December 1, 2017

Mr. Brent J. Fields Secretary Securities and Exchange Commission



Re: SEC Proposed Rule for Disclosure of Order Handling Information: Release No. 34-78309; File No. S7-14-16

Dear Mr. Fields:

I appreciate the chance to submit this comment letter in response to the Security and Exchange Commission's proposed rule for Disclosure of Order Handling Information: Release No. 34-78309; File No. S7-14-16. After my study of this proposal and my time in Robert Battalio's class at the University Of Notre Dame, I found this proposal to be relevant to our class discussions and feel compelled to offer my input. I am thankful for the SEC's devotion to transparency that protects "naturals" who come to the markets to fulfill specific needs. I am optimistic that this rule aligns with that mission and can alleviate existing conflicts of interest.

Due to the prevalence of the maker-taker model, broker-dealers are provided with incentives to participate in different venues. Since these incentives are not passed through to their clients, the broker-dealers are acting out of their own interest. While it may happen that the client's preference and the broker-dealer's preference may align, this will not always happen. The broker-dealer's responsibility is to provide the best execution quality to the client. By disclosing more comprehensive order handling information, broker-dealers will be held accountable for each order. This will provide clients with better access and transparency to the markets.

In an effort to increase transparency in the markets, I support the SEC Proposed Rule for Disclosure of Order Handling Information: Release No. 34-78309; File No. S7-14-16. This will hold broker-dealers accountable and drive more value for the clients.

Sincerely,

**Andrew Foster** 

University of Notre Dame Mendoza College of Business Class of 2018