

27. The Department requests that Mr. LaBine's and LaBine Insurance Services, LLC's licenses be revoked.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Department bears the burden of persuasion. ARIZ. REV. STAT. § 41-1092.07(G).
- 2. The burden of proof at an administrative hearing falls to the party asserting a claim, right or entitlement. The standard of proof is that of the preponderance of the evidence. ARIZ. ADMIN. CODE § R2-19-119.
- 3. A preponderance of the evidence is:

The greater weight of the evidence, not necessarily established by the greater number of witnesses testifying to a fact but by evidence that has the most convincing force; superior evidentiary weight that, though not sufficient to free the mind wholly from all reasonable doubt, is still sufficient to incline a fair and impartial mind to one side of the issue rather than the other.

BLACK'S LAW DICTIONARY 1373 (10th ed. 2014).

- 4. Mr. LaBine was required to report to the Department the 2005 NASD Order, the 2007 Illinois Secretary of State Consent Order, the April 2016 FINRA Order, and the March 2016 SEC Initial Decision of notice finalizing that Decision, but failed to do so, which are violations of ARIZ, REV. STAT. section 20-2662(D).
- 5. Mr. LaBine failed to report to the Department and the November 2016 California Order, which is a violation of ARIZ. REV. STAT. section 20-301(A).
- 6. Mr. LaBine violated ARIZ. REV. STAT. section 20-286(C)(1) by failing to report his changes of address.
- 7. Mr. LaBine violated ARIZ. REV. STAT. section 20-295(A)(1) by reporting false or misleading information to the Department in his 2007 and 2011 license applications.
- 8. The 2005 NASD Order, the 2007 Illinois Secretary of State Consent Order, the April 2016 FINRA Order, and the Notice finalizing the March 2016 SEC Initial Decision, show that Mr. LaBine used fraudulent or dishonest practices, demonstrating untrustworthiness in the conduct of business, which is a violation of ARIZ. REV. STAT. section 20-295(A)(8).

- There is sufficient evidence to show that Mr. LaBine violated ARIZ. REV. STAT. section 20-290(A) by failing to properly maintain records of his transactions at his principal place of business.
   Based on Mr. LaBine's proven violations, the Department has the authority to revoke Mr. LaBine's license. ARIZ. REV. STAT. § 20-295(A).
- 11. Based on Mr. LaBine's proven violations, the Department has the authority to revoke LaBine Insurance Service's LLC's license. ARIZ. REV. STAT. §§ 20-295(B) and (H).
- 12. Considering the nature and number of Mr. LaBine's violations, Mr. LaBine's and LaBine Insurance Services LLC's licenses should be revoked.

# **ORDER**

IT IS ORDERED that Lawrence Michael LaBine's license No. 384626 is revoked; IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that LaBine Insurance Services, LLC's license No. 1800007123 is revoked.

In the event of certification of the Administrative Law Judge Decision by the Director of the Office of Administrative Hearings, the effective date of the Order will be the date of that certification.

Done this day, April 24, 2018

/s/ Thomas Shedden
Thomas Shedden
Administrative Law Judge

Transmitted electronically to:

 Leslie R. Hess, Interim Director Arizona Department of Insurance