

Election Notice

Notice of FINRA Regional Committee Elections and Ballots

Ballots Due: November 15, 2018

Executive Summary

The purpose of this *Election Notice* is to notify firms of: (1) the upcoming elections to fill vacancies on the FINRA Regional Committees (formerly known as District Committees); and (2) the distribution of ballots to eligible firms.

For a ballot to be considered valid, the executive representative of the firm eligible to vote in the election must sign it. Firms that are members of FINRA as of the close of business on Monday, October 15, 2018, are eligible to vote for the seats on the Regional Committee corresponding to the district in which their firm is headquartered.

Ballots are due by Thursday, November 15, 2018.

The candidates running for election are listed in Attachment A to this *Notice*. Information about each candidate is available at <http://www.finra.org/notices/RegionalElection/CandidateProfiles>.

Note: This Notice was distributed electronically to the executive representative of each FINRA member firm and is posted on FINRA's website at <http://www.finra.org/notices/RegionalElection/101618>.

Questions concerning this *Election Notice* may be directed to:

- ▶ Jennifer Piorko Mitchell, Vice President and Deputy Corporate Secretary, at CorporateSecretary@finra.org or (202) 728-8949; or
- ▶ Chip Jones, Senior Vice President, Member Relations and Education, at (240) 386-4797.

October 16, 2018

Suggested Routing

- ▶ Executive Representatives
- ▶ Senior Management

Background

FINRA's Regional Committees serve an important role in the self-regulatory process by, among other things, alerting FINRA to industry trends that could present regulatory concerns, and consulting with FINRA on proposed policies and rule changes. Regional Committee members may also serve on disciplinary panels in accordance with FINRA rules.

Committee members must have the experience, ability and commitment to fulfill these responsibilities, including:

- ▶ understanding the issues facing the securities industry, and the ability to apply knowledge and expertise to these issues to develop solutions;
- ▶ educating firms in their district on FINRA's responsibilities;
- ▶ regularly attending and participating in a collegial manner in Regional Committee meetings; and
- ▶ remaining objective and unbiased, regardless of the interest of their firm, in the performance of Regional Committee duties.

Committee members also must adhere to the following prohibitions and restrictions:

- ▶ sensitivity to conflicts, such as those that can arise from firm-related work and service on industry committees, as an expert witness, hearing panelist or arbitrator; and refraining from participation in a particular matter when a conflict exists;
- ▶ refraining from using membership on the Regional Committee for commercial purposes, for qualifying as an expert or suggesting special access to FINRA; and
- ▶ keeping sensitive, non-public or proprietary information confidential.

In general, Regional Committees hold meetings twice per year in locations within the respective region (although meeting schedules and frequency may vary by region).

Composition of Regional Committees

Each Regional Committee has six elected members from each district within that committee's region. Regional Committees representing three districts (*i.e.*, the South and West Regions) have 18 members, and Regional Committees representing one or two districts (*i.e.*, New York, Midwest and North Regions) have 12 members.¹

The five Regional Committees and the districts each represents are:

- ▶ **Midwest Region Committee** – Comprises Districts 4 and 8, representing Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin
- ▶ **New York Region Committee** – Comprises District 10, representing New York (Nassau and Suffolk Counties, the Bronx, Brooklyn, New York County, Queens and Staten Island)
- ▶ **North Region Committee** – Comprises Districts 9 and 11, representing Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York (except for the counties of Nassau and Suffolk, and the five boroughs of New York City), Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia
- ▶ **South Region Committee** – Comprises Districts 5, 6 and 7, representing Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, Panama, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and the Virgin Islands
- ▶ **West Region Committee** – Comprises Districts 1, 2 and 3, representing Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming and the former U.S. Trust Territories

Candidate Nomination Process and Eligibility

All candidates who submitted their names and met the qualifications set forth in Article VIII, Section 8.2 of the FINRA Regulation By-Laws were included on their district's ballot.

Terms & Vacancies

The full term for a Regional Committee member is three years. There is no limit on the number of terms that may be served by a Regional Committee member, except that a Regional Committee member may not serve more than two full terms consecutively. Terms of Regional Committee members will terminate if they do not remain eligible for the seat for which they were elected.

