

State of Missouri
Office of Secretary of State

Case No. AP-09-45

IN THE MATTER OF:

MORGAN STANLEY & CO.
INCORPORATED (CRD# 8209)

Respondent.

CONSENT ORDER

WHEREAS, Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated ("Morgan Stanley") is a broker-dealer registered in the State of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, coordinated investigations of the activities of Morgan Stanley in connection with the marketing and sale of auction rate securities ("ARS") have been conducted by a multistate task force composed of members of the North American Securities Administrators Association Inc. ("NASAA"); and

WHEREAS, Morgan Stanley has cooperated with regulators conducting the investigations by responding to inquiries, providing documentary evidence and other materials, and providing regulators with access to facts relating to the investigations; and

WHEREAS, Morgan Stanley has advised regulators of its agreement to resolve the investigations relating to its marketing and sale of ARS to retail investors; and

WHEREAS, Morgan Stanley agrees to, among other things, reimburse certain purchasers of auction rate securities, implement certain changes with respect to its marketing and sale of ARS, and make certain payments; and

WHEREAS, Morgan Stanley elects to permanently waive any right to a hearing and appeal under Chapter 409 or Chapter 536 with respect to this Administrative Consent Order (the "Order");

WHEREAS, Morgan Stanley admits the jurisdiction of Missouri Commissioner of Securities (the "Commissioner"); acknowledges, without admitting or denying the truth thereof, that the following allegations contained in the Notice of Hearing shall be adopted as the Commissioner's Findings of Fact; and consents to the entry of this Order by the Commissioner:

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commissioner, as administrator of the Missouri Securities Act of 2003 (the "Act"), hereby enters this order:

I.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Unethical Practices in the Offer and Sale of Auction Rate Securities

1. Auction rate securities are financial instruments that include auction preferred shares of closed-end funds, municipal auction rate bonds, and various asset-backed auction rate bonds (collectively referred to herein as "ARS"). ARS are long-term instruments where the interest/dividend is reset weekly or monthly.
2. Morgan Stanley participated in the marketing and sale of ARS.
3. In certain instances, Morgan Stanley, through its salespeople, advised certain clients that ARS were safe, liquid investments, when in fact auction rate securities had significant liquidity risks associated with them.
4. Representatives of Morgan Stanley represented to certain customers of Morgan Stanley that ARS were short-term investments. In fact, because ARS are bonds with long-term maturities, their short-term liquidity was dependent on the successful operation of a bidding process known as a Dutch auction. Certain representatives of Morgan Stanley failed to disclose to certain customers with short-term liquidity needs that they might be unable to sell their ARS if the auction process failed.
5. In connection with the sale of ARS, certain Morgan Stanley salespeople told certain investors that ARS were "just like cash" and "liquid with seven days notice."
6. Morgan Stanley marketed ARS to investors within a brochure entitled "Money Market Instruments." Within this brochure, ARS are listed under the subsection "Other Short-Term Instruments."
7. Since it began participating in the auction rate securities market, Morgan Stanley submitted support bids-purchase orders for the entirety of an auction rate security issue for which it acted as the sole or lead broker. Support bids were Morgan Stanley proprietary orders that would be filled, in whole or in part, if there was otherwise insufficient demand in an auction. When

Morgan Stanley purchased auction rate securities through support bids, auction rate securities were then owned by Morgan Stanley and the holdings were recorded on Morgan Stanley's balance sheet. For risk management purposes, Morgan Stanley imposed limits on the amounts of auction rate securities it could hold in inventory.

