

STATE OF ILLINOIS
SECRETARY OF STATE
SECURITIES DEPARTMENT

IN THE MATTER OF: JOSEPH S. WILLIAMS III

FILE NO. 0400472

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO THE RESPONDENT: Joseph S. Williams III
(CRD #1249170)
7952 South Euclid Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60617

C/o American Express Financial Advisors, Inc.
707 2nd Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

You are hereby notified that pursuant to Section 11.F of the Illinois Securities Law of 1953 [815 ILCS 5] (the "Act") and 14 Ill. Adm. Code 130, subpart K, a public hearing will be held at 69 West Washington Street, 12th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60602, on the 17th day of November 2004, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., or as soon as possible thereafter, before James G. Athas, Esq. or such other duly designated Hearing Officer of the Secretary of State.

Said hearing will be held to determine whether an Order shall be entered revoking Joseph S. Williams III's (the "Respondent"), registration as an investment advisor representative and as a salesperson in the State of Illinois and/or granting such other relief as may be authorized under the Act including but not limited to the imposition of a monetary fine in the maximum amount pursuant to Section 11.E(4) of the Act, payable within ten (10) business days of the Order.

The grounds for such proposed action are as follows:

1. That the Respondent became registered with the Secretary of State as an investment advisor representative on December 4, 1997 and as a salesperson on December 24, 1986 in the State of Illinois pursuant to Section 8 of the Act.

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2. That on January 15, 1998, the Illinois Department of Revenue issued Notice of Tax Lien (LIEN NO: 98073114, LIEN ID NUMBER: 980151394101) against the Respondent. This Tax Lien was filed in Cook County, Illinois and the status is "active."
3. That Section 8.E(1)(o) of the Act provides, inter alia, that the registration of an investment advisor representative or a salesperson may be revoked if the Secretary of State finds that such investment advisor representative or salesperson has failed to file a return, or to pay the tax, penalty or interest shown in a filed return, or to pay any final assessment of tax, penalty or interest, as required by any tax Act administered by the Illinois Department of Revenue, until such time as the requirements of that tax Act are satisfied.
4. That the Respondent has never reported the occurrence of the aforesaid Tax Lien to the Secretary of State or reported same to the Central Registration Depository (CRD) via the filing of an amendment to his "U-4" Form.
5. That Section 8.D-5(7) of the Act provides, inter alia, a change that renders no longer accurate any information contained in any application for registration or re-registration as an investment adviser representative must be reported to the Secretary of State within 10 business days after the occurrence of the change.
6. That the Respondent's failure to report the occurrence of the Tax Lien has rendered the information contained in his investment advisor representative's application inaccurate.
7. That Section 8.C(8) of the Act provides, inter alia, any change which renders no longer accurate any information contained in any application for registration or re-registration as a salesperson shall be reported to the Secretary of State within 10 business days after the occurrence of such change.
8. That the Respondent's failure to report the occurrence of the Tax Lien has rendered the information contained in his salesperson's application inaccurate.
9. That Section 8.E(1)(h) of the Act provides, inter alia, that the registration of an investment advisor representative or salesperson may be revoked if the Secretary of State finds that such investment advisor representative or salesperson made any material misrepresentation to the Secretary of State in connection with any information deemed necessary by the Secretary of

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State to determine a salesperson's reputation or qualification, or has refused to furnish any such information requested by the Secretary of State.

10. That by virtue of the foregoing, the Respondent's registration as an investment advisor representative and as a salesperson in the State of Illinois is subject to revocation pursuant to Sections 8.E(1)(o) and 8.E(1)(h) of the Act.

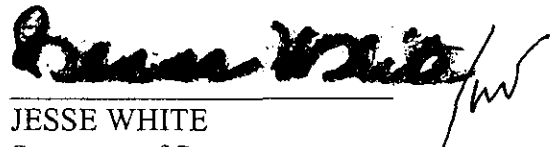
You are further notified that you are required pursuant to Section 130.1104 of the Rules and Regulations (14 Ill. Adm. Code 130) (the "Rules"), to file an answer to the allegations outlined above within thirty (30) days of the receipt of this notice. A failure to file an answer within the prescribed time shall be construed as an admission of the allegations contained in the Notice of Hearing.

Furthermore, you may be requested by legal counsel; may present evidence; may cross-examine witnesses and otherwise participate. A failure to so appear shall constitute default, unless any Respondent has upon due notice moved for and obtained a continuance.

A copy of the Rules, promulgated under the Act and pertaining to Hearings held by the Office of the Secretary of State, Securities Department, is included with this Notice.

Delivery of notice to the designated representative of any Respondent constitutes service upon such Respondent.

DATED: This 27th day of September 2004.



JESSE WHITE
Secretary of State
State of Illinois

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Attorney for the Secretary of State:

Daniel Tunick
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Illinois Securities Department
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Hearing Officer:

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