Issue Date: 30 August 2010

Case No.:   2009-SOX-00063

In the Matter of

DEEN HALEEM
          Complainant

          v.

PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL
          Respondent

ORDER APPROVING PARTIES' AGREEMENT; AND DISMISSING PENDING ACTION WITH PREJUDICE

This matter arises under the employee protection provisions of Section 806 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, 18 U.S.C. § 1514A, as implemented by regulations at 29 C.F.R. part 1980. Both the Complainant and the Respondent are represented by counsel.

By letters dated August 20, 2010, and August 26, 2010, counsel for the parties forwarded to me a joint filing, which included a settlement agreement (signed by the Complainant, his counsel, and counsel for the Employer), and a "Stipulation of Dismissal with Prejudice," signed by counsel for both parties.

I have reviewed the contents of the parties' joint filing, and I find that the provisions of the parties' settlement agreement are fair and adequate and are not contrary to the public interest. The parties have jointly requested that their settlement agreement be approved. Therefore, as requested by the parties, I approve their agreement.[1]

The parties have jointly requested that certain portions of their joint filing be kept confidential. I find that the matters to which their request pertains are covered under 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4). Therefore, in accordance with the parties' request, I have sealed the designated portions of the parties' joint filing. As to the sealed materials, I further find that the parties are entitled to pre-notification disclosure rights under 29 C.F.R. § 70.26, and I direct that the parties be notified, in accordance with the regulation's provisions.

As requested by the parties, based on the settlement agreement, which I have approved, I dismiss the pending matter with prejudice.

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[1] My approval extends only to the parties' agreement regarding the Complainant's Sarbanes-Oxley complaint, as that is the only matter that is before me.

SO ORDERED.

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ADELE H. ODEGARD
Administrative Law Judge

Cherry Hill, New Jersey