

Jeanette Wingler Associate General Counsel

Direct:	
Fax:	

November 13, 2019

Ms. Vanessa Countryman Secretary U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission 100 F Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20549-1090

#### Re: File No. SR-FINRA-2019-012 (Proposed Rule Change to Amend FINRA Rule 5110 (Corporate Financing Rule - Underwriting Terms and Arrangements) to Make Substantive, Organizational and Terminology Changes)

Dear Ms. Countryman:

On November 8, 2019, FINRA filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") Partial Amendment No. 2 to proposed rule change SR-FINRA-2019-012 (the "Proposal") in order to propose some amendments to the Proposal. Contemporaneously with the Partial Amendment No. 2, FINRA submitted to the Commission by separate letter its response to comments on the Commission's order instituting proceedings to determine whether to approve or disapprove the Proposal. In order to provide notice for public review of the Partial Amendment No. 2, in addition to posting on FINRA's public website, FINRA is filing this letter with the Commission.

If you have any questions, please contact me at email: . The fax number of the Office of General Counsel is

Best regards,

/s/ Jeanette Wingler

Jeanette Wingler Associate General Counsel

Required	fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and a	asterisks.			E	DMB Number: 3235-0045 Estimated average burden iours per response
Page 1 o	WASHIN	D EXCHANGE IGTON, D.C. 2 Form 19b-4				SR - 2019 - * 012 Amendments *) 2
Filing by Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934						
Initial *	Amendment * Withdrawal	Section 19(	b)(2) *	Section 19(b	,,,,,,,	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *			19b-4(f)(1) 19b-4(f)(2) 19b-4(f)(3)		
Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010       Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934         Section 806(e)(1) *       Section 806(e)(2) *         Section 806(e)(1) *       Section 306(e)(2) *						
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document						
Description						
Provide	e a brief description of the action (limit 250 charact	ters, required w	hen Initial is cl	hecked *).		
<b>Contact Information</b> Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action.						
First N	ame * Jeanette	Last Name *	Wingler			
Title *						
E-mail * jeanette.wingler@finra.org Telephone * (202) 728-8013 Fax (202) 728-8264						
looph						
Signature						
Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,						
has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized. (Title *)						
Date	11/08/2019	Senior Vice F			eral Counsel	
By	Patrice Gliniecki					
(Name *)						
NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock Patrice Gliniecki, this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.						

OMB APPROVAL

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549					
For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website.					
Form 19b-4 Information *       Add     Remove       View	The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act.				
Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change * Add Remove View	The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)				
Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies * Add Remove View	The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change, security-based swap submission, or advance notice being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)				
Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications         Add       Remove       View         Exhibit Sent As Paper Document	Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G.				
Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire         Add       Remove       View         Exhibit Sent As Paper Document	Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is referred to by the proposed rule change.				
Exhibit 4 - Marked CopiesAddRemoveView	The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working.				
Add     Remove     View	The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be considered part of the proposed rule change.				
Add     Remove     View	If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.				

On April 11, 2019, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission" or "SEC") proposed rule change SR-FINRA-2019-012 (the "Proposal"), pursuant to which FINRA proposed to make substantive, organizational and terminology changes to FINRA Rule 5110 (Corporate Financing Rule - Underwriting Terms and Arrangements) ("Rule"). The Proposal is intended to modernize Rule 5110 and to simplify and clarify its provisions while maintaining important protections for market participants, including issuers and investors participating in offerings. The Proposal would also update cross-references and make other non-substantive changes within FINRA rules due to the proposed amendments to Rule 5110.

The Commission published the proposed rule change for public comment in the <u>Federal Register</u> on May 1, 2019,<sup>1</sup> and received six comments in response to the Proposal.<sup>2</sup> Four commenters supported FINRA's efforts to review, streamline and modernize the Rule for the benefit of market participants but offered suggested modifications as to some aspects of the Proposal.<sup>3</sup> CAI supported a proposed exemption, but did not comment on other aspects of the Proposal. Kaswell did not support Rule 5110's requirements and stated that excessive underwriting compensation should be addressed through disclosure to investors. On July 11, 2019, FINRA responded to the comments and filed Partial Amendment No. 1 to the Proposal to propose amendments to Rule 5110 based on the comments received by the Commission.<sup>4</sup>

The Commission published a notice and order to solicit comments on the Proposal as modified by Partial Amendment No. 1 and to institute proceedings to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change, as modified by Partial

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 85715 (April 25, 2019), 84 FR 18592 (May 1, 2019) (Notice of Filing of File No. SR-FINRA-2019-012).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>See Partial Amendment No. 1 for a list of comments received and abbreviations assigned to commenters.</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>See ABA, Davis Polk, Rothwell and SIFMA.</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>See</u> Letter from Jeanette Wingler, Associate General Counsel, FINRA, to Vanessa Countryman, Secretary, SEC (July 11, 2019) ("Response Letter No. 1").

Amendment No. 1.<sup>5</sup> The Commission received three comment letters following the publication of the Order Instituting Proceedings.<sup>6</sup>

FINRA is submitting by separate letter its response to comments on the Order Instituting Proceedings contemporaneously with this Partial Amendment No. 2. With this Partial Amendment No. 2, FINRA is including Exhibit 4, which reflects changes to the text of the proposed rule change pursuant to this Partial Amendment No. 2, and Exhibit 5, which reflects the changes to the current rule text that are proposed in the Proposal, as amended by this Partial Amendment No. 2.

As discussed in FINRA's response to comments, this Partial Amendment No. 2 makes the following changes to the Proposal: (1) modifies the requirement to file a representation as to whether any beneficial owner of more than a specified threshold of any class of the issuer's equity and equity-linked securities is an associated person or affiliate of a participating member; (2) clarifies the determination of availability of the venture capital exceptions; (3) clarifies the availability of the investment grade debt exemption for foreign banks with qualifying securities; (4) modifies the proposed definition of "participate" for consistency with the current Rule; and (5) clarifies when securities acquired would be deemed underwriting compensation pursuant to Rule 5110.

## Filing Requirements

With respect to the representation requirement in proposed Rule 5110(a)(4)(B)(iii) where beneficial owners of 5 percent or more of any class of the issuer's equity securities are funds or other types of investment vehicles, SIFMA suggested in response to the Proposal and the Order Instituting Proceedings requiring a statement of association or affiliation only with respect to the general partner or investment manager of a fund or investment vehicle, and any limited partner beneficially owning more than 25 percent of the limited partnership or limited liability company membership interests of the fund or investment vehicle. SIFMA suggested that the approach would balance FINRA's interest in gathering information about potential

 <sup>&</sup>lt;u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 86509 (July 29, 2019), 84 FR 37921 (August 2, 2019) (Order Instituting Proceedings To Determine Whether To Approve or Disapprove SR-FINRA-2019-012) ("Order Instituting Proceedings").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Letter from Hardy Callcott and Joseph McLaughlin, to Vanessa Countryman, Secretary, SEC, dated August 14, 2019 ("Callcott"); letter from Stuart J. Kaswell, Law Office of Stuart J. Kaswell, LLC, to Jill M. Peterson, Assistant Secretary, SEC, dated August 16, 2019 ("Kaswell"); and letter from Aseel M. Rabie, Managing Director and Associate General Counsel, Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association, to Vanessa Countryman, Secretary, SEC, dated August 23, 2019 ("SIFMA").

conflicts with the difficulties in obtaining information as to limited partners who have no investment discretion or control over the fund's investments.

FINRA previously considered this issue in responding to comments received to the <u>Regulatory Notice</u> 17-15 (April 2017) ("<u>Notice</u> 17-15 Proposal") and in Response Letter No. 1. As previously discussed, although application of Rule 5110's requirements to beneficial ownership by funds or other types of investment vehicles historically has not been problematic, there have been some instances where conflicts have been identified. However, FINRA now believes that Rule 5110 may be amended to provide greater flexibility to participating members in relation to beneficial ownership information while still requiring that participating members provide information needed to identify potential conflicts of interest. FINRA Rule 5121 (Public Offerings of Securities With Conflicts of Interest) defines "control" as, among other things, beneficial ownership of 10 percent or more of an entity's common or preferred equity. FINRA is proposing in this Partial Amendment No. 2 to amend the threshold in proposed Rule 5110(a)(4)(B)(iii) from 5 percent to 10 percent for consistency with the approach in Rule 5121.<sup>7</sup>

# Venture Capital Exceptions

SIFMA suggested providing that the determination as to the availability of a venture capital exception is to be made by the participating member at the time of the acquisition of the securities and based on the participating member's knowledge at that time. FINRA previously considered this issue in responding to comments received to the <u>Notice</u> 17-15 Proposal and in Response Letter No. 1. Except for the principles-based approach for significantly delayed offerings, FINRA has historically interpreted the venture capital exceptions to provide that the determination of whether a securities acquisition qualifies under an exception is to be made before the required filing date. While this approach provided flexibility for participating members in assessing whether the requirements for a venture capital exception were met before the required filing date, SIFMA has suggested greater certainty by determining whether a securities acquisition meets a venture capital exception at the time of the acquisition.

To provide the requested certainty, FINRA proposes to interpret the venture capital exceptions to provide that the determination of whether a securities acquisition qualifies under an exception is to be made at the time of the acquisition. FINRA is proposing in this Partial Amendment No. 2 to add new Supplementary Material .07 to Rule 5110 to expressly state this interpretation.<sup>8</sup> FINRA would consider what the

<sup>8</sup> Specifically, FINRA is proposing in this Partial Amendment No. 2 to add new Supplementary Material .07 to Rule 5110 to state "[t]he determination of whether

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Specifically, FINRA is proposing in this Partial Amendment No. 2 to revise Rule 5110(a)(4)(B)(iii) to requiring filing "a representation as to whether any officer or director of the issuer and any beneficial owner of [5%] <u>10%</u> or more of any class of the issuer's equity and equity-linked securities is an associated person or affiliate of a participating member;".

participating member knew, or reasonably should have known, at the time of a securities acquisition in assessing whether the securities acquisition may be excluded from underwriting compensation pursuant to paragraph (d).

# Investment Grade Debt Exemption

As suggested by the ABA in its comment to the Proposal, FINRA proposed in Partial Amendment No. 1 to amend the proposed definition of bank in proposed Rule 5110(j)(2) to mean "a bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Exchange Act, a branch or agency in the United States of a foreign bank that is supervised and examined by a federal or state banking authority and otherwise meets the requirements of Section 3(a)(6)of the Exchange Act, or [is] a foreign bank that has been granted an exemption under this Rule and shall refer only to the regulated entity, not its subsidiaries or other affiliates." As the ABA noted, this approach is consistent with the SEC's interpretation of what is a bank for other purposes under the federal securities laws. For example, the SEC provided that for purposes of Rule 15a-6 under the Exchange Act, a foreign bank is excluded from the defined term "bank" except to the extent that the "foreign bank establishes a branch or agency in the United States that is supervised and examined by a federal or state banking authority and otherwise meets the requirements of section 3(a)(6)."<sup>9</sup>

SIFMA agreed with the proposed modification to the definition of bank but suggested that proposed Rule 5110(h)(1)(A) also be amended to include "foreign bank" to avoid creating a new and burdensome requirement that foreign banks must apply to FINRA for an exemption before relying on the investment grade debt exemption from filing. FINRA has historically interpreted the investment grade debt exemption to apply to qualifying securities offered by a bank; however, the lack of a specific reference to bank securities in the rule text has raised questions by members. By modifying the proposed definition of bank, FINRA did not intend to alter the availability of the investment grade debt exemption for foreign banks with qualifying securities. Accordingly, FINRA is proposing in this Partial Amendment No. 2 to amend proposed Rule 5110(h)(1)(A) by adding "foreign bank" to the list of entities that may rely on the exemption.

Definition of "Participate"

a securities acquisition may be excluded from underwriting compensation pursuant to paragraph (d) is to be made at the time of the securities acquisition."

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 27017 (July 11, 1989), 54 FR 30013 (July 18, 1989) (File No. S7-11-88, Registration Requirements for Foreign Broker-Dealers, note 16) and Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Rule 15a-6 and Foreign Broker-Dealers, note 3, (March 21, 2013), https://www.sec.gov/divisions/marketreg/faq-15a-6-foreign-bd.htm.

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SIFMA does not believe that an independent financial adviser that is not engaged in the solicitation or distribution of the offering should be deemed to be "participating" in a public offering—and thereby subject to the Rule's filing and other requirements solely because no other FINRA member is participating in the offering. Accordingly, SIFMA suggested amending the proposed defined term "participate" in proposed Rule 5110(j)(16)(B) to remove the related provision. FINRA is proposing in this Partial Amendment No. 2 to amend proposed Rule 5110(j)(16)(B) to delete "provided that another member or members is participating in the public offering." Current Rule 5110 does not include this provision and, accordingly, deleting the language will make the approach consistent with the current Rule.

## Underwriting Compensation

In Partial Amendment No. 1, FINRA proposed to revise the Supplementary Material to expressly exclude non-convertible securities purchased by the participating member in a public offering at the public offering price during the review period from being deemed underwriting compensation under the Proposal. In distinguishing between non-convertible and convertible securities, FINRA noted reviewing acquisitions of convertible securities by a participating member with negotiated or preferential terms prohibited under proposed Rule 5110(g)(8) and that FINRA would consider these securities to be underwriting compensation. SIFMA stated that it understood FINRA's concern regarding securities that are acquired by participating members on preferential terms relative to other investors in a public offering, but instead suggested excluding from underwriting compensation any securities purchased during the review period by a participating member in a public offering at the public offering price and without any preferential terms not offered to others purchasing in the public offering that are not participating members.

