

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
SECURITIES DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF determining
Whether there has been a violation of the
Securities Act of Washington by:

Ronald L. Copple,

Respondent.

SDO – 64 – 00

CONSENT ORDER

Case No. 99-11-366

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO: RONALD L. COPPLE
32708 57TH AVE S
AUBURN, WA 98001- 3845

The Securities Division, Department of Financial Institutions, State of Washington, and respondent Ronald L. Copple (“Copple”) do hereby agree to this Consent Order in settlement of the matters alleged in SDO-40-00, which are the subject of this Consent Order. Respondent Copple neither admits nor denies the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

RESPONDENT

1. Ronald L. Copple (“Copple”) was registered with the State of Washington as a securities salesperson for Mutual of Omaha Investor Services, Inc. (“MOIS”) until October 11, 1999. MOIS is a broker/dealer of securities and has its principal place of business at Mutual of Omaha Plaza, Omaha, NE 68175-1020.

2. Copple’s office of employment with MOIS was 7525 SE 24th St, Suite 310, Mercer Island, WA 98040.

CONSENT ORDER

1

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
Securities Division
PO Box 9033
Olympia, WA 98507-9033
360-902-8760

1 **NATURE OF COPPLE’S CONDUCT**

2 3. In the early 1970’s Copple began advising a Washington resident (the “Investor”) regarding investments, and
3 insurance matters. During the twenty years that followed Copple advised the Investor on an extensive basis, including
4 estate planning and personal matters such as the funeral of the Investor’s first wife.

5 4. On or about March 4, 1999, Copple met with the Investor, at the Investor’s home, to discuss
6 reinvestment of \$300,000. Copple suggested that the Investor place \$275,000 in a Pioneer mutual fund, instructing the
7 Investor to make the check payable to Pioneer Services Corp.

8 5. Copple then suggested that the Investor place the remaining \$25,000 into a real estate investment,
9 which he referred to as the Real Estate Shares Account, telling the Investor that it was a good investment and the return
10 would be based upon the sale of a development. Copple then instructed the Investor to make the check payable to Ron
11 Copple d.b.a. Copple Insurance.

12 6. The Real Estate Shares Account was actually an interest in a real estate project in which Copple was
13 personally involved and not an account sponsored by the Pioneer Group of funds.

14 7. On or about March 19, 1999, the MOIS supervisory system noted a \$25,000 check from the Investor
15 and payable to Copple, prompting further investigation into the use of those funds. In response to the inquiry Copple
16 provided a letter to MOIS, claiming it was signed by the Investor and stating that the Investor was aware of the actual
17 use of the funds. However, the Investor did not sign this letter and did not authorize anyone else to sign such a letter on
18 his behalf.

19 9. On or about April 30, 1999, Copple returned \$25,000 to the Investor under the cover of a letter that
20 stated that he “[did] not feel the Real Estate Shares Account would be in [their] best interest at this time,” since the sale
21 of the development did not occur.

22 Based upon the above Findings of Fact, the following Conclusions of Law are made:

1
2
3 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**
4

5 9. Copple, as described above, engaged in one or more dishonest or unethical practices in the securities
6 business, as defined by WAC 460-22B-090(2), by effecting transactions not recorded on the regular books or records of
7 MOIS and which were not authorized by MOIS prior to their sale. Such practice is grounds for the suspension or
8 revocation of his salesperson registration pursuant to RCW 21.20.110(1)(g).

9 10. Copple, as described above, engaged in one or more dishonest or unethical practices in the securities
10 business, as defined by WAC 460-22B-090(1) by taking personal possession of investors funds. Such practice is
11 grounds for the suspension or revocation of his salesperson registration pursuant to RCW 21.20.110(1)(g).

12 **ORDER AND CONSENT**

13 The Securities Division and Anderson have agreed on a basis for resolution and Copple agrees
14 to entry of this Consent Order pursuant to the Securities Act of Washington without admitting or
15 denying the Securities Division's allegations and conclusions.

16 Based on the foregoing,

17
18 1. It is Agreed and Ordered that Copple shall permanently cease and desist from committing or
19 causing the commission of any violation and any future violation of RCW 21.20.110 and WAC 460-22B-
20 090(1) promulgated thereunder.

21 2. It is Agreed that Copple may apply for reinstatement of his salesperson registration with the
22 State of Washington, but that such application shall not be approved until Copple's sponsoring broker-dealer
23 provides the Securities Division with a written acknowledgement that Copple will be subject to heightened
24 supervision.

1 3. It is Agreed and Ordered that the Securities Division shall suspend all proceedings against
2 Copple.

3 4. It is Agreed that respondent Copple waives his right to a hearing in this matter.

4 5. It is Agreed that the Securities Division has jurisdiction to enter this order.

5 DATED this _____ day of _____, 2000.

6
7
8 _____
9 Ronald L. Copple,
10 Respondent

11
12 ENTERED AND ORDERED this 16th day of June, 2000.

13
14 

15 _____
16 DEBORAH R. BORTNER
17 Securities Administrator

18 Presented by:

19 _____
20 Kristina L. Kneip
21 Securities Examiner

22 Approved by:

23 _____
24 Michael E. Stevenson
25 Chief of Compliance

26 CONSENT ORDER

27 4

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
Securities Division
PO Box 9033
Olympia, WA 98507-9033
360-902-8760

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27

CONSENT ORDER

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
Securities Division
PO Box 9033
Olympia, WA 98507-9033
360-902-8760