

Collapse of Trio Capital

As a novice investor, I successfully accumulated assets in the value of \$145000 via share investing by the time I was 30. Looking to improve on this position I sought professional assistance via my financial advisor at the time (Tarrant's financial services) I followed their investment advice without question. At some stage during 2008 they gave me advice to invest in Trio via Astarra Strategic. As they were my trusted advisors, I saw no need to question their strategies and agreed to do so. No alarm bells sounded until late in the year of 2008 when we started receiving margin calls as our Astarra asset had been frozen. The calls came more frequently as further margin calls were made and my financial position weakened. An amount of \$18000-19000 had been frozen and I was advised that the company was being investigated. Further more I had asked my advisors in July/August 2009 were I could invest over a short term period, an additional \$40000. The advice given was Astarra. At this stage I had defaulted on Margin loans set up by my advisor forcing me to take out a personal loan of \$10500 to cover this and avoid the threat of legal action. After initially handing over \$100 000 in 2007,(then the additional \$40000) I sold the remainder of my portfolio in 2010 for the princely sum of \$7000 (post paying off margin loans set up by Tarrant's) I would welcome the same relief offered to a selection of investors caught up in this fraud and see the return of my funds allowing me to get myself out of debts associated with this fraud. I know I am an innocent player in this game and as I am not a savvy wheeler and dealer of the stock market but merely a young man showing trust in his financial advisor and looking at the possibility of setting myself up for life. I am aware that some of my losses can be attributed to the Global financial crisis but also know that the greatest "pain" and "bleeding" of my personal wealth can be attributed to losses incurred in Astarra. Now I struggle to make ends meet and see no opportunity for myself to even buy a family home and escape the rut of renting and never ending credit card debt. This is indeed a snapshot of "my story" and would not hesitate in expanding upon this should the opportunity arise.

Dave Gamosh