While not dispositive, acquiring securities at the same price and on the same terms as other similarly-situated persons is generally indicative that the acquisition is not intended to provide underwriting compensation for a participating member. The Proposal includes several provisions that take into consideration whether securities were so acquired. For example, in proposed Supplementary Material .04, FINRA would take a principles-based approach to considering whether an acquisition of securities by a participating member pursuant to an issuer's directed sales program may be excluded from underwriting compensation, including considering, among other things, whether the securities were acquired on the same terms and at the same price as other similarly-situated persons participating in the directed sales program.

Accordingly, FINRA believes that it is appropriate to interpret purchases of both convertible and non-convertible securities during the review period by a participating member in a public offering at the public offering price and on the same terms as all others that are not participating members not be to underwriting compensation. SIFMA suggested introducing the concept of securities acquisitions without "preferential terms." The "preferential" concept would require a weighing and consideration of all of the various terms of a securities acquisition, which could be time consuming for members, counsel and FINRA staff and would introduce uncertainty into the evaluation. The

proposed amendment would instead incorporate the concept of purchases at the same price and with the same terms to provide objectivity and clarity.<sup>10</sup>

In Response Letter No. 1, FINRA stated that acting as a bona fide market maker is distinguishable from acting as the underwriter in a public offering. Securities acquired by a member firm acting as a bona fide market maker would not constitute underwriting compensation under Rule 5110 because as a bona fide market maker the member is not acting as an underwriter. While noting this statement, SIFMA suggested revising proposed Supplementary Material .01(b)(21) to expressly reference "bona fide market making activity." To provide greater clarity, FINRA is proposing in this Partial Amendment No. 2 to amend proposed Supplementary Material .01(b)(21) to expressly reference bona fide market making.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Specifically, FINRA is proposing in this Partial Amendment No. 2 to amend Supplementary Material .01(a)(7) as follows: "common or preferred stock, options, warrants, and other equity securities, including debt securities convertible to or exchangeable for equity securities, beneficially owned, as defined in Rule 5121 by the participating members the value of which is determined pursuant to this Rule, and acquired during the review period, as defined in this Rule, except that [non-convertible] <u>any such</u> securities purchased <u>during the review period</u> by a participating member in a public offering at the public offering price <u>and on the</u> <u>same terms as all others purchasing in the public offering that are not participating</u> <u>members</u> [during the review period] shall not be deemed underwriting compensation".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Specifically, the provision would be revised to state that underwriting compensation does not include "securities acquired in the secondary market by a participating member that is a broker-dealer in connection with the performance of bona fide customer facilitation activities <u>and bona fide market making</u> <u>activities</u>; provided that securities acquired from the issuer will be considered 'underwriting compensation' if the securities were not acquired at a fair price (taking into account, among other things customary commissions, mark-downs and other charges); and".

# **EXHIBIT 4**

Exhibit 4 shows the changes proposed in this Partial Amendment No. 2, with the proposed changes in the original filing and as amended by Partial Amendment No. 1 shown as if adopted. Proposed new language in this Partial Amendment No. 2 is underlined; proposed deletions in this Partial Amendment No. 2 are in brackets. The only changes are to Rule 5110.

\* \* \* \* \*

# 5100. SECURITIES OFFERINGS, UNDERWRITING AND COMPENSATION

# 5110. Corporate Financing Rule — Underwriting Terms and Arrangements

## (a) Requirements for Public Offerings

(1) through (3) No Change.

### (4) Documents and Information Required to be Filed

(A) No Change.

(B) Any member filing documents with FINRA pursuant to

paragraph (a)(4)(A) must file the following information with respect to the offering in FINRA's Public Offering System:

(i) through (ii) No Change.

(iii) a representation as to whether any officer or director

of the issuer and any beneficial owner of [5]10% or more of any

class of the issuer's equity and equity-linked securities is an

associated person or affiliate of a participating member;

(iv) through (vi) No Change.

(C) through (E) No Change.

(b) through (g) No Change.

### (h) Exemptions

### (1) Offerings Exempt from Filing

Documents and information related to the following public offerings need not be filed with FINRA for review, unless subject to the provisions of Rule 5121(a)(2), provided that the following public offerings must comply with this Rule and, if applicable, Rules 2310 and 5121:

(A) securities offered by a bank, <u>foreign bank</u>, corporate issuer, foreign government or foreign government agency that has outstanding unsecured non-convertible debt with a term of issue of at least four years or unsecured non-convertible preferred securities that are investment grade rated, as defined in Rule 5121(f)(8), or are outstanding securities in the same series that have equal rights and obligations as investment grade rated securities, provided that an initial public offering of equity is required to be filed;

(B) through (G) No Change.

- (2) No Change.
- (i) No Change.

## (j) **Definitions**

The definitions in Rule 5121 are incorporated herein by reference. For purposes of this Rule, the following terms have the meanings stated below:

(1) through (15) No Change.

### (16) Participate, Participation or Participating

The terms "participate," "participation" or "participating" in a public offering means involvement in the preparation of the offering document or other documents, involvement in the distribution of the offering, furnishing of customer or broker lists for solicitation, or providing advisory or consulting services to the issuer related to the offering, but do not include:

(A) No Change.

(B) advisory or consulting services provided to the issuer by an independent financial adviser [, provided that another member or members is participating in the public offering].

(17) through (22) No Change.

### ••• Supplementary Material: ------

### .01 Underwriting Compensation

(a) The following are examples of payments or benefits that are considered underwriting compensation:

(1) through (6) No Change.

(7) common or preferred stock, options, warrants, and other equity securities, including debt securities convertible to or exchangeable for equity securities, beneficially owned, as defined in Rule 5121 by the participating members the value of which is determined pursuant to this Rule, and acquired during the review period, as defined in this Rule, except that [non-convertible]<u>any</u> <u>such</u> securities purchased <u>during the review period</u> by a participating member in a public offering at the public offering price <u>and on the same terms as all others</u> purchasing in the public offering that are not participating members [during the review period] shall not be deemed underwriting compensation;

(8) through (14) No Change.

(b) Participating members may receive payments from an issuer or another source during the review period that may be unrelated to a particular offering. Such payments generally would not be deemed to be underwriting compensation. The following list, while not comprehensive, provides examples of payments that are not deemed to be underwriting compensation:

(1) through (20) No Change.

(21) securities acquired in the secondary market by a participating member that is a broker-dealer in connection with the performance of bona fide customer facilitation activities <u>and bona fide market making activities</u>; provided that securities acquired from the issuer will be considered "underwriting compensation" if the securities were not acquired at a fair price (taking into account, among other things customary commissions, mark-downs and other charges); and

(22) No Change.

(c) No Change.

.02 through .06 No Change.

<u>.07 Venture Capital Transactions.</u> The determination of whether a securities acquisition may be excluded from underwriting compensation pursuant to paragraph (d) is to be made at the time of the securities acquisition.

\* \* \* \* \*

# **EXHIBIT 5**

Below is the text of the proposed rule change, as amended by this Partial Amendment No. 2.

NOTE: The proposed rule change, as amended, amends and reorganizes the rule. Where entire paragraphs of the rule are being moved, paragraphs that are moved to a new location in the rule are not marked if there are no changes to the text of the paragraph. If, however, there are changes to the text of a paragraph that is being relocated, the proposed new language in the paragraph is underlined and proposed deletions are bracketed.

\* \* \* \* \*

# 2300. SPECIAL PRODUCTS

# **2310.** Direct Participation Programs

(a) No Change.

# (b) Requirements

(1) through (3) No Change.

# (4) Organization and Offering Expenses

- (A) through (B) No Change.
- (C) The organization and offering expenses subject to the

limitations in paragraph (b)(4)(B)(i) above include the following:

- (i) No Change.
- (ii) underwriting compensation[, which includes but is not

limited to items of compensation listed in Rule 5110(c)(3)] as

<u>defined in Rule 5110(j)(22)</u> including payments:

a. to any wholesaling or retailing firm that is engaged in the solicitation, marketing, distribution or sales of the program or REIT securities; b. to any registered representative of a member who receives transaction-based compensation in connection with the offering, except to the extent that such compensation has been included in a. above;

c. to any registered representative who is engaged in the solicitation, marketing, distribution or sales of the program or REIT securities, except:

1. to the extent that such compensation has been included in a. above;

2. for a registered representative whose functions in connection with the offering are solely and exclusively clerical or ministerial; and

3. for a registered representative whose sales activities are *de minimis* and incidental to his or her clerical or ministerial job functions; or

d. for training and education meetings, legal services provided to a member in connection with the offering, advertising and sales material generated by the member and contributions to conferences and meetings held by non-affiliated members for their registered representatives.

(iii) No Change.

(D) through (G) No Change.

(5) through (6) No Change.

(c) through (d) No Change.

\* \* \* \* \*

# 5100. SECURITIES OFFERINGS, UNDERWRITING AND COMPENSATION 5110. Corporate Financing Rule — Underwriting Terms and Arrangements [(b)](a) [Filing] Requirements <u>for Public Offerings</u>

## (1) General

 $[(\mathbf{f})(\mathbf{1})](\underline{A})$  No member or person associated with a member shall participate [in any manner] in a public offering [of securities after any arrangement proposed in connection with the public offering, or the] <u>in</u> <u>which the</u> terms and conditions relating thereto, <u>including the aggregate</u> <u>amount of underwriting compensation</u>, [has been determined to be] <u>are</u> unfair or unreasonable pursuant to this Rule or inconsistent with any By-Law or any rule or regulation of FINRA.

(B) Any member acting as a managing underwriter or in a similar capacity must notify the other members participating in the public offering if informed of an opinion by FINRA that the underwriting terms and arrangements are unfair and unreasonable and the proposed terms and arrangements have not been appropriately modified.

(C) No member [or person associated with a member shall participate in any manner] <u>may engage in the distribution or sale of</u> <u>securities</u> in any public offering [of securities subject to] <u>required to be</u> <u>filed by</u> this Rule, Rule 2310 or Rule 5121 unless: (i) documents and information [as] specified [herein

relating to the offering] in paragraph (a)(4) have been filed with

[and reviewed by] FINRA[.]; and

(ii) FINRA has provided an opinion that it has no objection to the proposed underwriting terms and arrangements.

# [(2) Means of Filing]

[Documents or information required by this Rule to be filed with FINRA shall be considered to be filed only upon receipt by its Corporate Financing Department.]

# [(9)](2) Offerings Required to be Filed

All public offerings in which a member participates must be filed with FINRA for review, except as exempted from the filing requirement under paragraph (h).

[Documents and information relating to all other public offerings including, but not limited to, the following must be filed with FINRA for review:]

[(A) direct participation programs as defined in Rule 2310(a);]

[(B) mortgage and real estate investment trusts;]

[(C) rights offerings;]

[(D) securities exempt from registration with the SEC pursuant to Section 3(a)(11) of the Securities Act;]

[(E) securities exempt from registration with the SEC pursuant to Rule 504 of SEC Regulation D, unless the securities are "restricted securities" under Securities Act Rule 144(a)(3);] [(F) securities offered by a bank, savings and loan association, or common carrier even though such offering may be exempt from registration with the SEC;]

[(G) securities offered pursuant to SEC Regulation A;]

[(H) exchange offers that are exempt from registration with the SEC under Sections 3(a)(4), 3(a)(9), or 3(a)(11) of the Securities Act (if a member's participation involves active solicitation activities) or registered with the SEC (if a member is acting as dealer-manager) (collectively "exchange offers"), except for exchange offers exempt from filing pursuant to subparagraph (7)(F) above that are not subject to filing by subparagraph (9)(I) below;]

[(I) any exchange offer, merger and acquisition transaction, or other similar corporate reorganization involving an issuance of securities that results in the direct or indirect public ownership of the member; and]

[(J) any offerings of a similar nature that are not exempt under subparagraph (7) or (8) above.]

### [(4)](3) [Requirement for Filing]<u>Timely Filing Requirements</u>

(A) [Unless filed by the issuer, the managing underwriter, or another member, a] <u>A</u> member that [anticipates participating] <u>participates</u> in a public offering [of securities subject to this Rule shall] <u>that is required</u> to be filed under paragraph (a)(2) must file [with FINRA] the documents and information [with respect to the offering] specified in [sub]paragraph[s] (a)(4[5]) [and (6) below]: (i) no later than [one] <u>three</u> business days after any [of such] documents are filed with or submitted to:

a. the SEC<u>, including confidential filings or</u> submissions; or

b. any state securities commission or other similar

U.S. regulatory authority; or

(ii) if not filed with or submitted to any <u>such</u> regulatory

authority, at least [fifteen]15 business days prior to the [anticipated

date on which offers will commence] commencement of sales.

(B) <u>A member that participates in a public offering is not required</u> to make a filing if the filing has been made by a member that is responsible for managing the offering or by another member that is in the syndicate or selling group.

