UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Before the SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 Release No. 65829 / November 28, 2011

INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT OF 1940 Release No. 3321 / November 28, 2011

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING File No. 3-14641

In the Matter of

CHARLES L. RIZZO and GINA M. HORNBOGEN,

Respondents.

ORDER INSTITUTING ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO SECTION 203(f) OF THE INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT OF 1940 AND SECTION 15(b)(6) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

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 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 ("Advisers Act") and Section 15(b)(6) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") against Charles L. Rizzo and Gina M. Hornbogen ("Respondents").

II.

After an investigation, the Division of Enforcement alleges that:

A. <u>RESPONDENTS</u>

1. <u>Charles L. Rizzo</u>. Rizzo co-founded Results One Financial, LLC ("Results One"), a registered investment adviser, in 2000 in Elmhurst, Illinois. Rizzo was a director and 35% equity owner of the firm until it dissolved in 2010. Rizzo had supervisory responsibility over Steven Salutric from 2002 through 2009. Rizzo is currently a principal of RH Financial Group, LLC, a registered investment adviser located in Oak Brook, Illinois. Rizzo holds Series 7, 24, and 63 licenses and has been a registered representative since 1996. Rizzo, age 61, is a resident of Oak Brook, Illinois.

2. <u>Gina M. Hornbogen</u>. Hornbogen joined Results One in 2000 and served as the firm's chief compliance officer from 2004 until 2010. Hornbogen also became a director and 2.5% equity partner of the firm in 2008. Hornbogen had supervisory responsibility over Steven Salutric from October 2004 through 2009. Hornbogen is currently a principal of RH Financial Group, LLC. Hornbogen holds Series 6, 7, 24, 63, and 66 licenses and has been a registered representative since 2001. Hornbogen, age 37, is a resident of Carol Stream, Illinois. Throughout the time of the conduct described herein, Rizzo and Hornbogen were associated with broker-dealers including Waterstone Financial, Inc., Questar Capital Corp., and most recently American Portfolios Financial Services, Inc. Rizzo and Hornbogen are currently associated with a broker-dealer.

B. OTHER RELEVANT ENTITIES AND INDIVIDUALS

- 3. Results One Financial, LLC. Results One was an Illinois Limited Liability Company located in Elmhurst, Illinois and was registered with the Commission as an investment adviser from 2000 until early 2010. In early 2010, Results One dissolved as a corporate entity. In early 2010, Results One withdrew its registration as an investment adviser. Rizzo and Hornbogen then formed a new firm, RH Financial Group, LLC, a registered investment adviser that claims to be responsible for approximately \$150 million of client assets.
- 4. <u>Steven Salutric.</u> Salutric, age 51, is a resident of Carol Stream, Illinois. In 2000, Salutric co-founded Results One along with Rizzo and others. Salutric was a principal of Results One until early 2010. Salutric performed investment advisory services for Results One clients. Salutric was also a certified public accountant and performed accounting and tax services for Results One clients. On January 8, 2010, the Commission filed an emergency ex parte action against Salutric, seeking a temporary restraining order and preliminary and permanent injunctions against Salutric, alleging violations of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder and Sections 206(1) and 206(2) of the Advisers Act. <u>SEC v. Salutric</u>, 10-cv-1115 (N.D. Ill.) (J. Dow). In its complaint, the Commission alleged that Salutric misappropriated millions of dollars from his advisory clients at Results One. On January 8, 2010, the District Court granted the emergency relief sought by the Commission, including a temporary restraining order.

C. FACTS

Salutric misappropriated \$7 million from his clients.

- 5. From 2002 through 2009, Salutric misappropriated approximately \$7 million from fifteen advisory clients at Results One. About \$2.3 million of this amount was misappropriated from 2007 through 2009.
- 6. Results One client funds and securities were held by Charles Schwab & Co. ("Schwab"), which served as custodian of client funds. Pursuant to investment advisory agreements with clients, Results One personnel had authority to trade in clients' accounts without prior approval.

