

**FINANCIAL INDUSTRY REGULATORY AUTHORITY
LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER AND CONSENT
NO. 2015045798701**

TO: Department of Enforcement
Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA")

RE: Timothy Richard Yee, Respondent
General Securities Representative
CRD No. 2492578

Pursuant to FINRA Rule 9216 of FINRA's Code of Procedure, I, Timothy Richard Yee ("Yee") submit this Letter of Acceptance, Waiver and Consent ("AWC") for the purpose of proposing a settlement of the alleged rule violations described below. This AWC is submitted on the condition that, if accepted, FINRA will not bring any future actions against me alleging violations based on the same factual findings described herein.

I.

ACCEPTANCE AND CONSENT

- A. I hereby accept and consent, without admitting or denying the findings, and solely for the purposes of this proceeding and any other proceeding brought by or on behalf of FINRA, or to which FINRA is a party, prior to a hearing and without an adjudication of any issue of law or fact, to the entry of the following findings by FINRA:

BACKGROUND

Yee entered the securities industry in May 1994 through an association with a FINRA member, and became registered as an Investment Company Products/Variable Contracts Representative in September 1994. He remained associated with that FINRA member until December 1996. At that time, he became associated with another FINRA member and was registered as a General Securities Representative ("GSR") in August 1997. Yee remained with that FINRA member until September 1999. At various times between October 2000 and May 2014, Yee served as a GSR with four other FINRA members. In May 2014, Yee became associated with LPL Financial LLP ("LPL" or the "Firm") as a GSR where he remained until May 2015. Since July 2015, Yee has been registered as a GSR through an association with Independent Financial Group, LLC ("IFG"), a FINRA member.

RELEVANT DISCIPLINARY HISTORY

Yee does not have any disciplinary history with the Securities and Exchange

Commission, FINRA, any other self-regulatory organization or any state securities regulator.

OVERVIEW

Between October 2014 and February 2015 (the "Relevant Period"), while associated with a FINRA member, Yee along with his spouse, participated in private securities transactions by purchasing securities in two privately-held companies using personal funds without providing written notice to LPL and obtaining its approval. Yee also solicited three customers to invest in one of those companies, without providing written notice to LPL or obtaining its approval. As a result, Yee violated NASD Rule 3040 and FINRA Rule 2010.

FACTS AND VIOLATIVE CONDUCT

NASD Rule 3040 prohibits associated persons from participating in any manner in a private securities transaction outside their regular course of employment with a member firm, without providing prior written notice and receiving approval from the member firm. NASD Rule 3040 defines a private securities transaction as "any securities transaction outside the regular course or scope of an associated person's employment with a member." FINRA Rule 2010 requires registered representatives to observe high standards of commercial honor and just and equitable principles of trade.

On three occasions during the Relevant Period, Yee and his wife jointly purchased securities issued by two privately-held companies by investing personal funds totaling \$62,500. During October 2014 and February 2015, Yee invested a total of \$37,500 in one company. In addition, during October 2014, Yee invested \$25,000 in another company. These transactions were outside the regular course and scope of Yee's employment with LPL. Yee did not provide written notice to or receive approval from LPL to engage in any of these transactions.

During December 2014, Yee inaccurately stated on a questionnaire he submitted to LPL that he had not participated in any private securities transactions for personal investment or otherwise.

In addition, during January 2015, Yee solicited three LPL customers to invest in GAA without providing written notice to or receiving approval from LPL to solicit investors for GAA. None of the customers invested in GAA.

As a result of the foregoing, Yee violated NASD Rule 3040 and FINRA Rule 2010.

B. I also consent to the imposition of the following sanctions:

- a suspension from association with any FINRA member in all capacities for 15 business days;
- and a \$7,500 fine.

I understand that if I am barred or suspended from associating with any FINRA member, I become subject to a statutory disqualification as that term is defined in Article III, Section 4 of FINRA's By-Laws, incorporating Section 3(a)(39) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Accordingly, I may not be associated with any FINRA member in any capacity, including clerical or ministerial functions, during the period of the bar or suspension (see FINRA Rules 8310 and 8311).

I agree to pay the monetary sanction(s) upon notice that this AWC has been accepted and that such payment(s) are due and payable. I have submitted an Election of Payment form showing the method by which I propose to pay the fine imposed.