[No sales of securities subject to this Rule shall commence unless:]

[(i) the documents and information specified in subparagraphs (5) and (6) below have been filed with and reviewed by FINRA; and]

[(ii) FINRA has provided an opinion that it has no objections to the proposed underwriting and other terms and arrangements or an opinion that the proposed underwriting and other terms and arrangements are unfair and unreasonable. If FINRA's opinion states that the proposed underwriting and other terms and arrangements are unfair and unreasonable, the member may file modifications to the proposed underwriting and other terms and arrangements for further review.]

[(C) Any member acting as a managing underwriter or in a similar capacity that has been informed of an opinion by FINRA, or a determination by the appropriate standing committee of the Board of Governors, that the proposed underwriting terms and arrangements of a proposed offering are unfair or unreasonable, and the proposed terms and arrangements have not been modified to conform to the standards of fairness and reasonableness, shall notify all other members proposing to participate in the offering of that opinion or determination at a time sufficiently prior to the effective date of the offering or the commencement of sales so the other members will have an opportunity as a result of specific notice to comply with their obligation not to participate in any way in the distribution of a public offering containing arrangements, terms and conditions that are unfair or unreasonable.]

### [(5)](4) Documents and Information Required to be Filed

(A) The following documents [relating to all proposed public offerings of securities that are] required to be filed under paragraph [(b)(4)](a) [above shall] <u>must</u> be filed [through] <u>in</u> FINRA's <u>Public</u>
<u>Offering</u> [electronic filing s]System for review <u>by providing the SEC</u> document identification number if available:

(i) [T]<u>t</u>he registration statement, offering circular, offering memorandum, notification of filing, notice of intention, application

for conversion, and[/or] any other document used to offer securities to the public;

(ii) <u>all documents relevant to the underwriting terms and</u> <u>arrangements, including [A]any proposed underwriting agreement,</u> agreement among underwriters, selected dealer's agreement, agency agreement, purchase agreement, letter of intent, <u>engagement letter</u>, consulting agreement, partnership agreement, underwriter's warrant agreement, <u>or</u> escrow agreement, <u>provided</u> <u>that industry-standard master forms of agreement need not be filed</u> <u>unless otherwise specifically requested by FINRA</u> [and any other document that describes the underwriting or other arrangements in connection with or related to the distribution, and the terms and conditions relating thereto; and any other information or documents that may be material to or part of the said arrangements, terms and conditions and that may have a bearing on FINRA's review];

(iii) [Each pre- and post-effective amendment to the registration statement or other offering document, with a copy marked to show changes; and any other amended document previously filed pursuant to subparagraphs (i) and (ii) above, with a copy marked to show changes; and] <u>if amendments to any</u> <u>documents previously filed contain changes that impact the</u> underwriting terms and arrangements for the public offering, marked pages showing the changes to such document;

(iv) the final registration statement declared effective by the SEC, or the equivalent final offering document, the notice of effectiveness issued by the SEC or any other U.S. regulatory authority, the executed form of the final distribution-related documents and any other document submitted to FINRA for review, each if applicable; and [The final registration statement declared effective by the SEC or equivalent final offering document and a list of the members of the underwriting syndicate, if not indicated therein, and one copy of the executed form of the final underwriting documents and any other document submitted to FINRA for review.]

(v[B]) <u>all requests for withdrawal filed with or submitted</u> to the SEC or any other U.S. regulatory authority, including any correspondence submitted to the SEC for the withdrawal of confidential filings or submissions.

[Documents that are filed with the SEC through the SEC's Electronic Data Gathering, Analysis, and Retrieval ("EDGAR") System that are referenced in FINRA's electronic filing system shall be treated as filed with FINRA.]

[(6) Information Required to be Filed]

(<u>B[A]</u>) Any [person] <u>member</u> filing documents with FINRA pursuant to [sub]paragraph (a)(4)(<u>A</u>) [above shall] <u>must file</u> [provide] the following information with respect to the offering [through] <u>in</u> FINRA's <u>Public Offering</u> [electronic filing s]<u>S</u>ystem:

(i) an estimate of the maximum public offering price;

(ii) an estimate of the maximum value for each item of

<u>underwriting compensation</u> [an estimate of the maximum underwriting discount or commission; maximum reimbursement of underwriter's expenses, and underwriter's counsel's fees (except for reimbursement of "blue sky" fees); maximum financial consulting and/or advisory fees to the underwriter and related persons; maximum finder's fees; and a statement of any other type and amount of compensation which may accrue to the underwriter and related persons];

(iii) a representation as to whether any officer or director of the issuer and any beneficial owner of 10% or more of any class of the issuer's equity and equity-linked securities is an associated person or affiliate of a participating member;

[(iii) a statement of the association or affiliation with any participating member of any officer or director of the issuer, of any beneficial owner of 5% or more of any class of the issuer's securities, and of any beneficial owner of the issuer's unregistered equity securities that were acquired during the 180-day period

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immediately preceding the required filing date of the public offering, except for purchases described in paragraph (c)(3)(B)(iv) below. This statement must identify:]

[a. the person;]

[b. the member; and]

[c. the number of equity securities or the face value of debt securities owned by such person, the date such securities were acquired, and the price paid for such securities.]

[(iv) a detailed explanation of any other arrangement entered into during the 180-day period immediately preceding the required filing date of the public offering, which arrangement provides for the receipt of any item of value or the transfer of any warrants, options, or other securities from the issuer to the underwriter and related persons, provided however:]

> [a. information regarding debt securities and derivative instruments not considered an item of value under paragraphs (c)(3)(B)(vi) and (vii) is not required to be filed; and]

[b. information initially filed in connection with debt securities and derivative instruments acquired or entered into for "fair price" as defined in paragraph (a)(9), but not excluded from items of value under paragraph (c)(3)(B)(vi) or (vii), may be limited to a brief description of the transaction (additional information may be required in the review process) and a representation by the member that a registered principal or senior manager on behalf of the member has determined that the transaction was or (if the pricing terms have not been set) will be entered into at a fair price as defined in paragraph (a)(9).]

(iv) a description of any securities of the issuer acquired and beneficially owned by any participating member during the review period, provided that:

> a. non-convertible or non-exchangeable debt securities and derivative instruments acquired in a transaction related to the public offering must be filed and also accompanied by a representation that a registered principal or senior manager of the participating member has determined if the transaction was or will be entered into at a fair price;

b. non-convertible or non-exchangeable debt securities and derivative instruments need not be filed if acquired in a transaction that is unrelated to the public offering; and

<u>c. securities if acquired in accordance with</u> <u>Supplementary Material .01(b) need not be filed.</u> [(v) a statement demonstrating compliance with all of the criteria of an exception from underwriting compensation in paragraph (d)(5) below, when applicable; and]

(v) if applicable, a representation of compliance with all of the criteria for any exception from underwriting compensation provided in paragraph (d); and

(vi) a detailed explanation and <u>all</u> [any] documents relatedto[:]

[a.] the modification of any information or representation previously provided to FINRA <u>during the</u> <u>review period, whether or not FINRA has issued a no</u> <u>objections opinion.</u> [or of any item of underwriting compensation including the information required in paragraph (b)(6)(A)(iii) above with respect to any securities of the issuer acquired subsequent to the required filing date and prior to the effectiveness or commencement of the offering; or]

[b. any new arrangement that provides for the receipt of any additional item of value by any participating member subsequent to the issuance of an opinion of no objections to the underwriting terms and arrangements by FINRA and within 90 days immediately following the date of effectiveness or commencement of sales of the public offering, provided, however, that information filed in connection with debt securities and derivative instruments acquired or entered into for a "fair price" as defined in paragraph (a)(9) may be limited as described in paragraph (b)(6)(A)(iv)b.]

[(vii) any other information required to be filed under this Rule.]

(<u>C</u>[B]) [Any person filing documents pursuant to paragraph (b)(5) above shall notify FINRA through its electronic filing system that the offering has been declared effective or approved by the SEC or other agency no later than one business day following such declaration or approval or that the offering has been withdrawn or abandoned within three business days following the withdrawal or decision to abandon the offering.]

In the event an offering filed pursuant to this Rule is not completed according to the terms of an agreement entered into by the issuer and a participating member, any member receiving underwriting compensation must provide written notification to FINRA of all underwriting compensation received or to be received pursuant to paragraph (g)(5), including a copy of any agreement governing the arrangement.

# [(b)(3)](D) [Confidential Treatment]

FINRA [shall accord] <u>will provide</u> confidential treatment to all documents and information filed pursuant to this Rule and [shall utilize]

<u>use</u> such documents and information solely for [the purpose of review to determine compliance with the provisions of applicable FINRA rules or for other] regulatory purposes [deemed appropriate by FINRA].

(E) Notwithstanding paragraph (a)(4)(A) and (B), with respect to a shelf offering, the following documents and information must be filed in FINRA's Public Offering System for review:

(i) the registration statement number; and

(ii) if requested by FINRA, other documents and

information set forth in paragraph (a)(4)(A) and (B).

[(c)](b) <u>Disclosure Requirements for</u> Underwriting Compensation [and Arrangements]

# [(1) General]

[No member or person associated with a member shall participate in any manner in any public offering of securities in which the underwriting or other terms or arrangements in connection with or relating to the distribution of the securities, or the terms and conditions related thereto, are unfair or unreasonable.]

### [(2) Amount of Underwriting Compensation]

[(A) No member or person associated with a member shall receive an amount of underwriting compensation in connection with a public offering that is unfair or unreasonable and no member or person associated with a member shall underwrite or participate in a public offering of securities if the underwriting compensation in connection with the public offering is unfair or unreasonable.]

[(B) For purposes of determining the amount of underwriting compensation, all items of value received or to be received from any source by the underwriter and related persons which are deemed to be in connection with or related to the distribution of the public offering as determined pursuant to subparagraph (3) below shall be included.]

([C]1) [All items of] <u>A description of each item of</u> underwriting compensation <u>received or to be received by a participating member must</u> [shall] be disclosed in the section on [underwriting or] distribution arrangements in the prospectus or similar document.

(2) [and, if the underwriting compensation includes items of compensation in addition to the] <u>Any underwriting compensation consisting of a</u> commission or discount <u>to the public offering price must be</u> disclosed on the cover page of the prospectus or similar document[,]. <u>If the underwriting</u> <u>compensation includes items of compensation in addition to the commission or</u> <u>discount disclosed on the cover page of the prospectus or similar document</u>, a footnote to the offering proceeds table on the cover page of the prospectus or similar document shall include a cross-reference to the section on [underwriting or] distribution arrangements.

[(D) For purposes of determining the currently effective guideline on the maximum amount of underwriting compensation considered fair and reasonable, the following factors, as well as any other relevant factors and circumstances, shall be taken into consideration:]

[(i) the offering proceeds;]

[(ii) the amount of risk assumed by the underwriter and related persons, which is determined by:]

[a. whether the offering is being underwritten on a "firm commitment" or "best efforts" basis and]

[b. whether the offering is an initial or secondary offering; and]

[(iii) the type of securities being offered.]

[(E) The maximum amount of compensation (stated as a percentage of the dollar amount of the offering proceeds) that is considered fair and reasonable generally will vary directly with the amount of risk to be assumed by participating members and inversely with the dollar amount of the offering proceeds.]

### [(3) Items of Value]

[(A) For purposes of determining the amount of underwriting compensation received or to be received by the underwriter and related persons pursuant to paragraph (c)(2) above, the following items and all other items of value received or to be received by the underwriter and related persons in connection with or related to the distribution of the public offering, as determined pursuant to paragraph (d) below shall be included:] [(i) discount or commission;]

[(ii) reimbursement of expenses to or on behalf of the

underwriter and related persons;]

[(iii) fees and expenses of underwriter's counsel (except

for reimbursement of "blue sky" fees);]

[(iv) finder's fees, whether in the form of cash, securities or any other item of value;]

[(v) wholesaler's fees;]

[(vi) financial consulting and advisory fees, whether in the form of cash, securities, or any other item of value;]

[(vii) common or preferred stock, options, warrants, and other equity securities, including debt securities convertible to or exchangeable for equity securities, received;]

[a. for acting as private placement agent for the issuer;]

[b. for providing or arranging a loan, credit facility, merger or acquisition services, or any other service for the issuer;]

[c. as an investment in a private placement made by the issuer; or]

[d. at the time of the public offering;]

[(viii) special sales incentive items;]

[(ix) any right of first refusal provided to any participating member underwrite or participate in future public offerings, private placements or other financings, which will have a compensation value of 1% of the offering proceeds or that dollar amount contractually agreed to by the issuer and underwriter to waive the right of first refusal;]

[(x) compensation to be received by the underwriter and related persons or by any person nominated by the underwriter as an advisor to the issuer's board of directors in excess of that received by other members of the board of directors;]

[(xi) commissions, expense reimbursements, previously or other compensation to be received by the underwriter and related persons as a result of the exercise or conversion within twelve months following the effective date of the offering of warrants, options, convertible securities, or similar securities distributed as part of the public offering;]

[(xii) fees of a qualified independent underwriter; and]

[(xiii) compensation, including expense reimbursements, paid to any member in connection with a proposed public offering that was not completed, unless the member does not participate in the revised public offering.]