- 7. However, Results One personnel did not have authority to withdraw funds from the client accounts. Moreover, Schwab's internal procedures did not permit disbursements of client funds to third parties unless the client signed a wire transfer request.
- 8. In order to misappropriate client funds, Salutric forged client signatures on wire transfer requests, directing Schwab to wire funds from the clients' accounts to entities linked to Salutric. On occasions when his clients' accounts lacked sufficient funds, Salutric liquidated client securities to generate cash. The clients were not aware of, and did not approve of, Salutric's withdrawals.
- 9. Salutric transferred stolen client funds to entities under his control, to business ventures with which he was involved, and to some of his accounting clients. A number of these transfers were purportedly loans to the recipients of the funds.
- 10. Salutric's fraud finally ceased in December 2009, when one of his advisory clients discovered that almost \$600,000 was missing from his account. This client's attorney brought this issue to the attention of Schwab and Results One. Shortly thereafter, Salutric admitted to Results One that he had forged this client's signature on wire transfer requests.
- 11. From at least 2002 until December 2009, Rizzo had supervisory responsibility over Salutric in Salutric's capacity as advisory representative.
- 12. From at least 2004 until December 2009, Hornbogen had supervisory responsibility over Salutric in Salutric's capacity as advisory representative.
- 13. From at least 2002 until December 2009, Rizzo and Hornbogen failed reasonably to investigate or otherwise respond to numerous red flags indicating possible violations by Salutric.

From 2002 through early 2004, Rizzo and Hornbogen failed reasonably to respond to suspicious patterns of Salutric client withdrawals.

- 14. Nearly every business day from late 2002 through December 2009, Results One operations department personnel sent Rizzo and Hornbogen emails listing all "large withdrawals" and "large deposits" in client accounts the previous day.
- 15. These emails provided notice to Rizzo and Hornbogen of significant client withdrawals, including most, if not all, of the funds Salutric misappropriated from his clients.
- 16. These emails provided notice to Rizzo and Hornbogen of suspicious amounts and patterns of withdrawals from the accounts of Salutric's clients.
- 17. For example, during the three months from April 2003 through June 2003, Rizzo and Hornbogen received emails revealing over \$1.9 million in withdrawals, most of which were over \$100,000. Six hundred thousand dollars of these withdrawals were made from the account of a single client, and another \$500,000 in withdrawals was made from the account of one other

client.

- 18. In another instance, Rizzo and Hornbogen received an email showing over \$900,000 in deposits into the accounts of four Salutric clients on a single day, June 12, 2003. Then, just four days later, Rizzo and Hornbogen received emails revealing that most of the \$900,000 was wired out of the four clients' accounts.
- 19. On occasion, Rizzo and Hornbogen asked Salutric to explain large withdrawals from his clients' accounts. However, they routinely accepted, without further inquiry, whatever explanation Salutric gave them. At no point did Rizzo and Hornbogen contact Salutric's clients about the suspicious withdrawals.
- 20. Had Rizzo and Hornbogen contacted Salutric's defrauded clients regarding the suspicious withdrawals, Rizzo and Hornbogen likely would have discovered that these clients were unaware of the transactions and had not authorized them.

Schwab warned Rizzo and Hornbogen that the signature of a Salutric client had been forged.

- 21. In April 2004, Schwab received a \$30,000 wire transfer request for the account of a Salutric client ("Client A"). Schwab personnel noticed that Client A's signature on this request did not match his signature on other documents in Client A's file.
- 22. Schwab personnel called Jason Helms ("Helms"), the head of operations at Results One. They told Helms they were concerned that Client A's signature was not authentic. Helms relayed the warning on to Hornbogen.
- 23. In the meantime, Schwab personnel contacted Client A. He informed Schwab that his signature had been forged on the letter of authorization and that he had been unaware of the withdrawal, although he subsequently ratified the transaction. Schwab personnel telephoned Rizzo and alerted him to Client A's statements.
- 24. Schwab personnel told Rizzo that he needed to investigate this issue to determine who forged Client A's signature.
- 25. Neither Rizzo nor Hornbogen ever called Client A to ask about the forged signature or the \$30,000 transfer.

