# BEFORE THE ARKANSAS SECURITIES COMMISSIONER

CASE NO. S-24-0050 ORDER NO. S-24-0050-24-OR01

IN THE MATTER OF:

**BENJAMIN S. ROBERTS** 

**APPLICANT** 

# **ORDER APPROVING LIMITED AGENT REGISTRATION**

This Order is entered pursuant to the Arkansas Securities Act, codified at Ark. Cod. Ann. §§ 23-42-101 through 236-42-59 ("Act"), the Rules of the Arkansas Securities Commissioner ("Rules") promulgated under the Act, and the Arkansas Administrative Procedures Act, codified at Ark. Code Ann. §§ 25-15-101 through 25-15-221.

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. On September 18th, 2024, Benjamin Roberts ("Roberts") submitted an application to become a registered agent of the issuer for the Lutheran Church Extension Fund-Missouri Synod ("the Issuer").
- 2. Roberts, an officer, director, or employee of the Issuer, petitioned the Arkansas Securities Commissioner ("Commissioner") to waive the Securities Industry Essentials Examination ("SIE Exam") and the specialized knowledge examination requirements for his registration as an agent of the Issuer. Roberts executed an affidavit attesting to the facts in this Order attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- 3. On July 22, 2024, Roberts passed the Series 63 Uniform Securities Agent State Law Exam.
- 4. Roberts has never been registered with the Arkansas Securities Department in any capacity.

- 5. The Issuer is a church extension fund and a charitable organization pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- 6. Roberts, as an officer, director, or employee of the Issuer, performs significant functions for the Issuer other than effecting or attempting to effect the sale of securities.
- 7. Roberts represents only the Issuer in effecting or attempting to effect sales of securities and will offer and sell only securities issued by the Issuer.
- 8. Roberts will sell securities offered by the Issuer to a limited class of investors in connection with a church extension fund.
- 9. Roberts will receive no compensation or similar remuneration either directly or indirectly in connection with the offer and sale of the Issuer's securities.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 10. Pursuant to Ark. Code. Ann. § 23-42-302(a)(2), the Commissioner may by order approve a limited agent registration with such limitations, qualification, or conditions as the Commissioner deems appropriate.
- 11. In order to be registered as an agent, Rule 302.01(c)(1) of the Rules requires that an agent pass the SIE Exam and specialized knowledge exam appropriate to their job function. Agent applicants must also pass the Series 63 or Series 66 exam that addresses state law.
- 12. Pursuant to Rule 302.01 (c)(6) of the Rules, the Commissioner may waive any or all of the examination requirements required for registration of an agent of the issuer based upon the limited time, amount, or nature of the issue or transaction involved.
- 13. Based upon the representations made by Roberts, it is appropriate to waive the SIE Exam and specialized knowledge exam requirements and approve a limited registration as an agent of the issuer.

### **ORDER**

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the application of Benjamin Roberts for registration as an agent of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund-Missouri Synod is hereby approved as a limited registration provided that Roberts only represent the Lutheran Church Extension Fund-Missouri Synod in effecting or attempting to effect sales of securities and that he is not and will not be compensated in connection with the offer and sale of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund-Missouri Synod securities by the payment of commissions or other remuneration that is based on transactions in securities. The limited registration is effective until December 31, 2024, unless properly renewed.

WITNESS MY HAND this 10th day of October, 2024.

SUSANNAH T. MARSHALL ARKANSAS SECURITIES COMMISSIONER

J. Campbell McLaurin

Deputy Commissioner

Arkansas Securities Department

1 Commerce Way, Suite 402

Little Rock, Arkansas 72202

September 24, 2024



Arkansas Securities Department Attn: Andrea Scott 1 Commerce Way, Suite 402 Little Rock, Arkansas 72202

Re: Agent of the Issuer Securities Industry Essentials Examination Waiver Request - Benjamin Scott Roberts

Dear Ms. Scott,

I, Benjamin Scott Roberts, am applying to become a registered Arkansas Agent of the Issuer for the Lutheran Church Extension Fund-Missouri Synod (LCEF).

Part of the Agent of the Issuer registration requirements is to pass the Securities Industry Essentials Exam (SIE) and the appropriate FINRA sales examination.

Please use this letter as my formal request to waive the Securities Industry Essentials Exam and the appropriate FINRA sales Examination requirements for my registration. My plea is based on my experience, qualifications and circumstances detailed below:

- I passed the Series 63 examination on July 22, 2024.
- My position, District Vice President-Mid South, is an LCEF Officer position. I perform significant functions for LCEF other than affecting or attempting to affect the sale of securities.
- LCEF is a religious not-for-profit organization pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- I am proficient with all LCEF products that LCEF offers.
- I represent only LCEF in affecting or attempting to affect sales of securities and will offer and sell only securities issued by LCEF.
- I receive no compensation or remuneration either directly or indirectly in connection with the offer and/or sale of any LCEF securities.
- LCEF does not sell notes to the public, but only to "eligible investors".

LCEF notes are not publicly traded ("non-FINRA" organization).

I appreciate your consideration for this waiver request and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

I swear and affirm that I know the contents of this letter signed by me and that the statements are true and correct.

Dated this 24th day of September, 2024.

Signature

State of Missouri County St. Louis Subscribe and sworn before me on this 24th day of September, 2024, by

Benjamin Scott Roberts

(Print)

proved to me based on satisfactory evidence to be the person who appeared before me.

Place Notary Seal Above