[(B) Notwithstanding paragraph (c)(3)(A) above, the following shall not be considered an item of value:]

[(i) expenses customarily borne by an issuer, such as printing costs; SEC, "blue sky" and other registration fees; FINRA filing fees; and accountant's fees, whether or not paid through a participating member;]

[(ii) cash compensation for acting as placement agent for a private placement or for providing a loan, credit facility, or for services in connection with a merger/acquisition;]

[(iii) listed securities purchased in public market transactions;]

[(iv) securities acquired through any stock bonus, pension, or profit-sharing plan that qualifies under Section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code;]

[(v) securities acquired by an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act;]

[(vi) nonconvertible or non-exchangeable debt securities acquired for a fair price in the ordinary course of business in a transaction unrelated to the public offering; and]

[(vii) derivative instruments entered into for a fair price in the ordinary course of business in a transaction unrelated to the public offering.]

# [(e)](c) Valuation of [Non-Cash]<u>Underwriting</u> Compensation

[For purposes of determining the value to be assigned to securities received as underwriting compensation, the following criteria and procedures shall be applied.]

# (1) Limitation on Securities Received Upon Exercise or Conversion of Another Security

A[n underwriter and related person] <u>participating member</u> may not receive a security (including securities in a unit), a warrant for a security, or a security convertible into another security as underwriting compensation in connection with a public offering unless:

(A) the security received or the security underlying the warrant or convertible security received is identical to the security offered to the public or to a security with a bona fide [independent]public market; or

(B) the security can be accurately valued, as required by paragraph (g)(1) of this Rule[(f)(2)(I) below].

# (2) Valuation of <u>Non-Convertible</u> Securities [That Do Not Have an Exercise or Conversion Price]

<u>Non-convertible</u> [S]<u>s</u>ecurities <u>received as underwriting compensation</u> [that do not have an exercise or conversion price shall]<u>will</u> have a compensation value based on:

(A) the difference between:

 (i) either the market price per security on the date of acquisition, or, if no bona fide [independent]<u>public</u> market exists for the security, the public offering price per security; and

(ii) the per security cost;

(B) multiplied by the number of securities received or to be received as underwriting compensation;

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- (C) divided by the offering proceeds; and
- (D) multiplied by one hundred.

# (3) Valuation of <u>Convertible</u> Securities [That Have an Exercise or Conversion Price]

Options, warrants or convertible securities [that have an exercise or conversion price] ("warrants") shall have a compensation value based on the following formula:

(A) the public offering price per security multiplied by .65;

(B) minus the resultant of the exercise or conversion price per warrant less either:

(i) the market price per security on the date of acquisition,

where a bona fide [independent]<u>public</u> market exists for the security; or

(ii) the public offering price per security;

(C) divided by two;

(D) multiplied by the number of securities underlying the warrants;

(E) less the total price paid for the warrants;

(F) divided by the offering proceeds; and

(G) multiplied by one hundred;

(H) provided, however, that, notwithstanding paragraph [(e)](c)(4)
 <u>of this Rule[below]</u>, such warrants shall have a compensation value of at
 least .2% of the offering proceeds for each amount of securities that is up

to 1% of the securities being offered to the public (excluding securities subject to an overallotment option).

### (4) <u>Reduction in Valuation</u>

If a participating member wishes to reduce the proposed maximum value of any securities received as underwriting compensation, it may do so by voluntarily agreeing to lock-up such securities for successive 180-day periods (in addition to the initial lock-up period required by paragraph (e) of this Rule if applicable). Each additional 180-day period will reduce the proposed maximum value attributable to such securities by 10%.

### [Valuation Discount For Securities With a Longer Resale Restriction]

[A lower value equal to 10% of the calculated value shall be deducted for each 180-day period that the securities or underlying securities are restricted from sale or other disposition beyond the 180-day period of the lock-up restriction required by paragraph (g)(1) below. The transfers permitted during the lock-up restriction by paragraphs (g)(2)(A)(iii) through (iv) are not available for such securities.]

# (5) Valuation of [Items of Value]<u>Securities</u> Acquired in Connection with a Fair Price <u>Non-Convertible or Non-Exchangeable Debt or</u> Derivative <u>Instrument</u> [or Debt Transaction]

Any <u>non-convertible or non-exchangeable</u> debt or derivative <u>instrument[transaction]</u> acquired or entered into at a "fair price" as defined in [paragraph (a)(9) and item of value] <u>Supplementary Material .06(b) and</u> <u>underwriting compensation</u> received in or receivable in the settlement, exercise or other terms of such <u>non-convertible or non-exchangeable</u> debt or derivative [transaction]<u>instrument</u> shall not have a compensation value for purposes of determining underwriting compensation. If the actual price for the <u>non-</u> <u>convertible or non-exchangeable</u> debt or derivative [security]<u>instrument</u> is not a fair price, compensation will be calculated pursuant to this paragraph [(e)](c) or based on the difference between the fair price and the actual price.

(d) [Determination of Whether Items of Value Are Included In

# Underwriting Compensation] <u>Securities Acquisitions Not Considered Underwriting</u> <u>Compensation</u>

## [(1) **Pre-Offering Compensation**]

[All items of value received and all arrangements entered into for the future receipt of an item of value by the underwriter and related persons during the period commencing 180 days immediately preceding the required filing date of the registration statement or similar document pursuant to paragraph (b)(4) above until the date of effectiveness or commencement of sales of the public offering will be considered to be underwriting compensation in connection with the public offering.]

## [(2) Undisclosed and Post-Offering Compensation]

[All items of value received and all arrangements entered into for the future receipt of an item of value by any participating member that are not disclosed to FINRA prior to the date of effectiveness or commencement of sales of a public offering, including items of value received subsequent to the public offering, are subject to post-offering review to determine whether such items of value are, in fact, underwriting compensation for the public offering.]

## [(3) Date of Receipt of Securities]

[Securities of the issuer acquired by the underwriter and related persons will be considered to be received for purposes of paragraphs (d)(1) and (d)(5) as of the date of the:]

[(A) closing of a private placement, if the securities were purchased in or received for arranging a private placement; or]

[(B) execution of a written contract with detailed provisions for the receipt of securities as compensation for a loan, credit facility, or put option; or]

[(C) transfer of beneficial ownership of the securities, if the securities were received as compensation for consulting or advisory services, merger or acquisition services, acting as a finder, or for any other service.]

## [(4) **Definitions**]

[For purposes of paragraph (d)(5) below, the following terms will have the meanings stated below.]

[(A) An entity:]

 [(i) includes a group of legal persons that either:]
 [a. are contractually obligated to make coinvestments and have previously made at least one such investment; or] [b. have filed a Schedule 13D or 13G with the SEC that identifies the legal persons as members of a group that have agreed to act together for the purpose of acquiring, holding, voting or disposing of equity securities of an issuer in connection with a previous investment; and]

[(ii) may make its investment or loan through a wholly owned subsidiary (except when the entity is a group of legal persons).]

[(D) A right of pre-emption means the right of a shareholder to acquire additional securities in the same company in order to avoid dilution when additional securities are issued, pursuant to:]

[(i) any option, shareholder agreement, or other contractual right entered into at the time of a purchase of securities;]

- [(ii) the terms of the security purchased;]
- [(iii) the issuer's charter or by-laws; or]
- [(iv) the domestic law of a foreign jurisdiction that

regulates the issuance of the securities.]

#### [(5) Exceptions From Underwriting Compensation]

[Notwithstanding paragraph (d)(1) above, the following items of value] <u>Securities</u> acquired in transactions that meet the requirements of this paragraph (d) are excluded from underwriting compensation and not subject to the lock-up requirements of paragraph (e)(1), provided that the member does not condition its participation in the public offering on an acquisition of securities [under an exception] in a transaction that <u>meets the requirements of this paragraph</u> and any securities [purchased]<u>acquired</u> are [purchased]<u>acquired</u> at the same price and with the same terms as the securities purchased by all other investors.

([A]<u>1</u>) Purchases and Loans by Certain <u>Affiliates</u> [Entities]— Securities of the issuer purchased in a private placement or received as compensation [for] <u>in connection with the provision of</u> a loan or credit facility before the required filing date of the public offering pursuant to paragraph [(b)(4)](<u>a)</u> [above] by [certain entities] <u>a participating member's affiliate</u>, if:

[(i) each entity:]

[a. either:]

[1. manages capital contributions or commitments of \$100 million or more, at least \$75 million of which has been contributed or committed by persons that are not participating members;]

[2. manages capital contributions or commitments of \$25 million or more, at least 75% of which has been contributed or committed by persons that are not participating members;]

[3. is an insurance company as defined in Section 2(a)(13) of the Securities Act or is a foreign insurance company that has been granted an exemption under this Rule; or]

[4. is a bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Exchange Act or is a foreign bank that has been granted an exemption under this Rule; and]

(A)[b.] <u>the affiliate</u> is a separate and distinct legal person from any member <u>participating in the offering</u> and is not registered as a brokerdealer;

(B)[c.] [makes] <u>the</u> investment[s] or loan[s] <u>was made</u> subject to the evaluation of individuals who have a contractual or fiduciary duty to select investments and loans based on the risks and rewards to the [entity] <u>affiliate</u> and not based on opportunities for the member <u>participating in the</u> <u>offering</u> to earn investment banking revenues;

<u>(C)[d.] the affiliate</u> does not [participate directly in] <u>receive</u> investment banking fees [received by] <u>paid to</u> any participating member for underwriting public offerings; [and]

(D)[e.] the affiliate, directly or through a subsidiary it controls, is [has been] primarily engaged in the business of making investments in or loans to other companies or is an entity that has been newly formed by such affiliate; and

(E) the affiliate either:

<u>i. manages capital contributions or commitments of \$100</u> <u>million or more, at least \$75 million of which has been contributed</u> <u>or committed by persons that are not participating members;</u> <u>ii. manages capital contributions or commitments of \$25</u> <u>million or more, at least 75% of which has been contributed or</u> <u>committed by persons that are not participating members;</u>

<u>iii. is an insurance company as defined in Section 2(a)(13)</u> of the Securities Act or is a foreign insurance company that has been granted an exemption under this Rule; or

iv. is a bank.

[(ii) all entities related to each member in acquisitions that qualify for this exception do not acquire more than 25% of the issuer's total equity securities during the review period in paragraph (d)(1), calculated immediately following the transaction.]

(2[B]) Investments in and Loans to Certain Issuers — Securities of the issuer purchased in a private placement or received as compensation [for] <u>in</u> <u>connection with the provision of</u> a loan or credit facility before the required filing date of the public offering pursuant to paragraph [(b)(4)](a) [above] by [certain entities] <u>a participating member's affiliate</u> if:

(<u>A[i]</u>) <u>the affiliate[each entity]</u>:

(i)[a.] manages capital contributions or commitments of at least \$50 million;

(ii)[b.] is a separate and distinct legal person from any member <u>participating in the offering</u> and is not registered as a broker-dealer; (iii)[c.] does not [participate directly in] <u>receive</u> investment banking fees <u>paid to any participating</u> [received by the] member for underwriting public offerings; and

(iv)[d.] directly or through a subsidiary it controls, is [has been] primarily engaged in the business of making investments in or loans to other companies or is an entity that has been newly formed by such affiliate; [and]

(<u>B[ii]</u>) institutional investors beneficially own at least 33% of the issuer's total equity securities, calculated immediately prior to the transaction; <u>and</u>

( $\underline{C}$ [iii]) the transaction was approved by a majority of the issuer's board of directors (if the issuer has a board of directors) and a majority of any institutional investors, or the designees of institutional investors, that are board members.[; and]

[(iv) all entities related to each member in acquisitions that qualify for this exception do not acquire more than 25% of the issuer's total equity securities, calculated immediately following the transaction.]

(<u>3[C]</u>) Private Placements with Institutional Investors — Securities of the issuer purchased in, or received as [placement agent] compensation for <u>services</u> <u>provided in connection with</u>, a private placement before the required filing date of the public offering pursuant to paragraph [(b)(4) above] (a) if:

(<u>A[i]</u>) institutional investors, none of whom is an affiliate of a member participating in the offering purchase at least 51% of the ["]total

number of securities sold in the private placement at the same time and on the same terms[ offering" (comprised of the total number of securities sold in the private placement and received or to be received as placement agent compensation by any member];

 $(\underline{B}[ii])$  an institutional investor was the lead negotiator or, if the terms were not negotiated, was the lead investor with the issuer to establish or approve the terms of the private placement; and

(<u>C</u>[iii]) [underwriters and related persons] <u>the participating</u> <u>members</u> did not, in the aggregate, purchase or receive as [placement agent] compensation more than [2]<u>4</u>0% of the "total <u>number of securities</u> <u>sold in the private placement[offering]</u>" (excluding purchases by any [entity] <u>affiliate</u> qualified under paragraph [(d)(5)(A) above] (d)(1).

(4) Co-Investments with Certain Regulated Entities — Securities of the issuer acquired in a private placement before the required filing date of the public offering pursuant to paragraph (a) by a participating member if at least 15% of the total number of securities sold in the private placement were acquired, at the same time and on the same terms, by one or more entities that is an open-end investment company not traded on an exchange, and no such entity is an affiliate of a FINRA member participating in the offering.