In June 2004, Schwab informed Rizzo and Hornbogen of \$2.5 million in suspicious transactions which indicated possible fraud by Salutric.

26. On June 8, 2004, Rizzo and Salutric spoke by telephone with Schwab personnel regarding \$2.5 million in suspicious transfers among the Schwab accounts of Salutric and several of his clients. The suspicious transfers took place between March 2003 and June 2004. Some of the transactions were transfers between Salutric's account and several of his clients' accounts. Others were transfers between accounts of Salutric clients. Rizzo later informed Hornbogen as

to the substance of this conversation.

- 27. Earlier, in April and May 2004, Schwab personnel had discussed some or all of these suspicious transfers with Rizzo in other telephone conversations.
- 28. During the June 8, 2004 telephone call, Salutric stated that the transfers were loans and that the documentation for the loans was at his home, not in Results One's offices.
- 29. During the June 8, 2004 call, Salutric stated that the transactions were none of Schwab's business because they were simply loans between clients.
- 30. Schwab personnel responded by stating that Rizzo and Salutric had a fiduciary duty to all Results One clients and that they had an obligation to act in the best interest of their clients.
- 31. Schwab insisted that Salutric provide detailed supporting documentation for all of the transactions discussed during this phone call.
- 32. During this phone call, Rizzo told Schwab personnel that he was considering resigning from Results One because he was worried about these transactions. Schwab personnel responded that Rizzo should be worried about these transactions, as they could indicate fraudulent activity by Salutric.
- 33. Rizzo took notes during this phone call. On the second page of his notes, Rizzo wrote: "Concerns: (1) Making & receiving loans from clients (PONZI Scheme)."
- 34. Rizzo did not contact the clients whose accounts were flagged by Schwab regarding the suspicious transfers.
- 35. In a June 15, 2004 telephone call, Rizzo told Schwab personnel that he was conducting an internal investigation into the transactions flagged by Schwab and that the investigation would include contacting all the clients involved.
- 36. Rizzo did not conduct an internal investigation into the transactions flagged by Schwab or contact any of the relevant clients.

Schwab demanded that Rizzo and Hornbogen no longer permit Salutric to manage client accounts held by Schwab.

- 37. On July 19, 2004, Rizzo and Hornbogen participated in a telephone call with Schwab personnel.
- 38. Schwab personnel told Rizzo and Hornbogen that because of the suspicious transactions involving Salutric, Schwab was no longer comfortable doing business with Salutric.
 - 39. Schwab personnel directed Rizzo and Hornbogen to remove Salutric as an

authorized user of Schwab's trading platform.

- 40. Schwab personnel demanded that Rizzo and Hornbogen ensure Salutric no longer managed client accounts held by Schwab.
- 41. Schwab personnel added that if they ever found out that Salutric was managing any Schwab clients, the entire relationship between Schwab and Results One would be at risk.
 - 42. Rizzo said that he understood Schwab's instructions and would follow them.
- 43. Rizzo also said that Results One was considering sending letters to all the clients involved in the suspicious transactions flagged by Schwab.
- 44. Results One, however, did not send letters to the clients involved in the transactions.

Rizzo deceived Schwab by causing Schwab personnel to believe that Results One was complying with their instructions.

- 45. Removing Salutric as an authorized user of Schwab's trading platform had little practical effect on his ability to manage client accounts at Schwab.
- 46. Specifically, Results One's procedures required advisory representatives to submit transaction requests to the operations department, primarily Helms, who would then submit the transactions to Schwab under his name not the representative's name.
 - 47. Rizzo and Hornbogen were aware of this procedure. Schwab was not.
- 48. Rizzo submitted Schwab paperwork removing Salutric as an authorized user, knowing that this would have little effect on Salutric's management of Schwab accounts.
- 49. Despite Rizzo's assurances that Schwab's instructions would be followed, Rizzo and Hornbogen permitted Salutric to continue managing accounts held by Schwab.
- 50. After July 2004, Rizzo and Hornbogen permitted Salutric to continue routing instructions for his clients' accounts through Results One's operations department.

