



**ORDER**

**Submitted By:** Michael Meyer (On behalf of the arbitration panel)

**Submitted Date:** 09/07/2023 12:35:55 PM EST

**Case ID & Parties:**

**FINRA Dispute Resolution Services**

ORDER

**Case Number:** 22-00147

**In the Matter of the Arbitration Between**

**Claimant(s)**

**VS**

**Respondent(s)**

**PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

1. Was a prehearing conference held in the above captioned matter?

Yes

**No**

**ISSUES ADDRESSED**

2. Issues addressed: (i.e., name of motion or request, by which party)

**The following pleadings have been addressed:**

***Respondent's Application for Attorney's Fees and Forum Fees***

**ORDER DECIDED BY**

3. Decided by:

Chairperson

**Panel**

**RULINGS**

4. Rulings:

**After considering the pleadings submitted by the parties (and oral arguments, if prehearing conference held), the Panel/Chairperson rules as follows:**

***Based on a review of Respondent's Fee Application and supporting documents, including the affidavit of counsel and counsel's time and billing records and after due deliberation, the panel finds that the application is well grounded and ought to be grounded.***

**Based on the record, the panel finds that counsel's hourly rate of \$375 is fair and reasonable for securities law work. Moreover, dividing the total fee by the hourly rate shows that counsel and her firm spent almost 186 hours on this case. That amount of time is reasonable in light of the fact that a substantial amount of that time was spent attempting to obtain Claimant's compliance with the rules governing discovery and to enforce orders issued by the Panel. Additionally, the panel finds that Respondent's counsel made significant efforts to minimize her fees. Such efforts included attempts to settle the case and to offer to submit the matter to mediation.**

**Accordingly, it is ORDERED that Respondent's application be and hereby is Granted and that Respondent be and hereby is awarded attorney's fees in the amount of \$68,488.50 plus forum fees.**

5. Order compliance date:

The parties should comply with this order by \_\_\_\_\_

**Not applicable**

**ASSESSMENT OF FEES**

6. Cost of prehearing conference:

**If the parties settle this matter with no further hearings, the forum fees for this prehearing conference (or discovery-related motion decided without a prehearing conference) are assessed as follows:**

\_\_\_\_\_ % to Claimant(s), jointly and severally

**100%** to Respondent(s), jointly and severally

\_\_\_\_\_ % assessed to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ % assessed to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ % assessed to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ % assessed to \_\_\_\_\_

Not applicable

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attached documents.