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Expires: August 31, 2011
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OMB APPROVAL

Page 1 of * 17		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION File No.* SR WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Amendment No. (req. for Ame				
Proposed Rule Change 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)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *	
Pilot	Extension of Time Perior for Commission Action	1)ate Expires *		0 19b-4(f)(1) 0 19b-4(f)(4) 0 19b-4(f)(2) 0 19b-4(f)(5) 0 19b-4(f)(3) 0 19b-4(f)(6)		
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document						
Description Provide a brief description of the proposed rule change (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). Proposed Rule Change to Amend FINRA Rule 4512 (Customer Account Information)						
Contact Information 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 proposed rule change.						
First Name * Afshin			Last Name * Atabak	i 		
Title * Assistant General Counsel						
	E-mail * afshin.atabaki@finra.org Telephone * (202) 728-8902					
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 officer. Date 12/02/2011						
Ву	Marc Menchel		Executive Vice President	dent and General Counsel		
	(Name *) Clicking the button at right will di		(Title *)			
this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed. Marc Menchel, marc.menchel@finra.org						

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a Form 19b-4 Information (required) clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the Remove View proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing (required) as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Add Remove View 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) Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments. documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall **Transcripts, Other Communications** be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Add Remove View Exhibit Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire 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 Add Remove View referred to by the proposed rule change. Exhibit Sent As Paper Document The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and **Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies** 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 Add Remove View it has been working. The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed **Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text** 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 Add Remove View considered part of the proposed rule change. If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy **Partial Amendment** 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 View 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.

1. <u>Text of Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act" or "SEA"), Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposed rule change to amend FINRA Rule 4512 (Customer Account Information) to except institutional accounts from the requirements of FINRA Rule 4512(a)(1)(C).

Below is the text of the proposed rule change. Proposed new language is underlined; proposed deletions are in brackets.

* * * * *

4500. BOOKS, RECORDS AND REPORTS

4510. Books and Records Requirements

* * * * *

4512. Customer Account Information

- (a) Each member shall maintain the following information:
 - (1) for each account:
 - (A) through (B) No Change.
 - (C) name(s) of the associated person(s), if any, responsible for the account, and if multiple individuals are assigned responsibility for the account, a record indicating the scope of their responsibilities with respect to the account, provided, however, that this requirement shall not apply to an institutional account;
 - (D) through (E) No Change.

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¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

- (2) through (3) No Change.
- (b) through (c) No Change.
- • Supplementary Material: -----
- .01 through .04 No Change.

* * * * *

- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change has been approved by the General Counsel of FINRA (or his officer designee) pursuant to delegated authority. No other action by FINRA is necessary for the filing of the proposed rule change.

FINRA has requested the Commission to find good cause pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act² for approving the proposed rule change prior to the 30th day after its

² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

publication in the <u>Federal Register</u> so that FINRA can implement the proposed rule change on December 5, 2011, which coincides with the implementation date for the amendments to the FINRA books and records rules.

3. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u> Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

(a) Purpose

On January 27, 2011, the SEC approved FINRA's proposal to adopt rules governing books and records³ for the consolidated FINRA rulebook.⁴ In April 2011, FINRA issued Regulatory Notice 11-19, which announced SEC approval of the new rules and an implementation date of December 5, 2011. Following SEC approval of the rules and publication of the Regulatory Notice, several firms requested guidance regarding the application of FINRA Rule 4512(a)(1)(C) to institutional accounts.

Servicing Institutional Accounts

FINRA Rule 4512 requires firms to maintain certain information relating to customer accounts, and it is based on existing requirements in NASD Rule 3110(c)

(Customer Account Information) with several changes, as described in Regulatory Notice

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 63784 (January 27, 2011), 76 FR 5850 (February 2, 2011) (Order Approving Proposed Rule Change; File No. SR-FINRA-2010-052).

The current FINRA rulebook consists of (1) FINRA Rules; (2) NASD Rules; and (3) rules incorporated from NYSE ("Incorporated NYSE Rules") (together, the NASD Rules and Incorporated NYSE Rules are referred to as the "Transitional Rulebook"). While the NASD Rules generally apply to all FINRA members, the Incorporated NYSE Rules apply only to those members of FINRA that are also members of the NYSE ("Dual Members"). The FINRA Rules apply to all FINRA members, unless such rules have a more limited application by their terms. For more information about the rulebook consolidation process, see Information Notice, March 12, 2008 (Rulebook Consolidation Process).