Rizzo and Hornbogen ignored their attorney's advice to contact all clients whose accounts had been flagged by Schwab.

- 51. On July 20, 2004, Rizzo and Hornbogen met with the firm's securities counsel ("Attorney A"). Rizzo and Hornbogen had previously sent Attorney A the supporting documentation that Salutric provided to Schwab on June 24, 2004.
- 52. During this meeting, Attorney A advised Rizzo and Hornbogen that one of the transactions flagged by Schwab "looked like 'borrowing from Peter to pay Paul."

- 53. Attorney A also advised Rizzo and Hornbogen that Results One should not engage in this type of transactions in the future.
- 54. Attorney A also advised Rizzo and Hornbogen to "send a letter to clients regarding these transactions making sure they agree and understand the transactions and realize that Results One did not play any role in these transactions."
- 55. Rizzo and Hornbogen never sent any letters to these clients or made any other attempt to verify that the clients agreed with and understood the transactions.
- 56. Had Rizzo and Hornbogen contacted the clients, they likely would have learned that the clients were unaware of, and had not authorized, the transactions flagged by Schwab.

From October 2004 through 2009, Rizzo and Hornbogen failed to respond to still more suspicious withdrawals from accounts of Salutric clients.

- 57. From October 2004 through 2009, Rizzo and Hornbogen continued to receive emails notifying them of large, suspicious withdrawals from the accounts of Salutric clients.
- 58. These emails alerted Rizzo and Hornbogen to virtually all the instances when Salutric misappropriated funds from his clients' accounts between October 2004 and late 2009.
- 59. For example, between October and December 2004, Rizzo and Hornbogen received emails alerting them to nearly \$1.4 million in large withdrawals from the account of a single Salutric client—including withdrawals of \$500,000 and \$308,000. Despite these warnings, Rizzo and Hornbogen did not contact the client to inquire about the withdrawals. As a result, Rizzo and Hornbogen did not discover that Salutric had misappropriated the funds from the client's account.

From July 2006 through October 2006, Hornbogen failed reasonably to respond to red flags concerning IRA accounts of two Salutric clients.

- 60. From December 2005 through October 2006, Schwab sent over thirty emails to Results One about two delinquent \$100,000 loans previously made from Individual Retirement Accounts ("IRA") of two Salutric advisory clients ("Client B and Client C"). The loans had been made to a real estate company ("Company A"). Company A was one of Salutric's accounting clients. The \$100,000 loans had matured the previous year, in July 2004.
- 61. The loans were required to be repaid into the clients' IRA accounts at Schwab when they matured. Otherwise, the transactions would likely be considered distributions for tax purposes, and the clients would be likely to incur liability for taxes and early withdrawal penalties. Schwab sought answers from Results One as to why these loans had not been repaid.
- 62. In reality, Salutric had fraudulently diverted the \$200,000 to Company A without the knowledge or approval of Client B or Client C. Salutric falsely represented to Company A

that his clients had approved the purported loans.

- 63. Moreover, the \$200,000 had already been repaid by Company A; Salutric had diverted the \$200,000 paid by Company A to a third party as yet another purported loan.
- 64. From July 2006 through October 2006, Salutric provided Hornbogen with various incredible excuses and unfulfilled promises that the purported loans would be repaid soon.
- 65. Hornbogen repeatedly accepted, without further inquiry, Salutric's increasingly incredible excuses as to why the loans had not been repaid, despite mounting indications that he was lying to stall for time.
- 66. In late August 2006, Salutric provided Hornbogen with a copy of a check dated August 3, 2006 from Company A to Client B. Salutric told Hornbogen that he would mail the original of the check to Schwab.
- 67. In fact, the copy Salutric gave Hornbogen in August 2006 was a doctored version of a May 2006 check that Company A had written to Client B to repay the purported loan from Client B's IRA account. Company A had given the check to Salutric in May 2006. Instead of forwarding the check to Client B, however, Salutric forged Client B's endorsement on the check and diverted the money to another party.
- 68. Hornbogen emailed a copy of the check to Schwab, promising that the original of the check would be overnighted to Schwab so it could be deposited into Client B's account.
- 69. Hornbogen later discovered that Salutric did not send the check to Schwab, but she did nothing to follow up on the issue.
- 70. Salutric also falsely told Hornbogen that Client B and Client C had both received loan repayment checks directly from Company A and that they had mailed the checks to Results One. Salutric later falsely told Hornbogen that both of these checks had been lost in the mail. Hornbogen did not follow up on this suspicious explanation by Salutric.
- 71. Had Hornbogen contacted Client B, Client C, or Company A, she likely would have discovered that the \$200,000 from Client B and Client C, along with another \$1.3 million belonging to seven other Salutric clients, had been fraudulently diverted to Company A.