In this election, Regional Committees for the South and West Regions each have six full-term vacancies, and the Midwest, North and New York Regions each have four full-term vacancies to fill. The individuals elected to fill the vacancies below will be elected to three-year terms expiring December 31, 2021.

Midwest Region Committee – Four Vacancies:

- ▶ District 4 – Two Representatives
- ▶ District 8 – Two Representatives

New York Region Committee – Four Vacancies:

- ▶ District 10 – Four Representatives

North Region Committee – Four Vacancies:

- ▶ District 9 – Two Representatives
- ▶ District 11 – Two Representatives

South Region Committee – Six Vacancies:

- ▶ District 5 – Two Representatives
- ▶ District 6 – Two Representatives
- ▶ District 7 – Two Representatives

West Region Committee – Six Vacancies:

- ▶ District 1 – Two Representatives
- ▶ District 2 – Two Representatives
- ▶ District 3 – Two Representatives

Candidates

The individuals certified as candidates for each of the vacancies are listed in Attachment A. Ballots for the following contested seats for which the number of qualified candidates exceeds the number of vacancies will be distributed. Those seats include:

- ▶ District 3
- ▶ District 4
- ▶ District 6
- ▶ District 7
- ▶ District 8
- ▶ District 9

Ballots will not be distributed for the seats where the candidates are running unopposed or for which no candidates self-nominated. Those seats are:

- ▶ District 1
- ▶ District 2
- ▶ District 5
- ▶ District 10
- ▶ District 11

The individuals in the uncontested seats, the individuals appointed to fill seats with no self-nominated candidates, and those candidates who win the contested seats will take office in January 2019.

Voting Eligibility

Firms that are members of FINRA as of the close of business on Monday, October 15, 2018, are eligible to vote for candidates running for the seats representing the district in which the firm is headquartered.

Ballots and a copy of this *Notice* have been mailed to the executive representatives of those firms eligible to vote in this election.

Voting Methods

Firms can vote by telephone, Internet or U.S. mail. Voting instructions are included in the ballots sent to eligible firms. **Ballots are due on Thursday, November 15, 2018.**

Firm Contact Information

Firms are reminded to accurately maintain their executive representative's name and email address, as well as their firm's main postal address in the FINRA Contact System. This will ensure that important mailings, such as election information, are properly directed. A firm's failure to keep this information accurate may jeopardize the firm's ability to participate in elections.²

To update an executive representative name, mailing address and email address, firms may access the FINRA Contact System, via the Firm Gateway, at <https://firms.finra.org/fcs>. For assistance updating FCS, contact FINRA's Call Center at (301) 590-6500.

Endnotes

1. Earlier this year, FINRA reorganized its District Committees into Regional Committees that mirror the regions in which FINRA's 11 districts are administratively grouped. FINRA also revised the candidate and member voting eligibility standards in a manner designed to result in committees that better reflect the industry and members within each region. For this election, two new members from each district within each region will be elected. In 2019 and 2020, the election will be for two additional members from within each district. This will provide continuity and a staggered term construct.
2. Pursuant to FINRA Rule 4517, firms must update their contact information promptly, but in any event not later than 30 days following any change in such information, as well as review and, if necessary, update the information within 17 business days after the end of each calendar year. Additionally, firms must comply with any FINRA request for such information promptly, but in any event not later than 15 days following the request, or such longer period that may be agreed to by FINRA staff. *See* FINRA Rule 4517 and *FINRA Regulatory Notice 07-42* (September 2007).

Attachment A—Candidates for Regional Committee Seats

Information about each candidate is available at <http://www.finra.org/notices/RegionalElection/CandidateProfiles>.