[(D) Acquisitions and Conversions to Prevent Dilution — Securities of the issuer if:]

[(i) the securities were acquired as the result of:]

[a. a right of preemption that was granted in connection with securities that were purchased either:]

[1. in a private placement and the securities are not deemed by FINRA to be underwriting compensation; or]

[2. from a public offering or the public market; or]

[b. a stock-split or a pro-rata rights or similar offering where the securities upon which the acquisition is based were acquired more than 180 days before the required filing date of the public offering pursuant to paragraph (b)(4) above; or]

[c. the conversion of securities that have not been deemed by FINRA to be underwriting compensation; and]

[(ii) the only terms of the purchased securities that are different from the terms of securities purchased by other investors are pre-existing contractual rights that were granted in connection with a prior purchase;]

[(iii) the opportunity to purchase in a rights offering or pursuant to a right of preemption, or to receive additional securities as the result of a stock-split or conversion was provided to all similarly situated security holders; and] [(iv) the amount of securities purchased or received did not increase the recipient's percentage ownership of the same generic class of securities of the issuer or of the class of securities underlying a convertible security calculated immediately prior to the investment, except in the case of conversions and passive increases that result from another investor's failure to exercise its own rights.]

[(E) Purchases Based On A Prior Investment History — Purchases of securities of the issuer if:]

> [(i) the amount of securities purchased did not increase the purchaser's percentage ownership of the same generic class of securities of the issuer or of the class of securities underlying a convertible security calculated immediately prior to the investment; and]

> [(ii) an initial purchase of securities of the issuer was made at least two years and a second purchase was made more than 180 days before the required filing date of the public offering pursuant to paragraph (b)(4) above.]

#### [(g)](e) Lock-Up Restriction on Securities

## (1) Lock-Up Restriction

(A) [In any public equity offering, other than a public equity offering by an issuer that can meet the requirements in paragraph
(b)(7)(C)(i) or (ii) any common or preferred stock, options, warrants, and

other equity securities of the issuer, including debt securities convertible to or exchangeable for equity securities of the issuer, that are unregistered and acquired by an underwriter and related person during 180 days prior to the required filing date, or acquired after the required filing date of the registration statement and deemed to be] <u>Any</u> underwriting compensation <u>consisting of securities</u> [by FINRA, and securities excluded from underwriting compensation pursuant to paragraph (d)(5)(A), (B), (C) and (E) above, shall not be sold during the offering, or] <u>must not be</u> sold, transferred, assigned, pledged, or hypothecated, or be the subject of any hedging, short sale, derivative, put, or call transaction that would result in the effective economic disposition of the securities [by any person] for a period of 180 days [immediately following] <u>beginning on</u> the date of [effectiveness or] commencement of sales of the public <u>equity</u> offering, except as provided in paragraph (<u>e)(2)</u>[(g)(2) below].

(B) The lock-up restriction must be disclosed in the section on distribution arrangements in the prospectus or similar document.

#### (2) Exceptions to Lock-Up Restriction

Notwithstanding paragraph  $(\underline{e})(1)[(\underline{g})(1)]$  above, the following shall not be prohibited]:

(A) the [transfer of any security] lock-up restriction will not apply:

(i) <u>if the security is required to be transferred</u> by operation of law or by reason of reorganization of the issuer; (ii[i]) if the aggregate amount of securities of the issuer [held] <u>beneficially owned</u> by [the underwriter and related persons] <u>a participating member</u> do<u>es</u> not exceed 1% of the securities being offered;

(iii) to a security of an issuer that meets the registration requirements of SEC Registration Forms S-3, F-3 or F-10;

(iv) to a non-convertible or non-exchangeable debt security acquired in a transaction related to the public offering:

(v) to a derivative instrument acquired in connection with a hedging transaction related to the public offering and at a fair price;

(vi) if the security was acquired in a transaction that met the requirements of paragraph (d);

([i]vii) [that] <u>if the security</u> is beneficially owned on a prorata basis by all equity owners of an investment fund, provided that no participating member manages or otherwise directs investments by the fund, and participating members in the aggregate do not own more than 10% of the equity in the fund;

(viii) if the security was received as underwriting compensation, and is registered and sold as part of a firm commitment offering; or

(ix) to a security that is "actively-traded" (as defined in Rule 101(c)(1) of SEC Regulation M). [(v) that is not an item of value under paragraphs (c)(3)(B)(iii) through (vii) above;]

[(vi) that is eligible for the limited filing requirement in paragraph (b)(6)(A)(iv)b. and has not been deemed to be underwriting compensation under the Rule;]

[(vii) that was previously but is no longer subject to the lock-up restriction in paragraph (g)(1) above in connection with a prior public offering (or a lock-up restriction in the predecessor rule), provided that if the prior restricted period has not been completed, the security will continue to be subject to such prior restriction until it is completed; or]

[(viii) that was acquired subsequent to the issuer's initial public offering in a transaction exempt from registration under Securities Act Rule 144A; or]

## (B) the following will not be prohibited:

[(A)(ii)](i) the transfer of any security to any member participating in the offering and its officers or partners, [thereof] its registered persons or affiliates, if all transferred securities [so transferred] remain subject to the lock-up restriction in paragraph (e)(1)[(g)(1) above] for the remainder of the [time] <u>180-day lock-</u> <u>up</u> period;

(ii) the exercise or conversion of any security, if all securities received remain subject to the lock-up restriction in

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paragraph (e)(1)[(g)(1) above] for the remainder of the [time] <u>180-</u> <u>day lock-up period; or</u>

(iii) the transfer or sale of the security back to the issuer in a transaction exempt from registration with the SEC.

## [(h)](f) Non-Cash Compensation

## (1) **Definitions**

The terms "compensation," "non-cash compensation" and "offeror" as used in this paragraph ([i]f) shall have the following meanings:

(A) "Compensation" shall mean cash compensation and non-cash compensation.

(B) "Non-cash compensation" shall mean any form of compensation received in connection with the sale and distribution of securities that is not cash compensation, including, but not limited to, merchandise, gifts and prizes, travel expenses, meals and lodging.

(C) "Offeror" shall mean an issuer, an adviser to an issuer, an underwriter and any affiliated person of such entities.

#### (2) Restrictions on Non-Cash Compensation

In connection with the sale and distribution of a public offering of securities, no member or person associated with a member shall directly or indirectly accept or make payments or offers of payments of any non-cash compensation, except as provided in this provision. Non-cash compensation arrangements are limited to the following: (A) Gifts that do not exceed an annual amount per person fixed periodically by the Board of Governors<sup>1</sup> and are not preconditioned on achievement of a sales target.

(B) An occasional meal, a ticket to a sporting event or the theater, or comparable entertainment which is neither so frequent nor so extensive as to raise any question of propriety and is not preconditioned on achievement of a sales target.

(C) Payment or reimbursement by offerors in connection with meetings held by an offeror or by a member for the purpose of training or education of associated persons of a member, provided that:

> (i) associated persons obtain the member's prior approval to attend the meeting and attendance by a member's associated persons is not conditioned by the member on the achievement of a sales target or any other incentives pursuant to a non-cash compensation arrangement permitted by paragraph [(h)(2)](f)(2)(D);

(ii) the location is appropriate to the purpose of the meeting, which shall mean an office of the issuer or affiliate thereof, the office of the member, or a facility located in the vicinity of such office, or a regional location with respect to regional meetings;

(iii) the payment or reimbursement is not applied to the expenses of guests of the associated person; and

The current annual amount fixed by the Board of Governors is \$100.

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(iv) the payment or reimbursement by the issuer or affiliate of the issuer is not conditioned by the issuer or an affiliate of the issuer on the achievement of a sales target or any other non-cash compensation arrangement permitted by paragraph

#### [(h)(2)](f)(2)(D).

(D) Non-cash compensation arrangements between a member and its associated persons or a company that controls a member company and the member's associated persons, provided that no unaffiliated nonmember company or other unaffiliated member directly or indirectly participates in the member's or non-member's organization of a permissible non-cash compensation arrangement; and

(E) Contributions by a non-member company or other member to a non-cash compensation arrangement between a member and its associated persons, provided that the arrangement meets the criteria in paragraph [(h)(2)](f)(2)(D).

A member shall maintain records of all non-cash compensation received by the member or its associated persons in arrangements permitted by paragraphs [(h)(2)](f)(2)(C) through (E). The records shall include: the names of the offerors, non-members or other members making the non-cash compensation contributions; the names of the associated persons participating in the arrangements; the nature and value of non-cash compensation received; the location of training and education meetings; and any other information that proves compliance by the member and its associated persons with paragraphs [(h)(2)](f)(2)(C) through (E).

## [(f)](g) Unreasonable Terms and Arrangements

## [(2) Prohibited Arrangements]

Without limiting the [foregoing] <u>requirements of paragraph (a)(1)(A)</u>, the following terms and arrangements <u>are prohibited[</u>, when proposed in connection with a public offering of securities, shall be unfair and unreasonable.]:

(1) receipt of any underwriting compensation, including in the form of securities, for which a value cannot be determined;

(2[A]) [A]any accountable expense allowance [granted by an issuer to the underwriter and related persons] that includes payment for general overhead, salaries, supplies, or similar expenses [of the underwriter] incurred in the normal conduct of business[.];

(<u>3[B]</u>) [A]<u>a</u>ny non-accountable expense allowance in excess of 3% of offering proceeds[.]:

(<u>4</u>[C]) [A]<u>a</u>ny [payment of commissions or reimbursement of expenses directly or indirectly to the underwriter and related persons] <u>underwriting</u> <u>compensation paid</u> prior to the commencement of [the public] sales of the [securities being offered] <u>public offering</u>, except: [a reasonable]

(A) an advance against [out-of-pocket] accountable expenses actually anticipated to be incurred [by the underwriter and related persons], which [advance is] <u>must be</u> reimbursed to the issuer to the extent not actually incurred[.]; or (B) advisory or consulting fees for services provided in connection with the offering that subsequently is completed according to the terms of an agreement entered into by an issuer and a participating member;

(<u>5[D]</u>) [A]<u>any underwriting</u> compensation [by an issuer to a member or person associated with a member] in connection with a[n] <u>public</u> offering [of securities] that is not completed according to the terms of <u>an</u> agreement [between] <u>entered into by an</u> [the] issuer and [underwriter] <u>a participating member</u>, except:

(<u>A[i]</u>) the reimbursement of [out-of-pocket] accountable[, bona fide] expenses actually incurred by the <u>participating</u> member [or person associated with a member]; and

(<u>B[ii]</u>) a termination fee or a right of first refusal, as set forth in a written agreement [between] <u>entered into by an</u> [the] issuer and [the] <u>a</u> participating member, provided that:

(i)[a.] the agreement specifies that the issuer has a right of "termination for cause," which shall include the participating member's material failure to provide the underwriting services contemplated in the written agreement;

(ii)[b.] an issuer's exercise of its right of "termination for cause" eliminates any obligations with respect to the payment of any termination fee or provision of any right of first refusal;

(iii)[c.] the amount of any termination fee must be reasonable in relation to the underwriting services contemplated in the agreement and any fees arising from underwriting services provided under a right of first refusal must be customary for those types of services; and

(iv)[d.] the issuer shall not be responsible for paying the termination fee unless an offering or other type of transaction (as set forth in the agreement) is consummated within two years of the date the engagement is terminated by the issuer:[.]

(<u>6[E]</u>) [A]<u>a</u>ny right of first refusal [provided to the underwriter or related persons] to [underwrite or] participate in <u>the distribution of a</u> future public offering[s], private placement[s] or other financing[s] that:

 $(\underline{A}[i])$  has a duration of more than three years from the [date of] commencement of sales of the public offering or the termination date of the engagement between the issuer and [underwriter] member; or

(<u>B[ii]</u>) has more than one opportunity to waive or terminate the right of first refusal in consideration of any payment or fee[.];

(<u>7[F]</u>) [A]<u>a</u>ny payment or fee to waive or terminate a right of first refusal [regarding] <u>to participate in a</u> future public offering[s], private placement[s] or other financing[s provided to the underwriter and related persons] that[:]

> [(i) has a value in excess of the greater of 1% of the offering proceeds in the public offering where the right of first refusal was granted (or an amount in excess of 1% if additional compensation is available under the compensation guideline of the original offering) or 5% of the underwriting discount or commission paid in connection with the future financing (including

any overallotment option that may be exercised), regardless of whether the payment or fee is negotiated at the time of or subsequent to the original public offering; or]

[(ii)] is not paid in cash[.];

(8[G]) [The terms or the exercise of the terms of an agreement for] the receipt [by the underwriter and related persons] of underwriting compensation consisting of any option, warrant or convertible security that:

 $(\underline{A}[i])$  is exercisable or convertible more than five years from the [effective date] <u>commencement of sales</u> of the <u>public</u> offering;

[(ii) is not in compliance with paragraph (e)(1) above;]

(<u>B[iii]</u>) has more than one demand registration right at the issuer's expense;

 $(\underline{C}[iv])$  has a demand registration right with a duration of more than five years from [the date of effectiveness or] the commencement of sales of the public offering;

 $(\underline{D}[v])$  has a piggyback registration right with a duration of more than seven years from the [date of effectiveness or the] commencement of sales of the public offering;

( $\underline{E}[vi]$ ) has anti-dilution terms that allow the [underwriter and related persons] <u>participating members</u> to receive more shares or to exercise at a lower price than originally agreed upon at the time of the public offering, when the public shareholders have not been proportionally affected by a stock split, stock dividend, or other similar event; or ( $\underline{F}$ [vii]) has anti-dilution terms that allow the [underwriter and related persons] <u>participating members</u> to receive or accrue cash dividends prior to the exercise or conversion of the security[.]:

[(H) The receipt by the underwriter and related persons of any item of compensation for which a value cannot be determined at the time of the offering.]

