# FINANCIAL INDUSTRY REGULATORY AUTHORITY LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER AND CONSENT NO. 20170560355 01

TO: Department of Enforcement

Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA")

RE: Juergen Weber, Respondent

Registered Representative

CRD No. 2617323

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**

Weber first became registered with FINRA in 1995 as a General Securities Representative ("GS") through a FINRA member firm. Between August 2011 and July 2018, Weber was registered with FINRA as a GS through Benjamin & Jerold Brokerage I, LLC (the "Firm"). On July 25, 2018, the Firm filed a Uniform Termination Notice for Securities Industry Registration ("Form U5") terminating Weber's registration.

Weber is not currently associated with a FINRA member firm, but remains subject to FINRA's jurisdiction pursuant to Article V, Section 4 of the FINRA By-Laws.

# RELEVANT DISCIPLINARY HISTORY

In 2008, Weber entered into an AWC consenting to findings that he executed unauthorized trades in violation of NASD Rule 2110 and discretionary transactions without written authorization in violation of NASD Rules 2110 and 2510(b). FINRA suspended Weber from associating with any FINRA member

firm in any capacity for three months, fined him \$10,000 and ordered disgorgement of \$888.

### **OVERVIEW**

In connection with its investigation into allegations that Weber made unsuitable recommendations and executed unauthorized trades, FINRA staff sent Weber a request for on-the-record testimony pursuant to FINRA Rule 8210. Weber failed to appear for the testimony as requested and informed FINRA staff that he would not appear for testimony at any time. As a result, Weber violated FINRA Rules 8210 and 2010.

## FACTS AND VIOLATIVE CONDUCT

FINRA Rule 8210(a)(1) states, in relevant part, that FINRA may "require a . . . person associated with a member or any other person subject to FINRA's jurisdiction to provide information orally, in writing, or electronically . . . and to testify at a location specified by FINRA staff, under oath . . . if requested, with respect to any matter involved in the investigation . . . ." FINRA Rule 8210(c) states that "[n]o member or person shall fail to provide information or testimony . . . pursuant to this Rule." A failure to comply with Rule 8210 is a violation of FINRA Rule 2010.

FINRA commenced an investigation regarding allegations that Weber made unsuitable recommendations and executed unauthorized trades in a customer account. On June 12, 2018, FINRA staff sent a request to Weber for on-the-record testimony pursuant to FINRA Rule 8210. During a phone call with FINRA staff on August 1, 2018, Weber stated that he received FINRA's request, will not appear for on-the-record testimony at any time, and is retiring from the securities industry.

By refusing to appear for on-the-record testimony as requested pursuant to FINRA Rule 8210, Weber violated FINRA Rules 8210 and 2010.

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

A bar from association with any FINRA member 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 prejudgment 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;

- If this AWC is not accepted, its submission will not be used as evidence to prove B. 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;
  - this AWC will be made available through FINRA's public disclosure 2. program in accordance with FINRA Rule 8313;
  - FINRA may make a public announcement concerning this agreement and 3. 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.

8/6/201f Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Juer gen Weben Juergen Weber, Respondent

Accepted by FINRA:

September 5, 2018

Date

Signed on behalf of the

Director of ODA, by delegated authority

Jachie Wells