8. Because many investors could not ascertain how much of an auction was filled through Morgan Stanley proprietary trades, they could not determine if auctions at Morgan Stanley were clearing because of normal marketplace demand, or because Morgan Stanley was making up for the lack of demand through support bids. Generally, investors were also not aware that the liquidity of the auction rate securities as to which Morgan Stanley was the managing broker-dealer depended upon Morgan Stanley's continued use of support bids. While Morgan Stanley could track its own inventory as a measure of the supply and demand for its auction rate securities, ordinary investors had no comparable ability to assess the operation of Morgan Stanley's auctions. There was no way for such investors to monitor supply and demand in the market or to assess when broker-dealers might decide to stop supporting the market, thereby causing its collapse.
9. Starting in August 2007, the credit crisis and other deteriorating market conditions strained the auction rate securities market. Some institutional investors withdrew from the market, decreasing demand for auction rate securities.
10. The resulting market dislocation should have been evident to Morgan Stanley. Morgan Stanley's support bids filled the increasing gap in the demand in its auctions for auction rate securities, sustaining the impression that the demand for auction rate securities had not decreased. As a result, Morgan Stanley's auction rate securities inventory grew significantly, requiring Morgan Stanley to raise its risk management limits on its auction rate securities inventory.
11. From the Fall of 2007 through February of 2008, demand for auction rate securities continued to erode and Morgan Stanley's auction rate securities inventory reached unprecedented levels. Morgan Stanley eventually became aware of the increasing strains in the auction rate securities market, and recognized the potential for widespread market failure. Morgan Stanley never disclosed these increasing risks of owning or purchasing auction rate securities to its customers.
12. In February 2008, Morgan Stanley and other firms stopped supporting the auctions. Without the benefit of support bids, the auction rate securities market collapsed, leaving investors who had been led to believe that these securities were cash alternative investments appropriate for managing short-term cash needs, holding long-term or perpetual securities that could not be sold at par value until and if the auctions cleared again.

Failure to Supervise

13. Although ARS are complex products, Morgan Stanley did not provide its sales or marketing staff with the training necessary to adequately explain these products or the mechanics of the auction process to their customers.
14. Morgan Stanley did not adequately train all of its brokers and financial advisers regarding the potential illiquidity of ARS, including the fact that Morgan Stanley may stop supporting the market.

II.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

15. Commissioner has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to the Missouri Securities Act of 2003, Chapter 409, RSMo. (Cum. Supp. 2008).
16. The Commissioner finds that the above conduct subjects Morgan Stanley to sanctions under Sections 409.4-412(d)(9) and 409.4-412(d)(13), RSMo. (Cum. Supp. 2008).
17. The Commissioner finds the following relief appropriate and in the public interest.

III.

ORDER

On the basis of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Morgan Stanley's consent to the entry of this Order, for the sole purpose of settling this matter prior to a hearing and without admitting or denying the Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. This Order concludes the investigation by the Missouri Securities Division and any other action that the Missouri Securities Division could commence under applicable Missouri law on behalf of Missouri as it relates to Morgan Stanley's marketing and sale of auction rate securities to Morgan Stanley's Retail ARS Investors, as defined below. Specifically excluded from and not covered by this paragraph are any claims by the Commissioner arising from or relating to the Order provisions contained herein.
2. This Order is entered into solely for the purpose of resolving the investigation into Morgan Stanley's marketing and sale of auction rate securities, and is not intended to be used for any other purpose.

3. This Order shall be binding upon Respondent Morgan Stanley and its successors and assigns as well as to successors and assigns of relevant affiliates with respect to all conduct subject to the provisions above and all future obligations, responsibilities, undertakings, commitments, limitations, restrictions, events, and conditions.
4. Morgan Stanley shall cease and desist from violating the Missouri Securities Act of 2003 and will comply with the Act.
5. Morgan Stanley shall pay the aggregate sum of \$35 million dollars to participating jurisdictions.
6. Within ten (10) calendar days following the entry of this Order, Morgan Stanley shall pay to the Secretary of State's Missouri Investor Education and Protection Fund the sum of two hundred and sixteen thousand, five hundred and fifty-two dollars and twenty-six cents (\$216,552.26), which amount constitutes the State of Missouri's allocated share of the total settlement payment described in the preceding paragraph.
7. In the event another state securities regulator determines not to accept Morgan Stanley's settlement offer, the total amount of the payment to the State of Missouri shall not be affected.

