FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION WASHINGTON, D.C.

In the Matter of:

ROBERT S. CATANZARO, DANIELLE M. DESROSIERS, and JOHN C. PONTE, as institution-affiliated parties of

Independence Bank East Greenwich, Rhode Island Docket Nos.: FDIC-22-0112e, FDIC-22-0113k, FDIC-22-0107e, FDIC-22-0108k, FDIC-22-0143b, FDIC-22-0109e, FDIC-22-0110k

(Insured State Nonmember Bank)

ORDER NO. 10: DENYING RESPONDENT PONTE'S MOTION TO SEVER NOTICE OF CHARGES

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") commenced this action against John C. Ponte ("Respondent Ponte") and two other individuals on February 10, 2023, filing a Notice of Charges ("Notice") that seeks, *inter alia*, an order of prohibition, an order of restitution, and the imposition of a \$74,000 civil money penalty against Respondent Ponte pursuant to Section 8 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, 12 U.S.C. §§ 1818(b), (e), and (i). On March 15, 2023, Respondent Ponte moved to sever the Notice's claims against him for an order of restitution and civil money penalty assessment from the remainder of the Notice, including its claim against him for an order of prohibition, on the basis that he is entitled to a jury trial on the charges that he seeks to sever ("Motion"). Enforcement Counsel for the FDIC ("Enforcement Counsel") opposed the Motion on March 28, 2023 ("Response").

Respondent Ponte asks this Tribunal to sever the restitution and civil money penalty claims against him from the rest of this action and order that they "be tried by jury before the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island." Motion at 2. As Enforcement Counsel explains, Respondent Ponte seeks relief that is doubly beyond the capacity of this Tribunal to grant: not only is there no mechanism in the rules governing these proceedings for the partial severance of claims against a given respondent, but this Tribunal has no authority to transfer the claims against a respondent, in whole or in part, to another forum for resolution. *See* Response at 2 n.3. Furthermore, the undersigned has already rejected Respondent Ponte's contention that he is entitled to a jury trial on any of the claims set forth in the Notice, whether or not they have been brought separately or in conjunction. *See* Order No. 4: Granting Requests for Hearing and Denying Demands for Jury Trial (March 21, 2023) at 3-6. The Motion is therefore denied.

SO ORDERED.

Issued: April 4, 2023



Jennifer Whang, Administrative Law Judge Office of Financial Institution Adjudication

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

On April 4, 2023, I served a copy of the foregoing **Order** upon the following individuals via email:

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