

**Award**  
**FINRA Dispute Resolution Services**

---

In the Matter of the Arbitration Between:

Claimant  
Jon Andrewjeski

Case Number: 21-01256

vs.

Respondents  
First Standard Financial Company LLC  
Michael Christopher Blumer  
Michael Leahy

Hearing Site: Seattle, Washington

---

Awards are rendered by independent arbitrators who are chosen by the parties to issue final, binding decisions. FINRA makes available an arbitration forum—pursuant to rules approved by the SEC—but has no part in deciding the award.

Nature of the Dispute: Customer vs. Member and Associated Persons

This matter proceeded pursuant to Rule 12800 of the Code of Arbitration Procedure (“Code”).

**REPRESENTATION OF PARTIES**

Claimant Jon Andrewjeski (“Claimant”) appeared pro se.

Respondent First Standard Financial Company LLC (“First Standard”) did not enter an appearance.

Respondent Michael Christopher Blumer (“Blumer”) appeared pro se.

Respondent Michael Leahy (“Leahy”) did not enter an appearance.

Hereinafter, First Standard, Blumer, and Leahy will collectively be referred to as “Respondents”.

**CASE INFORMATION**

Statement of Claim filed on or about: May 13, 2021.

Claimant signed the Submission Agreement: June 11, 2021.

First Standard did not file a Statement of Answer or sign the Submission Agreement.

Statement of Answer filed by Blumer on or about: August 2, 2021.

Blumer signed the Submission Agreement: August 18, 2021.

Leahy did not file a Statement of Answer or sign the Submission Agreement.

### **CASE SUMMARY**

In the Statement of Claim, Claimant asserted the following causes of action: breach of fiduciary duty; churning; fraud; manipulation; misrepresentation/non-disclosures; omission of facts; unauthorized trading; and negligence. The causes of action relate to Novavax, Inc. and NewAge, Inc. stock.

In the Statement of Answer, Blumer denied the allegations made in the Statement of Claim.

### **RELIEF REQUESTED**

In the Statement of Claim, Claimant requested compensatory damages in the amount of \$48,000.00 or 25,000 shares of Novavax, Inc.

In the Statement of Answer, Blumer requested Claimant's claim be dismissed in its entirety.

### **OTHER ISSUES CONSIDERED AND DECIDED**

The Arbitrator acknowledges having read the pleadings and other materials filed by the parties.

On March 22, 2021, First Standard filed for bankruptcy under the United States Bankruptcy Code. In accordance with these filings, all claims against First Standard are indefinitely stayed. Therefore, the Arbitrator made no determination with respect to the claims against First Standard.

Leahy did not file a properly executed Submission Agreement but is required to submit to arbitration pursuant to the Code and is bound by the determination of the Arbitrator on all issues submitted.

Leahy did not file a Statement of Answer. The Arbitrator determined that Leahy was served with the Claim Notification letter dated June 11, 2021 by FedEx and regular mail, as evidenced by the FedEx tracking information available online, and the Overdue Notice (including the Statement of Claim) dated August 3, 2021 by FedEx and regular mail, as evidenced by the FedEx tracking information available online.

The Claim Notification letter notified Leahy that FINRA rules require parties to use the online DR Portal on a mandatory basis (except pro se investors) and that failure to register for the DR Portal will prevent the submission of pleadings, selection of arbitrators, and receipt of notification relating to case information and deadlines. Leahy failed to register for the DR Portal.

The Arbitrator determined that Leahy is, therefore, bound by the Arbitrator's ruling and determination. Nonetheless, the Arbitrator found that the papers submitted failed to show any liability on the part of Leahy.

### **AWARD**

After considering the pleadings, the Arbitrator has decided and determined in full and final resolution of the issues submitted for determination as follows:

1. Blumer is liable for and shall pay to Claimant the sum of \$48,000.00 in compensatory damages.
2. Claimant's claims against Leahy are denied in their entirety.
3. FINRA Dispute Resolution Services shall retain the \$600.00 filing fee that Claimant deposited previously.
4. Blumer is liable for and shall pay to Claimant \$600.00 to reimburse Claimant for the filing fee previously paid to FINRA Dispute Resolution Services.
5. Any and all claims for relief not specifically addressed herein are denied.

**ARBITRATOR**

Bert P. Krages, II

-

Sole Public Arbitrator

I, the undersigned Arbitrator, do hereby affirm that I am the individual described herein and who executed this instrument, which is my award.

**Arbitrator's Signature**

***Bert P. Krages, II***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bert P. Krages, II  
Sole Public Arbitrator

**10/07/2021**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

Awards are rendered by independent arbitrators who are chosen by the parties to issue final, binding decisions. FINRA makes available an arbitration forum—pursuant to rules approved by the SEC—but has no part in deciding the award.

October 07, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Service (For FINRA Dispute Resolution Services use only)