

**NATIONAL FUTURES ASSOCIATION
BEFORE THE
BUSINESS CONDUCT COMMITTEE**

In the Matter of:)	
)	
MONSOON CAPITAL LLC)	
(NFA ID #351675),)	
)	
and)	NFA Case No. 20-BCC-005
)	
GAUTAM PRAKASH)	
(NFA ID #450276),)	
)	
Respondents.)	

DECISION

Having reviewed the Complaint issued by this Committee in the above-captioned case, and having considered the Offer of Settlement (Offer) submitted by Monsoon Capital LLC (Monsoon) and Gautam Prakash (Prakash), and having accepted the Offer, this Committee hereby issues this Decision as to Monsoon and Prakash.

I

ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF NFA REQUIREMENTS

On April 2, 2020, this Committee issued a Complaint against Monsoon, a former commodity trading advisor and commodity pool operator NFA Member located in Bethesda, Maryland. The Complaint also named Prakash as a respondent. Prakash is the founder and co-owner of Monsoon, as well as the firm's chief executive officer and chief compliance officer. Prakash also is a former NFA Associate and a past principal and associated person of Monsoon.

The Complaint alleged that Monsoon and Prakash violated NFA Compliance Rules 2-2(a) and 2-4 by submitting false and inflated reimbursement requests for travel expenses and for improperly using pool assets for a personal securities transaction. The Complaint also alleged that Monsoon violated NFA Compliance Rule 2-45 by arranging a \$1 million loan from Monsoon pools to Monsoon, which proceeds were then transferred to Prakash's personal bank account for a personal securities transaction.

II

OFFER OF SETTLEMENT

Monsoon and Prakash submitted an Offer of Settlement (Offer) in which they neither admitted nor denied the allegations of the Complaint and agreed to settle the charges against them on the following terms:

1. Monsoon agreed not to reapply for NFA membership or apply for principal status with any NFA Member for a period of two years, commencing on the date of a Decision of this Committee accepting its Offer;
2. Prakash agreed not to reapply for NFA associate membership or principal status with any NFA Member, or apply for NFA membership, for a period of seven years, commencing on the date of a Decision of this Committee accepting his Offer; and
3. Prakash also agreed that if, in the future, he applies for NFA membership, reapplies for NFA associate membership, or becomes a principal of an NFA Member, he shall pay a \$75,000 fine to NFA due and payable in full on or before the date he applies for NFA membership, reapplies for NFA associate membership, or becomes a principal of an NFA Member. Prakash further agreed that any future application for NFA membership or NFA associate membership or principal status with an NFA Member shall not be considered or approved unless his fine has been paid in full.

III

PENALTY

Having considered the matter and having accepted the Offer of Monsoon and Prakash, this Committee orders as follows:

1. Monsoon shall not reapply for NFA membership or apply for principal status with any NFA Member for a period of two years, commencing on the date of this Decision;
2. Prakash shall not reapply for NFA associate membership or principal status with any NFA Member, or apply for NFA membership, for a period of seven years, commencing on the date of this Decision; and
3. If, in the future, Prakash applies for NFA membership, reapplies for NFA associate membership, or becomes a principal of an NFA Member, he shall pay a \$75,000 fine to NFA due and payable in full on or before the date he applies for NFA membership, reapplies for NFA associate membership, or becomes a principal of an NFA Member. Any future application of Prakash for NFA membership or NFA associate membership or principal status with an NFA Member shall not be considered or approved unless his fine has been paid in full.

This Decision shall a) operate to bar any future Member Responsibility Actions and BCC Complaints against Monsoon and Prakash for any conduct occurring up to the date of their Offer of which NFA had corporate knowledge, and b) resolve and terminate all complaints, investigations and examinations relating to Monsoon and Prakash pending as of the date of this Committee's acceptance of their Offer. In addition, Monsoon and Prakash's Offer and this Decision accepting their Offer shall not be used as a sole basis for any other action or proceeding by NFA against Monsoon and Prakash, including any registration matter, except their Offer and this Decision accepting their Offer may be used in an action to enforce the terms thereof or in a subsequent disciplinary action or regulatory action, where they may be considered as evidence in aggravation.

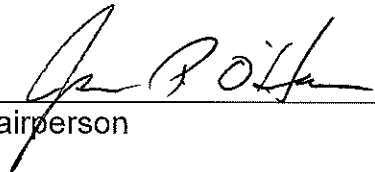
IV

INELIGIBILITY

Pursuant to the provisions of Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) Regulation 1.63, this Decision and the sanctions imposed herein render Prakash ineligible to serve on a disciplinary committee, arbitration panel, oversight panel or governing board of any self-regulatory organization, as that term is defined in CFTC Regulation 1.63, until the later of seven years after the effective date of this Decision, or until he has satisfied all the sanctions and conditions imposed by this Decision.

**NATIONAL FUTURES ASSOCIATION
BUSINESS CONDUCT COMMITTEE**

Date: August 5, 2020

By: 
Chairperson

m/rvh/Monsoon and Prakash Decision