Requirement to Repurchase ARS from Retail ARS Investors

8. Morgan Stanley shall provide liquidity to Retail ARS Investors by buying-back, at par, in the manner described below, Eligible ARS that were not clearing as of September 30, 2008.
9. "Eligible ARS," for the purposes of this Order, shall mean auction rate securities purchased at Morgan Stanley prior to February 13, 2008.
10. "Retail ARS Investors," for the purposes of this Order, shall mean:
 - i. Natural persons (including their IRA accounts, testamentary trust and estate accounts, custodian UGMA and UTMA accounts, and guardianship accounts) who purchased Eligible ARS at Morgan Stanley;
 - ii. Charities and nonprofits with Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) status that purchased Eligible ARS at Morgan Stanley; and
 - iii. Small Businesses that purchased Eligible ARS at Morgan Stanley. For purposes of this provision, "Small Businesses" shall mean Morgan Stanley customers not otherwise covered in paragraph 10(i) and (ii) above that had \$10 million or less in assets in their accounts with Morgan Stanley, net of margin loans, as determined by the customer's aggregate household position(s) at Morgan Stanley as of August 31, 2008, or, if the customer was not a customer of Morgan Stanley as of August 31, 2008, as of the date that the customer terminated its customer relationship with Morgan Stanley. Notwithstanding any other provision, "Small Businesses" does not include broker-dealers or banks acting as conduits for their customers.
11. Morgan Stanley shall offer to purchase, at par plus accrued and unpaid dividends/interest, from Retail ARS Investors their Eligible ARS that were not clearing as of September 30, 2008 ("Buyback Offer"), and explain to such Retail ARS Investors what they must do to accept, in whole or in part, the Buyback Offer. The Buyback Offer shall remain open until at least January 11, 2009 ("Offer Period"). Morgan Stanley may in its sole discretion extend the Offer Period beyond this date.
12. Morgan Stanley shall have undertaken its best efforts to identify and provide notice to Retail ARS Investors who invested in Eligible ARS that were not clearing as of September 30, 2008, of the relevant terms of this Order by October 20, 2008.
13. Retail ARS Investors may accept the Buyback Offer by notifying Morgan Stanley at any time before midnight, Eastern Time, January 11, 2009, or such later date and time as Morgan Stanley may in its sole discretion decide to extend the Offer Period. For Retail ARS Investors who accept the Buyback Offer prior to December 11, 2008, Morgan Stanley shall have purchased their Eligible ARS by December 15, 2008. Morgan Stanley shall have purchased the Eligible ARS of all other Retail ARS Investors who accept the Buyback Offer within the Offer Period, on or before January 16, 2009.
14. If at any time between January 12, 2009, and December 31, 2009, a Retail ARS Investor who did not accept the Buyback Offer contacts Morgan Stanley and affirms that he or she did not receive notice of the Buyback Offer prior to January 11, 2009, Morgan Stanley will purchase the Eligible ARS of such investor.
15. No later than October 20, 2008, Morgan Stanley shall have established: a) a dedicated toll-free telephone assistance line, with appropriate staffing, to provide information and to respond to questions concerning the terms of this Order; and b) a public Internet page on its corporate Web site(s), with a prominent link to that page appearing on Morgan Stanley's relevant homepage(s), to provide information concerning the terms of this Order and, via reasonable means, to respond to questions concerning the terms of this Order. Morgan Stanley shall maintain the telephone assistance line and Internet page through December 31, 2009.

Review of Customer Accounts

16. For a period of two years from the date of this Order, upon request from any firm that is repurchasing auction rate securities, Morgan Stanley shall take reasonable steps to provide notice of that firm's offer to repurchase auction rate securities to

Morgan Stanley customers that Morgan Stanley can reasonably identify, that hold such auction rate securities subject to the other firm's repurchase.

Relief for Investors Who Sold Below Par

17. No later than December 11, 2008, Morgan Stanley shall pay any Retail ARS Investor that Morgan Stanley can reasonably identify who sold Eligible ARS below par between February 13, 2008, and August 13, 2008, the difference between par and the price at which the Retail ARS investor sold the Eligible ARS.