(9[I]) [W]when proposed in connection with the distribution of a public offering of securities on a "firm commitment" basis, any overallotment option providing for the overallotment of more than 15% of the amount of securities being offered, computed excluding any securities offered pursuant to the overallotment option[.]:

(<u>10[J]</u>) [T]<u>t</u>he receipt by a <u>participating</u> member [or person associated with a member, pursuant to an agreement entered into at any time before or after the effective date of a public offering of warrants, options, convertible securities or units containing such securities,] of any compensation [or expense reimbursement] in connection with the exercise or conversion of any [such] warrant, option, or convertible security [in any of the following circumstances] <u>offered in the public offering if</u>:

 $(\underline{A}[i])$  the market price of the security into which the warrant, option, or convertible security is exercisable or convertible is lower than the exercise or conversion price;

(<u>B[ii]</u>) the warrant, option, or convertible security is held in a discretionary account at the time of exercise or conversion, except where

prior specific written approval for exercise or conversion is received from the customer;

(<u>C[iii]</u>) the <u>compensation</u> arrangements [whereby compensation is to be paid] are not disclosed[:]

> [a. in the prospectus or offering circular by which the warrants, options, or convertible securities are offered to the public, if such arrangements are contemplated or any agreement exists as to such arrangements at that time, and]

[b.] in the [prospectus or] offering [circular] <u>documents</u> provided to security holders at the time of exercise or conversion; [or]

(D[iv]) the exercise or conversion [of the warrants, options or convertible securities] is not solicited by the [underwriter or related person] <u>participating members[</u>, provided however, that any request for exercise or conversion will be presumed to be unsolicited unless the customer states in writing that the transaction was solicited and designates in writing the broker-dealer to receive compensation for the exercise or conversion.]; and

(<u>11[K]</u>) [F]<u>f</u>or a member to participate with an issuer in the public offering [distribution of a non-underwritten issue] of securities if the issuer hires persons primarily for the purpose of <u>solicitation</u>, <u>marketing</u>, <u>distribution or sales</u> of the offering [distributing or assisting in the distribution of the issue, or for the purpose of assisting in any way in connection with the underwriting], except [to the extent] in compliance with <u>Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act or</u> SEA Rule 3a4-1 and applicable state law.

#### (h) Exemptions

#### [(b)(7)](1) Offerings Exempt from Filing

[Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (1) above, d]<u>D</u>ocuments and information related to the following public offerings need not be filed with FINRA for review, unless subject to the provisions of Rule 5121(a)(2)[.], provided that the following public offerings must comply with this Rule and, if applicable, Rules 2310 and 5121[. However, it shall be deemed a violation of this Rule or Rule 2310, for a member to participate in any way in such public offerings if the underwriting or other arrangements in connection with the offering are not in compliance with this Rule or Rule 2310, as applicable]:

(A) securities offered by a [corporate] <u>bank</u>, <u>foreign bank</u>, <u>corporate issuer</u>, foreign government or foreign government agency [issuer which] <u>that</u> has <u>outstanding</u> unsecured non-convertible debt with a term of issue of at least four [(4)] years[,] or unsecured non-convertible preferred securities[,] <u>that are investment grade</u> rated [by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization in one of its four (4) highest generic rating categories], <u>as defined in Rule 5121(f)(8)</u>, or <u>are</u> <u>outstanding securities in the same series that have equal rights and</u> <u>obligations as investment grade rated securities, provided [except] that an</u> [the] initial public offering of [the] equity [of an issuer] is required to be filed; (B) <u>investment grade rated</u> non-convertible debt securities and non-convertible preferred securities [rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization in one of its four (4) highest generic rating categories];

(C) offerings of securities[:]

[(i)] registered with the SEC on registration statement Forms S-3, [or] F-3 [pursuant to the standards for those Forms prior to October 21, 1992 and offered pursuant to Rule 415 of SEC Regulation C], or <u>F-10</u>, provided that the registrant is an experienced issuer;

[(ii) of a foreign private issuer incorporated or organized under the laws of Canada or any Canadian province or territory, and is registered with the SEC on Form F-10 pursuant to the standards for that Form approved in Securities Act Release No. 6902 (June 21, 1991) and offered pursuant to Canadian shelf prospectus offering procedures;]

(D) [securities offered pursuant to a redemption standby "firm commitment" underwriting arrangement registered with the SEC on FormsS-3, F-3 or F-10 (only with respect to Canadian issuers);]

[(E)] <u>investment grade rated</u> financing instrument-backed securities [which are rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization in one of its four (4) highest generic rating categories];

 $(\underline{E}[F])$  exchange offers [of securities] where:

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(i) the securities to be issued or the securities of the company being acquired are listed, or convertible into securities <u>that are listed</u>, on <u>a national securities exchange as defined in</u> <u>Section 6 of the Exchange Act[The Nasdaq Global Market, the</u> New York Stock Exchange, or the American Stock Exchange]; or

(ii) the company issuing securities qualifies to register
 securities with the SEC on registration statement Forms S-3, F-3,
 or F-10 and is an experienced issuer[, pursuant to the standards for
 those Forms as set forth in subparagraph (C)(i) and (ii) of this
 paragraph];

(<u>F[G]</u>) <u>public</u> offerings of securities by a church or other charitable institution that is exempt from SEC registration pursuant to Section 3(a)(4) of the Securities Act; and

(<u>G</u>[H]) offerings of securities issued by a pooled investment vehicle, whether formed as a trust, partnership, corporation, limited liability company or other collective investment vehicle, that is not registered as an investment company under the Investment Company Act and has a class of equity securities listed for trading on a national securities exchange <u>and that</u>[; provided that such equity securities] may be created or redeemed on any business day at their net asset value per share.

[(b)(8)](2) [Exempt] Offerings <u>Not Subject to Filing and Rule</u> Compliance [Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (1) above, the following offerings are exempt from this Rule, Rule 2310, and Rule 5121. Documents and information relating to the following offerings need not be filed for review:]

<u>The following offerings are not subject to this Rule, Rule 2310 and Rule</u> 5121 including not being required to file documents and information for review:

(<u>A[C]</u>) securities of "open-end" investment companies as defined in Section 5(a)(1) of the Investment Company Act;

(B) [and ]securities of any "closed-end" investment company as defined in Section 5(a)(2) of the Investment Company Act that[:]

[(i)] makes periodic repurchase offers pursuant to Rule

23c-3(b) under the Investment Company Act[;] and

[(ii)] offers its shares on a continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(xi) of SEC Regulation C;

(C[D]) variable contracts as defined in Rule 2320(b)(2);

(D[E]) modified guaranteed annuity contracts and modified guaranteed life insurance policies, which are deferred annuity contracts or life insurance policies the value of which are guaranteed if held for specified periods, and the nonforfeiture value of which are based upon a market-value adjustment formula for withdrawals made before the end of any specified period;

(E) insurance contracts not otherwise included in paragraph (h)(2)(C) and (D); (F) [offerings of] municipal securities as defined in Section3(a)(29) of the Exchange Act;

(G) tender offers made pursuant to SEC Regulation 14D <u>or Rule</u> <u>13e-4</u> under the Exchange Act;

(H) securities issued pursuant to a competitively bid underwriting arrangement meeting the requirements of the Public Utility HoldingCompany Act;

(I) securities of a subsidiary or other affiliate distributed by a company in a spin-off or reverse spin-off or similar transaction to its existing security holders exclusively as a dividend or other distribution;[and]

(J) securities registered with the SEC in connection with a merger or acquisition transaction or other similar business combination, except for <u>any exchange offer, merger and acquisition transaction, or other similar</u> <u>corporate reorganization involving an issuance of securities that results in</u> <u>the direct or indirect public ownership of the member;</u> [offerings required to be filed pursuant to subparagraph (9)(I) below.]

(K) securities of a unit investment trust as defined in Section 4(2) of the Investment Company Act; and

(L) offerings of securities by a "closed-end" investment company as defined in Section 5(a)(2) of the Investment Company Act that is operated as a tender offer fund, provided that the fund: Rule 415; (ii) prices its securities at least quarterly; (iii) limits the total amount of compensation paid to participating members to the amount permitted by the sales charge limitations of Rule 2341, in which case the underwriting compensation provisions of Rule 5110 will not apply; (iv) makes at least two repurchase offers per calendar year for its securities pursuant to SEA Rule 13e-4 and Schedule TO under the Exchange Act; and

(i) makes continuous offerings pursuant to Securities Act

(v) does not list its securities on a national securities exchange.

## (i) <u>Requests for Rule 9600</u> Exemption[s] <u>from Rule 5110</u>

Pursuant to the Rule 9600 Series, [the appropriate] FINRA [staff], for good cause shown after taking into consideration all relevant factors, may conditionally or unconditionally grant an exemption from any provision of this Rule to the extent that such exemption is consistent with the purposes of the Rule, the protection of investors, and the public interest.

## [(a)](j) Definitions

[For purposes of this Rule, the following terms shall have the meanings stated below.] The definitions in Rule 5121 are incorporated herein by reference. For purposes of this Rule, the following terms have the meanings stated below:

#### (1) Associated Person

The term "associated person" has the meaning defined in Article I, Section (rr) of the FINRA By-Laws.

## [(2) Net Offering Proceeds]

[Offering proceeds less all expenses of issuance and distribution.]

## [(d)(4)(C)](2) Bank

[A bank or insurance company is] <u>The term "bank" means a bank as</u> <u>defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Exchange Act, a branch or agency in the United</u> <u>States of a foreign bank that is supervised and examined by a federal or state</u> <u>banking authority and otherwise meets the requirements of Section 3(a)(6) of the</u> <u>Exchange Act, or a foreign bank that has been granted an exemption under this</u> <u>Rule and shall refer</u> only <u>to</u> the regulated entity, not its subsidiaries or other affiliates.

## [(11)](<u>3)</u> Company

<u>The term "company" means a</u> [A] corporation, a partnership, an association, a joint stock company, a trust, a fund, or an[y] organized group of persons whether incorporated or not; [or] <u>including</u> any receiver, trustee in bankruptcy or similar official, or [any] liquidating agent [for] <u>of</u> any of the foregoing[, in his capacity as such].

## (4) Compensation

<u>The term "compensation" means cash compensation and non-cash</u> <u>compensation.</u>

[(12)](5) Effective Date

<u>The term "effective date" means t[</u>T]he date on which an issue of securities [first] becomes legally eligible for distribution to the public.

#### (6) Experienced Issuer

The term "experienced issuer" means an entity that has:

(A) a reporting history of 36 calendar months immediately preceding the filing of the registration statement; and

(B) at least \$150 million aggregate market value of voting stock held by non-affiliates; or alternatively the aggregate market value of the voting stock held by non-affiliates of the issuer is \$100 million or more and the issuer has had an annual trading volume of such stock of three million shares or more.

## [(6) Underwriter and Related Persons]

[Consists of underwriter's counsel, financial consultants and advisors, finders, any participating member, and any other persons related to any participating member.]

#### [(7) Listed Securities]

[Securities meeting the listing standards to trade on the national securities exchanges identified in Securities Act Rule 146, markets registered with the SEC under Section 6 of the Exchange Act, and any offshore market that is a "designated offshore securities market" under Rule 902(b) of SEC Regulation S.]

#### [(8) Derivative Instruments]

[A derivative instrument is any "eligible OTC derivative instrument" as defined in SEA Rule 3b-13(a)(1), (2) and (3).]

#### [(9) Fair Price]

[A derivative instrument or non-convertible or non-exchangeable debt security has been acquired or entered into at a fair price for purposes of paragraphs (b)(6)(A)(iv), (c)(3)(B)(vi) and (vii), and (e)(5) if the underwriters and related persons have priced the debt security or derivative instrument in good faith; on an arm's length, commercially reasonable basis; and in accordance with pricing methods and models and procedures used in the ordinary course of their business for pricing similar transactions. A derivative instrument or other security received for acting as a private placement agent for the issuer, for providing or arranging a loan, credit facility, merger, acquisition or any other service, including underwriting services, is not included within this "fair price" definition.]

#### (7) Equity-Linked Securities

<u>The term "equity-linked securities" means any security that is convertible</u> or exchangeable into an equity security.

#### [(13)](8) Immediate Family

[The parents, mother-in-law, father-in-law, spouse, brother or sister, brother-in-law or sister-in-law, son-in-law or daughter-in-law, and children of an employee or associated person of a member, except any person other than the spouse and children who does not live in the same household as, have a business relationship with, provide material support to, or receive material support from, the employee or associated person of a member. In addition, the immediate family includes any other person who either lives in the same household as, provides material support to, or receives material support from, an employee or associated person of a member.]