Hornbogen concealed Salutric's involvement in these transactions.

- 72. From July 2006 through October 2006, Hornbogen acted as a buffer between Schwab and Salutric when answering Schwab's questions about the purported loans from Client B and Client C to Company A.
- 73. Whenever Schwab inquired about the purported overdue loans, Hornbogen relayed the question to Salutric and then passed Salutric's response on to Schwab by email.

- 74. Hornbogen knew that Salutric was the person managing these advisory clients' IRA accounts, and she knew that Company A was Salutric's accounting client.
- 75. Hornbogen thus knew Salutric was the only person in the office who had communications with the individuals on both sides of the purported loans.
- 76. Hornbogen also knew that Salutric was not supposed to be managing the accounts of Client B and Client C—Schwab had instructed Rizzo and Hornbogen that Salutric was no longer permitted to manage client accounts held by Schwab back in July 2004.
- 77. Throughout her email exchanges with Schwab, Hornbogen refrained from using Salutric's name. Instead, she referred only to "the partner in charge of this client" or "the partner in charge at my firm."
- 78. Through her actions, Hornbogen concealed the fact that Salutric was still managing client accounts held by Schwab.
- 79. After October 2006, Rizzo and Hornbogen continued to receive emails from the Results One operations department notifying them of large withdrawals from the accounts of Salutric clients.
 - 80. Rizzo and Hornbogen failed reasonably to respond to these emails.

Rizzo and Hornbogen failed reasonably to respond to indications that Salutric had serious financial problems.

- 81. During a September 2006 meeting, Salutric informed Rizzo that, due to difficulties in distributing a motion picture Salutric co-produced, Salutric and his partners were at risk of defaulting on a \$2 million bank loan. During this meeting, Salutric told Rizzo that he might have to declare personal bankruptcy to resolve his debts related to this business venture.
- 82. In November and December 2006, over \$1 million in checks drawn on Salutric's personal Schwab account were returned for insufficient funds. In January and February 2007, a total of \$1.7 million in checks drawn on Salutric's Schwab account were returned for insufficient funds. Most of these bounced checks were written to Salutric's clients as personal loans.
- 83. Rizzo and Hornbogen knew about several of the checks Salutric bounced between November 2006 and February 2007.
 - 84. Nevertheless, Rizzo and Hornbogen did not inquire into the bounced checks.
- 85. After February 2007, Rizzo and Hornbogen continued to receive emails from the Results One operations department notifying them of large withdrawals from the accounts of Salutric clients.
 - 86. Rizzo and Hornbogen failed reasonably to respond to these emails.

Rizzo failed reasonably to respond to emails raising still more red flags about Salutric.