Claims for Consequential Damages

18. Notwithstanding this Order, an investor may pursue any claims related to the sale of auction rate securities via any method normally available to the investor. However, if the investor is pursuing claims related exclusively to consequential damages, Morgan Stanley shall provide the investor with the option to proceed in arbitration according to the following provisions:
- a. The arbitrations will be conducted by a single public arbitrator in accordance with FINRA's special arbitration procedures for claims of consequential damages filed by Retail ARS Investors;
 - b. Morgan Stanley shall pay all applicable FINRA forum and FINRA filing fees;
 - c. Any Morgan Stanley Retail ARS Investors who choose to pursue such claims shall bear the burden of proving that they suffered consequential damages and that such damages were caused by the investors' inability to access funds consisting of Eligible ARS holdings purchased at Morgan Stanley; and
 - d. Morgan Stanley shall be able to defend itself against such claims; provided, however, that Morgan Stanley shall not contest liability related to the sale of auction rate securities, and provided further that Morgan Stanley shall not be able to use as part of its defense a Morgan Stanley Retail ARS Investor's decision not to borrow money from Morgan Stanley.
19. Retail ARS Investors who elect to use the special arbitration process provided for herein shall not be eligible for punitive damages.
20. All customers, including but not limited to Retail ARS Investors who avail themselves of the relief provided pursuant to this Order, may pursue any remedies against Morgan Stanley available under the law. However, Eligible Investors that elect to utilize the special arbitration process set forth above are limited to the remedies available in that process and may not bring or pursue a claim against Morgan Stanley or in any case where Morgan Stanley is underwriter relating to Eligible ARS in another forum.

Institutional Investors

21. Morgan Stanley shall endeavor to work with issuers and other interested parties, including regulatory and governmental entities, to expeditiously provide liquidity solutions for institutional investors that purchased auction rate securities not covered by the Retail ARS Investor repurchase provisions delineated above.
22. Beginning December 11, 2008, and within 45 days of the end of each quarter thereafter, Morgan Stanley shall submit a written report to a representative specified by NASAA outlining the efforts in which Morgan Stanley has engaged and the results of those efforts with respect to Morgan Stanley institutional investors' holdings in Eligible ARS. Morgan Stanley shall, at the option of the representative specified by NASAA, confer with such representative no less frequently than quarterly to discuss Morgan Stanley's progress. Such quarterly meetings shall continue until no later than December 2009. Following every quarterly meeting, the representative shall advise Morgan Stanley of any concerns and, in response, Morgan Stanley shall detail the steps that Morgan Stanley plans to implement to address such concerns. The reporting or meeting deadlines set forth above may be amended upon Morgan Stanley's request if written permission is received from the representative specified by NASAA.

Relief for Municipal Issuers

23. Morgan Stanley shall promptly refund to municipal issuers refinancing fees the issuers paid to Morgan Stanley for the refinancing of their auction rate securities, where such refinancing occurred between February 11, 2008, and the date of this Order and where Morgan Stanley acted as underwriter for the primary offering of the auction rate securities between August 1, 2007, and February 11, 2008. Nothing in this Order precludes the Commissioner from pursuing any other civil action that may arise with regard to auction rate securities other than the marketing and sale of auction rate securities to retail investors.

Additional Considerations

24. Nothing herein shall preclude the State of Missouri, its departments, agencies, boards, commissions, authorities, political subdivisions and corporations (collectively, "State Entities"), other than the Commissioner and only to the extent set forth in paragraph 1 above, and the officers, agents or employees of State Entities from asserting any claims, causes of action, or applications for compensatory, nominal and/or punitive damages, administrative, civil, criminal, or injunctive relief against

Morgan Stanley in connection with certain auction rate securities practices at Morgan Stanley.

