

BEFORE THE
DIVISION OF SECURITIES
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
STATE OF WISCONSIN

In the Matter of
MARLON D. TROPEANO and
L.T. LAWRENCE & CO., INC.

PETITION FOR ORDER

Respondents.

File No. S-97073(LX)

The staffs of the Licensing & Compliance Section and the Enforcement Unit, Registration & Enforcement Section, of the Division of Securities, Department of Financial Institutions, State of Wisconsin have conducted an investigation in this matter pursuant to sec. 551.56, Wis. Stats. and as a result thereof allege as follows:

1. L.T. Lawrence & Co., Inc. ("LTL") is a licensed broker-dealer (CRD #31956) with a last known business address at 1 World Trade Center, Suite 8711, New York, NY 10048;
2. Marlon D. Tropeano ("Tropeano") is a securities agent (CRD #1975708) with a last known residence address at 6409 19th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11204;
3. At all times material hereto, Tropeano was a securities agent for LTL;
4. During December 1996, Tropeano, on behalf of LTL, purchased shares of Zitel Corp. for the account of a person in Wisconsin;
5. Tropeano purchased the shares of Zitel without the authority of the customer;
6. The action of Tropeano, in executing a transaction on behalf of a customer without authority to do so, is deemed to be a "dishonest or unethical business practice" or "taking unfair advantage of a customer" by DFI-Sec. 4.06(2)(i), Wis. Adm. Code and provides a basis, pursuant to sec. 551.34(1)(g), Wis. Stats. for the censure of Tropeano;
7. During the period from September 1995 (when Tropeano joined LTL) until December 1996, he was the subject of at least twelve customer complaints, eleven of which were for unauthorized trading;
8. The first two of the above complaints were filed in February 1996, by December 1, 1996, there were eight more complaints;
9. In addition, Tropeano was also the subject of a complaint and arbitration proceeding relating to allegations of unauthorized trading at a previous firm;

10. LTL is the subject of nine administrative actions by various state securities administrators, two of which are based on allegations of unauthorized trading;

11. The actions of LTL as described above provide a basis, pursuant to sec. 551.34(1)(j), Wis. Stats., for the censure of LTL.

THEREFORE the staffs of the Licensing & Compliance Section and the Enforcement Unit petition the Administrator for the issuance of the attached Orders.

DATED this 12th day of October, 1998.



Judith A.L. Wilson
Examiner
Licensing & Compliance Section



David A. Cohen
Supervising Attorney
Enforcement Unit