The term "immediate family" means:

(A) the spouse or child of an associated person of a member; and (B) any relative who either lives in the same household as, has a business relationship with, provides material support to, or receives material support from, an associated person of a member, including, but not limited to, a parent, sibling, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-inlaw, sister-in-law, son-in-law, or daughter-in-law.

## [(5)(B)](9) Independent Financial Adviser

[For purposes of this provision, an "independent financial adviser" is] <u>The term "independent financial adviser" means</u> a member <u>or a person</u> <u>affiliated or associated with a member</u> that provides advisory or consulting services to the issuer and is neither engaged in, nor affiliated <u>or associated</u> with any entity that is engaged in, the solicitation or distribution of the offering.

#### [(d)(4)(B)](10) Institutional Investor

For the purposes of paragraph (d), the term [An] "institutional investor" [is] means any [individual or legal] person that has an aggregate of at least \$50 million invested in securities [in the aggregate] in its portfolio or under management, including investments held by its wholly owned subsidiaries; provided that no participating members [direct or otherwise] manage the institutional investor's investments or have an equity interest in the institutional investor, either individually or in the aggregate, that exceeds 5% for a publicly owned entity or 1% for a nonpublic entity.

#### (11) Insurance Company

For the purposes of paragraph (d), the term "insurance company" refers only to the regulated entity, not its subsidiaries or other affiliates.

#### [(1)]<u>(12)</u> Issuer

[The issuer of the securities offered] <u>The term "issuer" means a registrant</u> or other person that is offering its securities to the public, any selling security holder offering securities to the public, any affiliate of the <u>registrant or such other</u> <u>person</u> [issuer] or selling security holder, and the officers or general partners, <u>and</u> directors[, employees and security holders] thereof, <u>but does not include a</u> <u>participating member unless the participating member is itself the registrant or a</u> <u>selling security holder offering its own beneficially held securities to the public</u>.

## [(3)](13) Offering Proceeds

[Public offering price] <u>The term "offering proceeds" means the proceeds</u> of all <u>the</u> securities offered [to] <u>in</u> the public <u>offering by participating members</u>, not including securities subject to an[y] overallotment option, securities to be received by the [underwriter and related persons] <u>participating members</u>, or [securities] underlying [other] securities.

## (14) Overallotment Option

<u>The term "overallotment option" means an option granted by the issuer to</u> <u>the participating members for the purpose of offering additional shares to the</u> <u>public in connection with the distribution of the public offering.</u>

## [(4)](15) Participating Member[(s)]

<u>The term "participating member" means a[A]ny FINRA member that is</u> participating in a public offering, any <u>affiliate or</u> associated person of the member, <u>and any [members of their] immediate family, but does not include the issuer[,</u> and any affiliate of the member].

## [(5)]<u>(16) Participate</u>, Participation or Participating [in a Public Offering]

<u>The terms "participate," "participation" or "participating" in a public</u> <u>offering means involvement</u> [Participation] in the preparation of the offering <u>document</u> or other documents, [participation] <u>involvement</u> in the distribution of the offering [on an underwritten, non-underwritten, or any other basis], furnishing of customer [and/]or broker lists for solicitation, or [participation in any] <u>providing</u> advisory or consulting [capacity] <u>services</u> to the issuer related to the offering, but <u>do</u> not <u>include</u>:

(A) the preparation of an appraisal in a savings and loan conversion or a bank offering or the preparation of a fairness opinion pursuant to SEA Rule 13e-3; [or] <u>and</u>

(B) advisory or consulting services provided to the issuer by an independent financial adviser.

## [(14)](<u>17)</u> Person

<u>The term "person" means a[A]ny natural person, partnership, corporation, company, association, or other legal entity.</u>

## (18) Public Offering

The term "public offering" means any primary or secondary offering of securities made in whole or in part in the United States pursuant to a registration statement, offering circular or similar offering document including exchange offers, rights offerings, and offerings of securities made pursuant to a merger or acquisition except for:

 $[(\mathbf{b})(\mathbf{8})](\mathbf{A})$  securities exempt from registration with the SEC pursuant to the provisions of Sections  $4(\underline{a})(1)$ ,  $4(\underline{a})(2)$  or  $4(\underline{a})(5[6])$  of the Securities Act; [or]

(B) securities exempt from registration with the SEC pursuant to Rule 504 of SEC Regulation D if the securities are ["]restricted securities["] under Securities Act Rule 144(a)(3)[, Rule 505 of SEC Regulation D,] or Rule 506 of SEC Regulation D;

(C) securities exempt from registration with the SEC pursuant to Securities Act Rule 144A or SEC Regulation S; or

(D[B]) securities which are defined as "exempted securities" in Section 3(a)(12) of the Exchange Act.[as amended;]

## [(10)](19) Required Filing Date

(A) The <u>term "required filing date"</u> [shall be] <u>means</u> the dates [provided] <u>referenced</u> in paragraph (a)(3)[(b)(4),]; and

(B) F[f]or a public offering exempt from filing under paragraph [(b)(7)](h), the term "required filing date" [for purposes of paragraphs (d)

and (g) shall be] <u>means</u> the date the public offering would have been required to be filed with FINRA but for the exemption.

## (20) Review Period

The term "review period" means:

(A) for a firm commitment offering, the 180-day period preceding the required filing date through the 60-day period following the effective date of the offering;

(B) for a best efforts offering, the 180-day period preceding the required filing date through the 60-day period following the final closing of the offering; and

(C) for a firm commitment or best efforts takedown or any other continuous offering made pursuant to Securities Act Rule 415, the 180day period preceding the required filing date of the takedown or continuous offering through the 60-day period following the final closing of the takedown or continuous offering.

[(d)(4)(E)](21) Total Equity Securities

For the purposes of paragraph (d), the term "[T]total equity securities" means the aggregate of the total shares of:

(<u>A[i]</u>) common stock outstanding of the issuer; and
 (<u>B[ii]</u>) common stock of the issuer underlying all convertible
 securities outstanding that convert without the payment of any additional consideration.

## (22) Underwriting Compensation

The term "underwriting compensation" means any payment, right, interest, or benefit received or to be received by a participating member from any source for underwriting, allocation, distribution, advisory and other investment banking services in connection with a public offering. In addition, underwriting compensation shall include finder's fees, underwriter's counsel fees, and securities.

### ••• Supplementary Material: -----

#### .01 Underwriting Compensation

(a) The following are examples of payments or benefits that are considered underwriting compensation:

(1) discounts or commissions;

(2) fees and expenses paid or reimbursed to, or paid on behalf of, the participating members, including but not limited to road show fees and expenses and due diligence expenses;

(3) fees and expenses of participating members' counsel paid or reimbursed to, or paid on behalf of, the participating members (except for reimbursement of "blue sky" fees):

(4) finder's fees paid or reimbursed to, or paid on behalf of, the participating members;

(5) wholesaling fees and expenses;

(6) financial consulting and advisory fees;

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(7) common or preferred stock, options, warrants, and other equity securities, including debt securities convertible to or exchangeable for equity securities, beneficially owned, as defined in Rule 5121 by the participating members the value of which is determined pursuant to this Rule, and acquired during the review period, as defined in this Rule, except that any such securities purchased during the review period by a participating member in a public offering at the public offering price and on the same terms as all others purchasing in the public offering that are not participating members shall not be deemed underwriting compensation;

(8) sales incentive items;

(9) any right or rights of first refusal provided to any participating member to participate in future public offerings, private placements or other financings, the value of which will be 1% of the offering proceeds or a dollar amount contractually agreed to by the issuer and the participating member to waive the right of first refusal;

(10) compensation to be received by a participating member or by any person nominated by the participating member as an advisor to the issuer's board of directors in excess of that received by other members of the board of directors;

(11) any compensation to be received by the participating members as a result of the exercise or conversion of warrants, options, convertible securities, or similar securities distributed as part of the public offering within 12 months following the commencement of sales:

(12) fees of a qualified independent underwriter required by Rule 5121;

(13) any compensation paid to any participating member in connection with a prior proposed public offering that was not completed, if the member firm participates in the revised public offering, except that accountable expenses received pursuant to paragraph (g)(5)(A) shall not be deemed underwriting compensation; and

(14) non-cash compensation, such as gifts, training and education expenses, sales incentives, and business entertainment expenses.

(b) Participating members may receive payments from an issuer or another source during the review period that may be unrelated to a particular offering. Such payments generally would not be deemed to be underwriting compensation. The following list, while not comprehensive, provides examples of payments that are not deemed to be underwriting compensation:

(1) printing costs; SEC, "blue sky" and other registration fees; FINRA filing fees; fees of independent financial advisers; and accountant's fees, and other fees and expenses customarily borne by an issuer, whether or not paid by or through a participating member;

(2) cash compensation for providing services for a private placement or for providing or arranging for a loan, credit facility, or for services in connection with a merger or acquisition;

(3) records management and advisory fees and expenses in connection with the conversion of the issuer from a mutual holding company to a stock holding company; (4) payment or reimbursement of legal costs resulting from a contractual breach or misrepresentation by the issuer;

(5) compensation for providing brokerage, trust and insurance services to the issuer that is received in the ordinary course of business;

(6) fees for commercial banking services, which does not require registration as a broker-dealer, provided to the issuer in the ordinary course of business;

(7) compensation for providing services in a prior or concurrent public offering separately filed or exempt from filing pursuant to this Rule;

(8) a right of first refusal that is provided to a participating member in connection with a prior financing if the right of first refusal does not extend beyond the initial closing of the public offering currently under review or if the right of first refusal has already been included as underwriting compensation in a prior or concurrent public offering;

(9) dividends paid to shareholders of a class of the issuer's securities when participating members are shareholders of that class;

(10) securities of the issuer pledged as collateral for a bona fide loan;

(11) listed securities purchased in public market transactions;

(12) compensation received through any stock bonus, pension, employee benefit plan, or profit-sharing plan that qualifies under Section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code or a similar plan, including, but not limited to, an employee benefit plan as defined in Securities Act Rule 405 or a compensatory benefit plan or compensatory benefit contract exempt from registration pursuant to Securities Act Rule 701;

(13) securities acquired by an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act;

(14) securities acquired as the result of a conversion of securities that were originally acquired prior to the review period;

(15) securities acquired as the result of an exercise of options or warrants that were originally acquired prior to the review period;

(16) securities acquired as the result of a stock-split, a pro-rata rights or similar offering where the securities upon which the acquisition is based were acquired prior to the review period;

(17) securities acquired as the result of a right of preemption that was granted prior to the review period;

(18) securities acquired in order to prevent dilution of a long-standing interest in the issuer, if:

(A) the amount of securities does not increase a member's percentage ownership of the same generic class of securities of the issuer or of the class of securities underlying a convertible security calculated immediately prior to the investment; and

(B) an initial purchase of securities of the issuer was made at least two years preceding the required filing date and a second purchase was made before the review period; (19) non-convertible or non-exchangeable debt securities and derivative instruments acquired in a transaction that is unrelated to the public offering;

(20) securities acquired subsequent to the issuer's initial public offering in a transaction exempt from registration under Securities Act Rule 144A;

(21) securities acquired in the secondary market by a participating member that is a broker-dealer in connection with the performance of bona fide customer facilitation activities and bona fide market making activities; provided that securities acquired from the issuer will be considered "underwriting compensation" if the securities were not acquired at a fair price (taking into account, among other things customary commissions, mark-downs and other charges); and

(22) securities acquired pursuant to a governmental or court-approved proceeding or plan of reorganization as a result of action by the government or court (e.g., bankruptcy or tax court proceeding).

(c) Definitions

(1) The term "listed securities" means securities that are traded on the national securities exchanges identified in Securities Act Rule 146, on markets registered with the SEC under Section 6 of the Exchange Act, and on any "designated offshore securities market" as defined in Rule 902(b) of SEC Regulation S.

(2) The term "right of pre-emption" means the right of a shareholder to acquire additional securities in the same company in order to avoid dilution when additional securities are issued, pursuant to: (A) any option, shareholder agreement, or other contractual right entered into at the time of purchase of securities; (B) the terms of the securities purchased; (C) the issuer's charter or bylaws; or (D) the domestic law of a foreign jurisdiction that regulates the issuance of the securities.

## .02 Venture Capital Transactions and Significantly Delayed Offerings.

Notwithstanding paragraph (d), in the event that an offering is significantly delayed and the issuer needs funding pending consummation of the public offering, FINRA may exclude from underwriting compensation any securities acquired in a transaction that otherwise meets the requirements in paragraph (d), but occurs after the required filing date. To determine whether an acquisition of securities that occurs after the required filing date may be excluded from underwriting compensation, FINRA will consider the following factors, as well as any other relevant factors and circumstances:

(a) the length of time between the required filing of the registration statement or similar document and the date of the transaction in which securities were acquired;

(b) the length of time between the date of the transaction in which the securities were acquired and the anticipated commencement of the public offering; and

(c) the nature of the funding provided, including, but not limited to the issuer's need for funding before the public offering.