- 87. Rizzo failed reasonably to respond to emails indicating that Salutric had facilitated purported loans from his Results One advisory clients to his business partner and had engaged in undisclosed outside business activities and investments.
- 88. For example, in December 2007, Rizzo reviewed a July 2007 email from Salutric to his business partner in connection with a motion picture ("Partner A") revealing that Salutric had facilitated \$640,000 in purported loans from four of his advisory clients to Partner A.
- 89. Rizzo never took any steps to investigate these transactions. Had Rizzo contacted any of the clients identified in the email, he likely would have learned that they were unaware of the transfers and had not approved the purported loans to Partner A.
- 90. In December 2008, Rizzo reviewed an email between Salutric and another business partner revealing that Salutric was the managing partner of a company called Celluloid Distribution, and that this entity had an investment in a business venture called The Word of Promise, also with Partner A.
- 91. This email also revealed that Celluloid Distribution had purportedly borrowed over \$900,000 from one of Salutric's advisory clients. In reality, Salutric misappropriated this \$900,000 from the client.
- 92. Salutric never disclosed his interests in Celluloid Distribution and The Word of Promise on his Results One code of ethics forms, as was required.
- 93. Rizzo took no steps to verify that Salutric's investments in Celluloid Distribution and The Word of Promise had been disclosed on Salutric's Results One code of ethics forms.
- 94. Rizzo never contacted the client from whom Salutric had misappropriated the \$900,000 purportedly loaned to Celluloid Distribution.
- 95. Despite being made aware of the numerous serious indications of misconduct by Salutric between 2002 and 2009 described above, Rizzo and Hornbogen conducted virtually no investigation into these red flags, thus permitting Salutric's fraud to continue unhindered until December 2009, when he was finally caught. Had Rizzo and Hornbogen conducted a reasonable investigation into any of the red flags described above, they likely would have discovered Salutric's fraud long before December 2009.

D. <u>VIOLATIONS</u>

- 96. In connection with the conduct described above, Salutric violated Sections 206(1) and 206(2) of the Advisers Act, which prohibit fraudulent conduct by an investment adviser.
- 97. In connection with the conduct described above, Salutric violated Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, which prohibit fraudulent conduct in connection

with any purchase or sale of security.

98. As a result of the conduct described above, Respondents Rizzo and Hornbogen failed reasonably to supervise Salutric.

III.

In view of the allegations made by the Division of Enforcement, the Commission deems it necessary and appropriate in the public interest that public administrative proceedings be instituted to determine:

- A. Whether the allegations set forth in Section II hereof are true and, in connection therewith, to afford Respondents Rizzo and Hornbogen an opportunity to establish any defenses to such allegations;
- B. What, if any, remedial action is appropriate in the public interest against Respondents Rizzo and Hornbogen pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Exchange Act including, but not limited to, disgorgement and civil penalties pursuant to Section 21B of the Exchange Act; and
- C. What, if any, remedial action is appropriate in the public interest against Respondents Rizzo and Hornbogen pursuant to Section 203(f) of the Advisers Act including, but not limited to, disgorgement and civil penalties pursuant to Section 203 of the Advisers Act.

IV.

IT IS ORDERED that a public hearing for the purpose of taking evidence on the questions set forth in Section III hereof shall be convened at a time and place to be fixed, and before an Administrative Law Judge to be designated by further order as provided by Rule 110 of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 17 C.F.R. § 201.110.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondents Rizzo and Hornbogen shall each file an Answer to the allegations contained in this Order within twenty (20) days after service of this Order, as provided by Rule 220 of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 17 C.F.R. § 201.220.

If any Respondent fails to file the directed answer, or fails to appear at a hearing after being duly notified, the Respondent may be deemed in default and the proceedings may be determined against him/her upon consideration of this Order, the allegations of which may be deemed to be true as provided by Rules 155(a), 220(f), 221(f) and 310 of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 17 C.F.R. §§ 201.155(a), 201.220(f), 201.221(f) and 201.310.

This Order shall be served forthwith upon Respondents personally or by certified mail.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Administrative Law Judge shall issue an initial decision no later than 300 days from the date of service of this Order, pursuant to Rule 360(a)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 17 C.F.R. § 201.360.

In the absence of an appropriate waiver, no officer or employee of the Commission engaged in the performance of investigative or prosecuting functions in this or any factually related proceeding will be permitted to participate or advise in the decision of this matter, except as witness or counsel in proceedings held pursuant to notice. Since this proceeding is not "rule making" within the meaning of Section 551 of the Administrative Procedure Act, it is not deemed subject to the provisions of Section 553 delaying the effective date of any final Commission action.

By the Commission.

Elizabeth M. Murphy Secretary