

Member Hearing

Member Name: George S. Mentz
Date of Hearing: 23 March 2009
Chapter: United States
Tribunal: Misconduct Complaint Tribunal

On March 18, 2009 the Two Person Tribunal found Mr. George S. Mentz breached:

- Clause 18 (1)(a) of the membership constitution of the professional association by attempting to personally profit from the goodwill of members and candidates as an officer of the association by offering qualifications for sale to individuals online through a yahoo store mechanism on a non-approved website in contravention of agreed policy of advanced standing
- The code of ethics sections (1), (2), (6), and (8) by means of the following actions:
 - Slander, libel and defamatory comments against members of the board of governors,
 - Through fraudulent means the procurement of the domain aafmgcc.com owned by the professional association
 - Written claims that legally established entities in accordance with the charter and by vote of the board, were not recognized by the board of standards
 - Issuance of legal threats and warnings to speakers and partners of the association who did not cooperate with him in his endeavors

The tribunal requested the assistance of formal mediation and attempted to reach a settlement with Dr. Mentz who had served the association faithfully for many years on the board of standards. Dr. Mentz refused to participate in these discussions and referred the tribunal to his legal counsel, William Byrnes. Prof Byrnes informed the Tribunal he was not representing Dr. Mentz and urged Dr. Mentz in writing to seek mediation with the association.

The tribunal informed Dr. Mentz that if he was to make a written withdrawal of his allegations and representations to members, and cease the certificate mill activities from his websites financialcertified.com and financialanalyst.org that these would be taken into consideration, but no such cooperation was offered.

Taking into account Dr. Mentz's long service and his personal sense of ownership of the association, the tribunal took no pleasure in imposing the following penalties:

- pursuant to the code of ethics and the charter of the association, Dr. Mentz was struck off the membership register
- costs of \$6,782 levied as a result of legal advice taken by the tribunal

In addition, the Tribunal ordered publication of details of the Determination including the charges sustained and any penalty or costs added

Date of Notice: 23 rd May, 2009 Reference: 230509-121