25. This Order shall not disqualify Morgan Stanley or any of its affiliates or current or former employees from any business that they otherwise are qualified or licensed to perform under applicable state law and this Order is not intended to form the basis for any disqualification.
26. To the extent applicable, this Order hereby waives any disqualification from relying upon the registration exemptions or registration safe harbor provisions that may be contained in the federal securities laws, the rules and regulations thereunder, the rules and regulations of self regulatory organizations or any states' or U.S. Territories' securities laws. In addition, this Order is not intended to form the basis for any such disqualifications. In addition, this Order is not intended to form the basis of a statutory disqualification under Section 3(a)(39) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.
27. This Order and any dispute related thereto shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, and governed by, the laws of the State of Missouri without regard to any choice of law principles.
28. Evidence of a violation of this Order proven in a court of competent jurisdiction shall constitute prima facie proof of a violation of the Missouri Securities Act of 2003, in any civil action or proceeding hereafter commenced by the Commissioner against Morgan Stanley.
29. Should the Commissioner prove in a court of competent jurisdiction that a material breach of this Order by Morgan Stanley has occurred, Morgan Stanley shall pay the cost, if any, of such determination and of enforcing this Order including without limitation legal fees, expenses, and court costs.
30. If Morgan Stanley fails to make the payment specified in paragraph 6, the Commissioner may, at his sole discretion, pursue any legal remedies, including but not limited to initiating an action to enforce the Order, revoking Morgan Stanley's registration within the state, or terminating this Order.
31. If in any proceeding, after notice and opportunity for a hearing, a court of competent jurisdiction, including an administrative proceeding by a state securities administrator, finds that there was a material breach of this Order, the Commissioner, at his sole discretion, may terminate the Order. If Morgan Stanley defaults on any other obligation under this Order, the Commissioner may, at his sole discretion, pursue legal remedies to enforce the Order or pursue an administrative action, including but not limited to an action to revoke Morgan Stanley's registration within the state. Morgan Stanley agrees that any statute of limitations or other time related defenses applicable to the subject of the Order and any claims arising from or relating thereto are tolled from and after the date of this Order. In the event of such termination, Morgan Stanley expressly agrees and acknowledges that this Order shall in no way bar or otherwise preclude the Commissioner from commencing, conducting or prosecuting any investigation, action, or proceeding, however denominated, related to the Order, against Morgan Stanley, or from using in any way any statements, documents or other materials produced or provided by Morgan Stanley prior to or after the date of this Order, including, without limitation, such statements, documents or other materials, if any, provided for purposes of settlement negotiations.
32. Morgan Stanley shall cooperate fully and promptly with the Commissioner and shall use its best efforts to ensure that all the current and former officers, directors, trustees, agents, members, partners, and employees of Morgan Stanley (and of any of Morgan Stanley's parent companies, subsidiaries, or affiliates) cooperate fully and promptly with the Commissioner in any pending or subsequently initiated investigation, litigation, or other proceeding relating to auction rate securities and/or the subject matter of the Order. Such cooperation shall include, without limitation, and on a best efforts basis:
 - a. production, voluntarily and without service of subpoena, upon the request of the Missouri Securities Division, of all documents or other tangible evidence requested by the Missouri Securities Division and any compilations or summaries of information or data that the Missouri Securities Division requests that Morgan Stanley (or the Morgan Stanley's parent companies, subsidiaries, or affiliates) prepare, except to the extent such production would require the disclosure of information protected by the attorney-client and/or work product privileges;
 - b. without the necessity of a subpoena, having the current (and making all reasonable efforts to cause the former) officers, directors, trustees, agents, members, partners, and employees of Morgan Stanley (and of any of the Morgan Stanley's parent companies, subsidiaries, or affiliates) attend any Proceedings (as hereinafter defined) in the State of Missouri or elsewhere at which the presence of any such persons is requested by the Missouri Securities Division and having such current (and making all reasonable efforts to cause the former) officers, directors, trustees, agents, members, partners, and employees answer any and all inquiries that may be put by the Missouri Securities Division to any of them at any proceedings or otherwise, except to the extent such production would require the disclosure of information protected by the attorney-client and/or work product privileges. "Proceedings" include, but are not limited to, any meetings, interviews, depositions, hearings, trials, grand jury proceedings, or other proceedings;
 - c. fully, fairly, and truthfully disclosing all information and producing all records and other evidence in its possession, custody, or control (or the possession, custody, or control of the Morgan Stanley parent companies, subsidiaries, or affiliates) relevant to all inquiries made by the Missouri Securities Division concerning the subject matter of the Order, except to the extent such inquiries call for the disclosure of information protected by the attorney-client and/or work product privileges; and