I specifically and voluntarily waive any right to claim that I am unable to pay, now or at any time hereafter, the monetary sanction(s) imposed in this matter.

The sanctions imposed herein shall be effective on a date set by FINRA staff.

II.

WAIVER OF PROCEDURAL RIGHTS

I specifically and voluntarily waive the following rights granted under FINRA's Code of Procedure:

- A. To have a Complaint issued specifying the allegations against me;
- B. To be notified of the Complaint and have the opportunity to answer the allegations in writing;
- C. To defend against the allegations in a disciplinary hearing before a hearing panel, to have a written record of the hearing made and to have a written decision issued; and
- D. To appeal any such decision to the National Adjudicatory Council ("NAC") and then to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and a U.S. Court of Appeals.

Further, I specifically and voluntarily waive any right to claim bias or prejudice of the Chief Legal Officer, the NAC, or any member of the NAC, in connection with such person's or body's

participation in discussions regarding the terms and conditions of this AWC, or other consideration of this AWC, including acceptance or rejection of this AWC.

I further specifically and voluntarily waive any right to claim that a person violated the ex parte prohibitions of FINRA Rule 9143 or the separation of functions prohibitions of FINRA Rule 9144, in connection with such person's or body's participation in discussions regarding the terms and conditions of this AWC, or other consideration of this AWC, including its acceptance or rejection.

III.

OTHER MATTERS

I understand that:

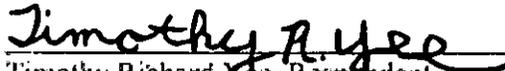
- A. Submission of this AWC is voluntary and will not resolve this matter unless and until it has been reviewed and accepted by the NAC, a Review Subcommittee of the NAC, or the Office of Disciplinary Affairs ("ODA"), pursuant to FINRA Rule 9216;
- B. If this AWC is not accepted, its submission will not be used as evidence to prove any of the allegations against me; and
- C. If accepted:
 - 1. this AWC will become part of my permanent disciplinary record and may be considered in any future actions brought by FINRA or any other regulator against me;
 - 2. this AWC will be made available through FINRA's public disclosure program in accordance with FINRA Rule 8313;
 - 3. FINRA may make a public announcement concerning this agreement and the subject matter thereof in accordance with FINRA Rule 8313; and
 - 4. I may not take any action or make or permit to be made any public statement, including in regulatory filings or otherwise, denying, directly or indirectly, any finding in this AWC or create the impression that the AWC is without factual basis. I may not take any position in any proceeding brought by or on behalf of FINRA, or to which FINRA is a party, that is inconsistent with any part of this AWC. Nothing in this provision affects my: (i) testimonial obligations; or (ii) right to take legal or factual positions in litigation or other legal proceedings in which FINRA is not a party.

- D. I may attach a Corrective Action Statement to this AWC that is a statement of demonstrable corrective steps taken to prevent future misconduct. I understand that I may not deny the charges or make any statement that is inconsistent with the AWC in this Statement. This Statement does not constitute factual or legal findings by FINRA, nor does it reflect the views of FINRA or its staff.

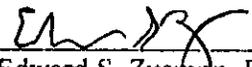
I certify that I have read and understand all of the provisions of this AWC and have been given a full opportunity to ask questions about it; that I have agreed to its provisions voluntarily; and that no offer, threat, inducement, or promise of any kind, other than the terms set forth herein and the prospect of avoiding the issuance of a Complaint, has been made to induce me to submit it.

12/7/15

Date


Timothy Richard, Respondent

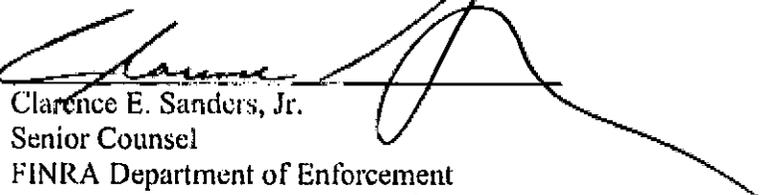
Reviewed by:


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Accepted by FINRA:

01/13/16
Date

Signed on behalf of the
Director of ODA, by delegated authority


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