District 1: *Northern California (the counties of Monterey, San Benito, Fresno and Inyo, and the remainder of the state north or west of such counties), northern Nevada (the counties of Esmeralda and Nye), and the remainder of the state north or west of such counties) and Hawaii*

- **No Candidates**

District 2: *Southern California (that part of the state south or east of the counties of Monterey, San Benito, Fresno and Inyo), southern Nevada (that part of the state south or east of the counties of Esmeralda and Nye) and the former U.S. Trust Territories*

- **Dan Thomas**, Supervisory Principal/Supervision of Registered Representatives, Independent Financial Group, LLC

District 3: *Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming*

- **Mark Howells**, CEO, M.S. Howells & Co.
- **Teresa L. Luiz**, Director, Regulatory Compliance and Compliance Officer, GWFS Equities, Inc.
- **Steven Price**, Chief Compliance Officer, ALPS Distributors, Inc.
- **Timothy E. Taggart**, President and Chief Compliance Officer, World Capital Brokerage, Inc.

District 4: *Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota*

- **Elizabeth Hansen**, SVP Chief Compliance Officer, Waddell & Reed, Inc.
- **Trinity Y. Lee**, Chief Compliance Officer, Heim, Young & Associates, Inc.
- **Kevin J. Miller**, Executive Vice President, General Counsel & Chief Compliance Officer Securities America, Inc.
- **Seth A. Miller**, Senior VP Risk Management, General Counsel, Chief Risk Officer, Cambridge Investment Research, Inc.
- **Charles H. Richter**, Chief Compliance Officer, First National Capital Markets

District 5: *Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Tennessee*

- **Nikki Brinkerhoff**, Chief Compliance Officer, FTB Advisors, Inc.

District 6: *Texas*

- **Eric Chartan**, Vice President & Associate General Counsel, HD Vest Investment Services
- **Cade Hamner**, General Counsel & Chief Compliance Officer, Commerce Street Capital, LLC
- **Michael Pedlow**, Chief Compliance Officer, Kestra Investment Services, LLC

District 7: *Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, Panama, South Carolina and the Virgin Islands*

- **Kirk Bell**, SVP, Regional Director, Raymond James Financial Services, Inc.
- **Bernard A. Breton**, Chief Compliance Officer, Triad Advisors LLC
- **Steven M. Greenbaum**, Vice President and General Counsel, TradeStation Securities, Inc.
- **Rebekah J. Powers**, SVP, Chief Compliance Officer, Calton & Associates, Inc.
- **Gigi Szekely**, Chief Compliance Officer, Newport Group Securities, Inc.
- **Melinda Wolfe**, Chief Compliance Officer, Kovack Securities Inc.

District 8: *Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin*

- **Suzanne L. Bond**, Senior Vice President, Chief Compliance Officer, Inland Securities Corporation
- **A. Brad Busscher**, Chief Administrative Officer & General Counsel, Incapital LLC
- **Kenneth M. Cherrier**, Chief Compliance Officer, Comerica Securities
- **Allen D. Greenberg**, Chief Operations Officer, Matrix Executions, LLC
- **William Hayden**, Chief Compliance Officer, KeyBanc Capital Markets Inc.
- **Elizabeth C. Kaplan**, Chief Compliance Officer, J.J.B. Hilliard W.L. Lyons, LLC
- **Peter Francis Schwartz**, Principal, Gregory J. Schwartz & Co., Inc.

District 9: *Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey and New York (except for the counties of Nassau and Suffolk, and the five boroughs of New York City), Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia*

- **Robert B. Gaeta**, Sr. Specialist, Compliance & Control, Pershing LLC
- **Stephanie Peters Mumford**, Chief Compliance Officer and Senior Legal Counsel T. Rowe Price Investment Services, Inc.
- **Douglas A. Wright**, Chief Compliance Officer, The Investment Center, Inc.

District 10: *New York (Nassau and Suffolk Counties, Bronx, Brooklyn, New York County, Queens and Staten Island)*

- **Erin Baskett**, CFO & Chief Compliance Officer, Autonomous Research US LP
- **Jason Gerb**, Chief Compliance Officer, Foresters Financial Services, Inc.
- **Howard Sendrovitz**, Deputy Chief Compliance Officer, J.P. Morgan Securities LLC

District 11: *Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont*

- **Mark Trabucco**, Chief Compliance Officer, State Street Global Markets, LLC