<u>.03 Underwriting Compensation Securities Acquired Other than from the Issuer.</u> Notwithstanding paragraph (j)(22), FINRA may exclude securities acquired from a thirdparty entity from underwriting compensation. To determine whether an acquisition of securities from a third-party entity may be excluded from underwriting compensation, FINRA will consider the following factors, as well as any other relevant factors and circumstances:

(a) the nature of the relationship between the issuer and the third party, if any;

(b) the nature of the transactions in which the securities were acquired, including, but not limited to, whether the transactions are engaged in as part of the participating member's ordinary course of business; and

(c) any disparity between the price paid and the offering price or market price. .04 Underwriting Compensation Resulting from Issuer Directed Sales Programs. Notwithstanding paragraph (j)(15) and (22), FINRA may exclude from underwriting compensation securities acquired by a participating member's associated persons or their immediate family pursuant to an issuer directed sales program. To determine whether an acquisition of securities by a participating member's associated persons or their immediate family pursuant to an issuer directed sales program may be excluded from underwriting compensation, FINRA will consider the following factors, as well as any other relevant factors and circumstances:

(a) the existence of a pre-existing relationship between the issuer and the person acquiring the securities:

(b) the nature of the relationship; and

(c) whether the securities were acquired on the same terms and at the same price as other similarly-situated persons participating in the directed sales program.

<u>.05 Disclosure of Underwriting Compensation.</u> A description of each item of underwriting compensation received or to be received by a participating member must be disclosed in the section on distribution arrangements in the prospectus (or other similar offering document). The description shall include the dollar amount ascribed to each individual item of compensation. When securities are acquired by a participating member, material terms and arrangements of the acquisition must also be disclosed in the section on distribution arrangements in the prospectus (or other similar offering document) when applicable, such as exercise terms, demand and piggyback registration rights and lock-up periods that may apply. Similarly, if underwriting compensation consists of a right of first refusal to participate in the distribution of a future public offering, private placement or other financing, the description should reference the existence of such right and its duration.

## <u>.06 Non-Convertible or Non-Exchangeable Debt Securities and Derivatives</u>

(a) Non-convertible or non-exchangeable debt securities and derivative instruments acquired in a transaction related to the public offering and at a fair price, will be considered underwriting compensation but will have no compensation value. Nonconvertible or non-exchangeable debt securities and derivative instruments acquired in a transaction related to the public offering but not at a fair price, will be considered underwriting compensation and subject to the normal valuation requirements of this Rule.

(b) The term "derivative instrument" means any "eligible OTC derivative instrument" as defined in SEA Rule 3b-13(a)(1), (2) and (3). The term "fair price" means the participating members have priced a derivative instrument or non-convertible or nonexchangeable debt security in good faith; on an arm's length, commercially reasonable basis, and in accordance with pricing methods and models and procedures used in the ordinary course of their business for pricing similar transactions. A derivative instrument or other security received as compensation for providing services for the issuer, for providing or arranging a loan, credit facility, merger, acquisition or any other service, including underwriting services will not be deemed to be entered into or acquired at a fair price.

**.07 Venture Capital Transactions.** The determination of whether a securities acquisition may be excluded from underwriting compensation pursuant to paragraph (d) is to be made at the time of the securities acquisition.

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## 5120. Offerings of Members' Securities

## 5121. Public Offerings of Securities With Conflicts of Interest

## (a) Requirements for Participation in Certain Public Offerings

No member that has a conflict of interest may participate in a public offering

unless the offering complies with subparagraph[s] (1) or (2).

(1) through (2) No Change.

(b) through (e) No Change.

## (f) Definitions

The definitions in Rule 5110 are incorporated herein by reference. For purposes

of this Rule, the following words shall have the stated meanings:

(1) through (8) No Change.

## (9) Net Offering Proceeds

The term "net offering proceeds" means offering proceeds less all expenses of issuance and distribution.

## (10[9]) Preferred Equity

The term "preferred equity" means the aggregate capital invested by all persons in the preferred securities outstanding without regard to class, whether voting or non-voting, convertible or non-convertible, exchangeable or nonexchangeable, redeemable or non-redeemable, as reflected on the consolidated financial statements of the company.

#### (1<u>1</u>[0]) Prominent Disclosure

A member may make "prominent disclosure" for purposes of paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2)(B) by:

(A) through (B) No Change.

#### [(11) Public Offering ]

[The term "public offering" means any primary or secondary offering of securities made pursuant to a registration statement or offering circular including exchange offers, rights offerings, offerings made pursuant to a merger or acquisition and all other securities offerings of any kind whatsoever, except any offering made pursuant to:]

[(A) an exemption from registration under Sections 4(1), 4(2), or 4(6) of the Securities Act;]

[(B) Securities Act Rule 504, if the securities are "restricted securities" under Securities Act Rule 144(a)(3), Securities Act Rules 505 or 506; or]

[(C) Securities Act Rule 144A or SEC Regulation S.]

[The term public offering shall exclude exempted securities as defined in Section 3(a)(12) of the Exchange Act.]

### (12) Qualified Independent Underwriter

The term "qualified independent underwriter" means a member:

(A) through (D) No Change.

(E) none of whose associated persons <u>who function</u> in a supervisory capacity who <u>is</u> [are] responsible for organizing, structuring or performing due diligence with respect to corporate public offerings of securities:

(i) through (iii) No Change.

(13) through (14) No Change.

#### **5122.** Private Placements of Securities Issued by Members

(a) through (b) No Change.

## (c) Exemptions

The following Member Private Offerings are exempt from the requirements of

this Rule:

(1) through (7) No Change.

(8) offerings of modified guaranteed annuity contracts and modified

guaranteed life insurance policies, as referenced in Rule 5110(h)(2)(D)[(b)(8)(E)];

(9) through (14) No Change.

(d) through (e) No Change.

## ••• Supplementary Material: ------

No Change.

#### **5123.** Private Placements of Securities

(a) No Change.

#### (b) Exemptions

The following private placements are exempt from the requirements of this Rule:

(1) through (6) No Change.

(7) offerings of modified guaranteed annuity contracts and modified guaranteed life insurance policies, as referenced in Rule 5110(h)(2)(D)[(b)(8)(E)];

(8) through (13) No Change.

(14) offerings filed with FINRA under Rules 2310, 5110, 5121 and 5122, or exempt from filing thereunder in accordance with Rule 5110(h)(1)[(b)(7)].

(c) through (d) No Change.

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#### 9200. DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

\* \* \* \* \*

# 9217. Violations Appropriate for Disposition Under Plan Pursuant to SEA Rule 19d-1(c)(2)

Any member of FINRA that is also a member of the New York Stock Exchange LLC ("NYSE") ("Dual Member") (including any persons affiliated with such member) may be subject to a fine under Rule 9216(b) with respect to any rule or By-Law provision listed in this Rule that applies to such member or person. However, any Dual Member that was not also a member of NASD as of July 30, 2007 and that does not engage in any activities that otherwise would require it to be a FINRA member (and its affiliated persons that are not otherwise subject to NASD rules) shall only be subject to a fine under Rule 9216(b) with respect to the following rules or By-Law provisions listed in this Rule: any FINRA By-Law or Schedule to the By-Laws, FINRA rule, SEA rule, or NYSE rule.

Any member of FINRA that is not also a member of the NYSE (and its associated persons that are not otherwise subject to NYSE rules) may be subject to a fine under Rule

9216(b) with respect to any rule or By-Laws provision listed in this Rule, with the exception of the NYSE rules.

• Article IV of the FINRA By-Laws — Failure to timely submit amendments to Form BD.

• Article V of the FINRA By-Laws — Failure to timely submit amendments to Form U4.

• Article V of the FINRA By-Laws — Failure to timely submit amendments to Form U5.

• Schedule A. Sec. 1(b) of the FINRA By-Laws — Failure to make accurate payment of Trading Activity Fee.

- Rule 1210.04 Failure to timely register.
- Rule 1240 Failure to comply with the continuing education requirements.

• Rules 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2215, and 2216 — Communications with the public.

- Rule 2220 Options Communications.
- Rule 2251(a) Failure to timely forward proxy and other issuer-related

materials.

• Rule 2266 — Failure to provide written notification of availability of SIPC

information at account opening or annually thereafter.

- Rule 2360(b)(3) and (b)(4) Failure to comply with options position and exercise limits.
  - Rule 2360(b)(5) Failure to report options positions.

• Rule 2360(b)(23) — Failure to comply with contrary exercise advice procedures.

• Rule 3110 — Failure to maintain adequate written supervisory procedures where the underlying conduct is subject to Rule 9217.

• Rule 3160(a)(1), (3), (4) and (5) — Standards of conduct for conducting brokerdealer services on or off the premises of a financial institution pursuant to a networking arrangement, but excluding the networking agreement requirements.

• Rule 3170 — Failure to timely file reports pursuant to the Taping Rule.

• Rule 3210 — Failure to obtain consent of employer member, or give

notification to executing member.

- Rule 4311(b) Failure to obtain approval of carrying agreement.
- Rule 4360(b) Failure to maintain adequate fidelity bond coverage.
- Rule 4370(a), (b), (c), (e) and (f) Requirements to create, maintain and

update a written business continuity plan and disclosure of such to customers.

- Rule 4510 Series Failure to keep and preserve books, accounts, records, memoranda, and correspondence in conformance with all applicable laws, rules, regulations and statements of policy promulgated thereunder, and with FINRA rules.
  - Rule 4517 Failure to report, review or update executive representative

designation and contact information.

- Rule 4521(d) Failure to submit reports of cash and margin account balances.
- Rule 4524 Failure to timely file or filing of incomplete reports or

information.

• Rule 4530 — Failure to timely file reports.

• Rule 4560 — Failure to timely file reports of short positions on Form NS-1.

• Rule 4590 — Failure to synchronize business clocks used for recording date and time as required by applicable FINRA By-laws and rules.

• Rule 5110(<u>a)[(b)]</u> — Failure to timely file or filing of incomplete documents or information.

• Rule 5121(a) — Failure to prominently disclose conflict of interest.

• Rule 5121(b)(2) — Failure to give timely notification of termination or

settlement of public offering, or failure to file net capital computation.

- Rule 5122(b)(2) Failure to timely file private placement documents.
- Rule 5190 Failure to give timely notification of participation in offerings.
- Rules 6282, 6380A, 6380B, 6550, 6622, 6730, 7130, 7160, 7230A, 7230B,

7260A, 7260B, 7330, and 7360 — Transaction reporting in equity and debt securities.

- Rules 6181 and 6623 Failure to timely report transactions in NMS, OTC and restricted equity securities.
- Rules 6182 and 6624 Failure to accurately mark short sale transactions in NMS and OTC equity securities.
  - Rule 6250 Failure to comply with quote and order access requirements for

FINRA's Alternative Display Facility.

• Rule 6760 — Failure to give timely or complete notification concerning

offerings of TRACE-Eligible Securities.

• Rules 7440 and 7450 — Failure to submit data in accordance with the Order Audit Trail System ("OATS").

• Rules 8211 and 8213 — Failure to submit trading data as requested.

- Rule 11870 Failure to abide by Customer Account Transfer Contracts.
- Failure to provide or update contact information as required by FINRA rules.

 Rule 311T(b)(5) — Failure of a member organization to have individuals responsible and qualified for the positions of Financial Principal, Operations Principal, Compliance Official, Branch Office Manager and Supervisory Analyst.

- Rules 312T(a), (b) and (c), 313T— Reporting rule violations.
- Rule 312T(i) Failure to obtain approval rule violations.
- Rule 408T(a) Requirement that written authorization be obtained for

discretionary power in a customer's account.

• Rule 416AT — Failure to promptly provide or promptly update required

membership profile information through the Electronic Filing Platform ("EFP"), or failure to electronically certify that required membership profile information is complete and accurate.

- SEA Rules 17a-3(a) and 17a-4 Record retention rule violations.
- SEA Rule 10b-10 Confirmation of Transactions.
- SEA Rule 17a-5 Failure to timely file FOCUS reports and annual audit reports.
  - SEA Rule 17a-10 Failure to timely file Schedule I.

• Rule 200(g) of SEC Regulation SHO — Failure to accurately mark sell orders of equity securities.

• Rule 602(b)(5) of SEC Regulation NMS — Failure to properly update

published quotations in certain Electronic Communication Networks ("ECNs").

• Rule 604 of SEC Regulation NMS — Failure to properly display limit orders.

• Rule 605(a)(1) and (3) of SEC Regulation NMS — Failure to timely report or provide complete order execution information.

• Rule 606 of SEC Regulation NMS — Failure to timely disclose or provide complete order routing information.

• MSRB Rule A-12(c) and (f) — Failure to timely pay annual fee and failure to designate and update electronic mail contact information for communications with MSRB.

• MSRB Rules G-2 and G-3 (b)(ii)(D) and (c)(ii)(D) — Failure to timely register.

• MSRB Rule G-3(i) — Failure to comply with the continuing education

requirements.

- MSRB Rule G-6 Failure to maintain adequate fidelity bond coverage.
- MSRB Rules G-8 and G-9 Record retention rule violations.
- MSRB Rule G-10(a) Failure to deliver investor brochure to customers

promptly.

- MSRB Rule G-12 Failure to abide by uniform practice rules.
- MSRB Rule G-14 Failure to submit reports.
- MSRB Rule G-21 Advertising.
- MSRB Rule G-27(c) Failure to maintain adequate written supervisory

procedures where the underlying conduct is subject to Rule 9217.

- MSRB Rule G-32 Failure to timely submit reports.
- MSRB Rule G-37 Failure to timely submit reports for political contributions.

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