

THE DISCIPLINARY AND ETHICS COMMISSION

In The Matter Of

Yonglin Ren

Respondent.

CFP Board Case No. 2022-63296

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF PERMANENT BAR

On April 10, 2026, Enforcement Counsel for Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. (“CFP Board”) filed a Motion for Order of Administrative Permanent Bar under Article 4.2 of the *Procedural Rules* (“Motion”) requesting that Counsel for CFP Board’s Disciplinary and Ethics Commission “DEC Counsel”) issue an Administrative Order of Permanent Bar against Respondent. Respondent did not file a response to the Motion.¹

For the reasons stated below, the Motion is **GRANTED**.

I. BACKGROUND

Respondent became a CFP® professional on September 9, 2011, and remained certified until January 20, 2026, when Respondent voluntarily relinquished his certification.

A. Complaint

On November 19, 2025, Enforcement Counsel delivered to Respondent and filed with the Commission a Complaint, alleging violations of CFP Board’s *Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct*, and predecessor versions (collectively, “*Code and Standards*”), arising from Respondent’s FINRA disciplinary action.

On September 9, 2024, Respondent entered a Letter of Acceptance, Waiver and Consent (“AWC”) with FINRA, for violations of FINRA Rules 4511 and 2010. Pursuant to the AWC, Respondent consented to a 30-day suspension and \$5,000 fine. FINRA found that from January 2016 through January 2021, Respondent used a non-firm-approved messaging platform to make securities-related communications, failed to preserve required business communications, and inaccurately represented his communications practices to his firm. Additionally, Respondent failed to timely report to CFP Board his termination for cause from his former firm and made misleading representations to Enforcement Counsel during its investigation regarding the nature of those communications.

In emails dated November 19 and November 20, 2025, Respondent clearly indicated that he would not file a response to the Complaint issued to him on November 19, 2025.

¹ Enforcement Counsel certified in its Motion that it had met and conferred with Respondent in a good faith attempt to resolve or narrow the issues on November 20, 2025, but that Enforcement Counsel and Respondent were unable to resolve the issues.

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B. Motion

Given Respondent's failure to file an answer to the Complaint within 30-day timeframe required by Article 3.2 of the Procedural Rules, Enforcement Counsel determined that Respondent was in default under Article 4.1.e. of the *Procedural Rules* and filed this Motion.

Enforcement Counsel asserts that Respondent's conduct may have violated CFP Board's *Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct*, and predecessor versions (collectively, "*Code and Standards*"), including:

- Rule 4.3 of the *Rules of Conduct*, and Standard A.8.a of the *Code and Standards*. Both provide that a certificant shall be in compliance with applicable regulatory requirements governing professional services provided to the client.
- Rule 5.1 of the *Rules of Conduct* which provides that a certificant who is an employee/agent shall perform professional services with dedication to the lawful objectives of the employer/principal and in accordance with CFP Board's Code of Ethics.
- Standard A.8.a. of the *Code and Standards*, which provides that a CFP® professional must comply with the laws, rules, and regulations governing Professional Services.
- Standard E.5 of the *Code and Standards*, which provides that a CFP® professional may not make false or misleading representations to CFP Board or obstruct CFP Board in the performance of its duties. A CFP® professional must satisfy the cooperation requirements set forth in CFP Board's *Procedural Rules*, including by cooperating fully with CFP Board's requests, investigations, disciplinary proceedings, and disciplinary decisions.
- Standard E.3.j of the *Code and Standards*, which provides that a CFP® professional must provide written notice to CFP Board within thirty (30) calendar days after the CFP® professional, or an entity over which the CFP® professional was a Control Person, has been terminated for cause from employment or permitted to resign in lieu of termination when the cause of the termination or resignation involved allegations of compliance failures.
- Standard E.3.i, which provides that a CFP® professional must provide written notice to CFP Board within thirty (30) calendar days after the CFP® professional, or an entity over which the CFP® professional was a Control Person, has been named as a subject of, or whose conduct is mentioned adversely in a Regulatory Investigation or Regulatory Action alleging failure to comply with the laws, rules, or regulations governing Professional Services.

Enforcement Counsel states in its Motion that it has determined that the seriousness, scope, and harmfulness of Respondent's conduct warrant an Administrative Order imposing a permanent bar against Respondent.

II. DISCUSSION

If Respondent fails to file an Answer in accordance with Article 3.2 of the *Procedural Rules*, then Respondent is in default under Article 4.1.e.

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Enforcement Counsel's Motion states with reasonable particularity the grounds for Respondent's default, as required by Article 4.2 of the *Procedural Rules*. Respondent failed to file an Answer to the Complaint issued to him on November 19, 2025, within 30 days as required by Article 3.2.

Enforcement Counsel filed the Motion based on its determination of the seriousness, scope, and harmfulness of Respondent's conduct, as required under Article 4.2 of the *Procedural Rules*.

III. CONCLUSION

DEC Counsel **GRANTS** the Motion and issued this **Administrative Order of Permanent Bar** against Respondent ("Order"). This Order permanently prohibits Respondent from applying for or obtaining CFP Board certification.

IV. COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER

Pursuant to Articles 4.5 and 11.2 of the *Procedural Rules*, Respondent is required to submit to Enforcement Counsel, within 45 calendar days of issuance of this Order, or by August 3, 2026 written evidence that Respondent:

- Has advised Respondent's Firm(s), in writing, of this Administrative Order of Permanent Bar in the manner set forth in Standard D.3 of the *Code and Standards*; and
- Has advised all Clients (as Client is defined in the Glossary to the *Code and Standards*) of this Administrative Order of Permanent Bar and provided all Clients with the location of CFP Board's website that sets forth Respondent's disciplinary history in the manner set forth in Standard A.10 of the *Code and Standards*.

Pursuant to Articles 4.5 and 11.3 of the *Procedural Rules*, within 45 calendar days from the date of this Order, or by August 3, 2026, Respondent is required to submit to Enforcement Counsel, by sending an email to discipline@cfpboard.org, Respondent's statement of assurance that Respondent will not use the CFP Board certification marks and proof that Respondent has removed the CFP Board certification marks from all internet sites or other tangible materials that Respondent exposes to the public, including screenshots of the businesses, social media, and third-party financial advisor listing website profiles that Respondent controls, pictures of signage, and when applicable, copies of Respondent's business cards, letterhead, and marketing and promotional materials, as well as pictures of any other materials Respondent controls in which the CFP® marks previously appeared publicly in reference to Respondent or Respondent's services. Failure to do so may result in further disciplinary or legal action regarding the unauthorized use of the CFP Board certification marks.

SO ORDERED:

Counsel to the Disciplinary and Ethics Commission

June 18, 2026