

**FINANCIAL INDUSTRY REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER AND CONSENT  
NO. 2017054093801**

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

RE: Terrance S. Hood, Respondent  
Former Registered Representative  
CRD No. 4900966

Pursuant to FINRA Rule 9216 of FINRA’s Code of Procedure, I 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**

Terrence Hood first became registered with a FINRA member firm in 2005. In October 2009 he became associated with Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (the “Merrill Lynch” or the “Firm”) as a general securities representative. On April 27, 2017, Merrill Lynch filed a Form U5 terminating Hood’s registration, indicating Hood had been discharged for “[c]onduct involving submission of inaccurate personal child care reimbursement request forms.”

Hood is not currently associated with any FINRA member, but remains subject to FINRA jurisdiction pursuant to Article V, Section 4 of FINRA’s By-Laws.

**OVERVIEW**

Between January 2015 and December 2016, Hood submitted falsified receipts in order to receive childcare reimbursements from Merrill Lynch that he was not

qualified to receive. As a result, Hood converted \$4,910 from the Firm in violation of FINRA Rule 2010.

### **FACTS AND VIOLATIVE CONDUCT**

Merrill Lynch offered eligible employees the benefit of receiving reimbursements for out-of-pocket childcare expenses paid directly to the childcare provider. In order to receive the reimbursement, the employee was required to submit a reimbursement request and obtain a payment receipt and an original signature from the childcare provider for each request submitted.

Between January 2015 and December 2016, Hood submitted 24 reimbursement requests totaling \$4,910 that contained falsified signatures and payment invoices from a childcare provider in order to receive reimbursements. The provider did not care for Hood's children during this period. As a result, Hood was not entitled to receive the reimbursements and he converted \$4,910 from Merrill Lynch.

FINRA Rule 2010 requires associated persons to observe high standards of commercial honor and just and equitable principles of trade. Conversion of firm funds is a violation of FINRA Rule 2010. By virtue of the foregoing, Hood violated FINRA Rule 2010.

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

- A bar from associating with a FINRA member firm in any capacity

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).

The sanctions imposed herein shall be effective on a date set by FINRA staff. A bar or expulsion shall become effective upon approval or acceptance of this AWC.

## **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.

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 understand and acknowledge that FINRA does not represent or advise me and I cannot rely on FINRA or FINRA staff members for legal advice; 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.

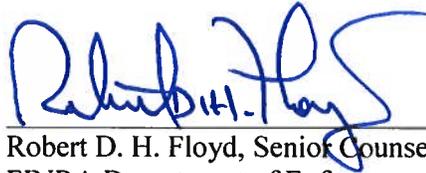
11/01/18  
Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Terrance S. Hood  
Respondent Terrance S. Hood

Accepted by FINRA:

Nov. 2, 2018  
Date

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



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