11-19. Among other changes, FINRA Rule 4512(a)(1)(C) requires firms to maintain the name of the associated person, if any, responsible for the account, rather than requiring firms to maintain the signature of the registered representative introducing the account. Where a member designates multiple individuals as being responsible for an account, the firm is required to maintain each of their names and a record indicating the scope of their responsibilities with respect to the account. For purposes of the rule, it is the member's obligation to determine whether a particular individual is responsible for the account based on the scope of the individual's activities with respect to that account.

Following discussions with industry representatives, FINRA has determined that the application of FINRA Rule 4512(a)(1)(C) to institutional accounts⁷ raises significant operational issues in light of the manner in which institutional business is conducted. FINRA understands that numerous sales and trading associated persons often interact with institutional accounts, depending on such factors as the scope of the relationship with the institutional account and the products involved, and that, for purposes of

⁵ <u>See also SEA Rule 17a-3(a)(17).</u>

This provision was added in response to a comment from the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association ("SIFMA") during the rulemaking process.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 63181 (October 26, 2010), 75 FR 67155 (November 1, 2010) (Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change; File No. SR-FINRA-2010-052). Specifically, SIFMA had commented that the original proposal in Regulatory Notice 08-25 (May 2008) to maintain the name of a single individual as responsible for an account is not practical in all cases, such as an institutional account, where multiple individuals cover the account.

As defined in FINRA Rule 4512(c), the term "institutional account" means the account of: (1) a bank, savings and loan association, insurance company or registered investment company; (2) an investment adviser registered either with the SEC under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 or with a state securities commission (or any agency or office performing like functions); or (3) any other person (whether a natural person, corporation, partnership, trust or otherwise) with total assets of at least \$50 million.

institutional accounts, compliance with the recordkeeping requirements of FINRA Rule 4512(a)(1)(C) would cause significant operational challenges. Accordingly, FINRA proposes to amend the rule to except institutional accounts from the recordkeeping requirements of FINRA Rule 4512(a)(1)(C). Additionally, FINRA proposes to add Supplementary Material .05 (Supervision of Accounts) to FINRA Rule 4512 to clarify that nothing in paragraph (a)(1)(C) of the rule obviates a member's obligation to supervise an account that it services, including determining the associated persons responsible for the account and ensuring that such persons are appropriately qualified and registered, and to comply with the requirements of Rule 2090 (Know Your Customer) (which becomes effective on July 9, 2012). Moreover, the Supplementary Material states that, with respect to a member's obligation to supervise an account, it is incumbent upon the member to design appropriate mechanisms to determine the associated persons responsible for the account, ensure that such persons are appropriately qualified and registered, and have the ability to provide such information to FINRA or SEC staff upon request.

As noted in Item 2 of this filing, FINRA has requested the Commission to find good cause pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act⁸ for approving the proposed rule change prior to the 30th day after its publication in the <u>Federal Register</u> so that FINRA can implement the proposed rule change on December 5, 2011, which coincides with the implementation date for the amendments to the FINRA books and records rules.

(b) Statutory Basis

^{8 15} U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

FINRA believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act, which requires, among other things, that FINRA rules must be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. FINRA believes that the proposed rule change will further these purposes by providing greater clarity to members regarding the application of FINRA Rule 4512(a)(1)(C), which, in turn, will assist them in their compliance efforts. The clarification regarding FINRA Rule 4512(a)(1)(C) would except institutional accounts from the recordkeeping requirements of the provision, while new Supplementary Material .05 (Supervision of Accounts) emphasizes a member's obligation to supervise all accounts that it services, including determining the associated persons responsible for the account and ensuring that such persons are appropriately qualified and registered, and to comply with the requirements of Rule 2090 (which becomes effective on July 9, 2012). The Supplementary Material also states that, with respect to a member's obligation to supervise an account, it is incumbent upon the member to design appropriate mechanisms to determine the associated persons responsible for the account, ensure that such persons are appropriately qualified and registered, and have the ability to provide such information to FINRA or SEC staff upon request.

4. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

FINRA does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 780-3(b)(6).

5. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

Not applicable

7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)</u>

FINRA requests the Commission to find good cause pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act¹⁰ for approving the proposed rule change prior to the 30th day after its publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>.

Because FINRA believes that the proposed rule change will provide greater clarity to members regarding their recordkeeping obligations and assist them in their compliance efforts, FINRA requests the Commission to accelerate the effectiveness of the proposed rule change prior to the 30th day after its publication in the <u>Federal Register</u> so that FINRA can implement the proposed rule change on December 5, 2011, which coincides with the implementation date for the amendments to the FINRA books and records rules.

8. Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission

Not applicable.

9. Exhibits

Exhibit 1. Completed notice of proposed rule change for publication in the Federal Register.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-FINRA-2011-070)

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change to Amend FINRA Rule 4512 (Customer Account Information)

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act" or "SEA")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on , Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by FINRA. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons. For the reasons discussed below, the Commission is granting accelerated approval of the proposed rule change.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

FINRA is proposing to amend FINRA Rule 4512 (Customer Account Information) to except institutional accounts from the requirements of FINRA Rule 4512(a)(1)(C).

The text of the proposed rule change is available on FINRA's website at http://www.finra.org, at the principal office of FINRA and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, FINRA included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. FINRA has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

- A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u>
 <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>
- 1. Purpose

On January 27, 2011, the SEC approved FINRA's proposal to adopt rules governing books and records³ for the consolidated FINRA rulebook.⁴ In April 2011, FINRA issued Regulatory Notice 11-19, which announced SEC approval of the new rules and an implementation date of December 5, 2011. Following SEC approval of the rules and publication of the Regulatory Notice, several firms requested guidance regarding the application of FINRA Rule 4512(a)(1)(C) to institutional accounts.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 63784 (January 27, 2011), 76 FR 5850 (February 2, 2011) (Order Approving Proposed Rule Change; File No. SR-FINRA-2010-052).

The current FINRA rulebook consists of (1) FINRA Rules; (2) NASD Rules; and (3) rules incorporated from NYSE ("Incorporated NYSE Rules") (together, the NASD Rules and Incorporated NYSE Rules are referred to as the "Transitional Rulebook"). While the NASD Rules generally apply to all FINRA members, the Incorporated NYSE Rules apply only to those members of FINRA that are also members of the NYSE ("Dual Members"). The FINRA Rules apply to all FINRA members, unless such rules have a more limited application by their terms. For more information about the rulebook consolidation process, see Information Notice, March 12, 2008 (Rulebook Consolidation Process).

Servicing Institutional Accounts

FINRA Rule 4512 requires firms to maintain certain information relating to customer accounts, and it is based on existing requirements in NASD Rule 3110(c) (Customer Account Information) with several changes, as described in Regulatory Notice 11-19. Among other changes, FINRA Rule 4512(a)(1)(C) requires firms to maintain the name of the associated person, if any, responsible for the account, rather than requiring firms to maintain the signature of the registered representative introducing the account. Where a member designates multiple individuals as being responsible for an account, the firm is required to maintain each of their names and a record indicating the scope of their responsibilities with respect to the account. For purposes of the rule, it is the member's obligation to determine whether a particular individual is responsible for the account based on the scope of the individual's activities with respect to that account.

Following discussions with industry representatives, FINRA has determined that the application of FINRA Rule 4512(a)(1)(C) to institutional accounts⁷ raises significant

⁵ See also SEA Rule 17a-3(a)(17).

This provision was added in response to a comment from the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association ("SIFMA") during the rulemaking process.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 63181 (October 26, 2010), 75 FR 67155 (November 1, 2010) (Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change; File No. SR-FINRA-2010-052). Specifically, SIFMA had commented that the original proposal in Regulatory Notice 08-25 (May 2008) to maintain the name of a single individual as responsible for an account is not practical in all cases, such as an institutional account, where multiple individuals cover the account.

As defined in FINRA Rule 4512(c), the term "institutional account" means the account of: (1) a bank, savings and loan association, insurance company or registered investment company; (2) an investment adviser registered either with the SEC under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 or with a state securities commission (or any agency or office performing like functions); or (3) any other person (whether a natural person, corporation, partnership, trust or otherwise) with total assets of at least \$50 million.

operational issues in light of the manner in which institutional business is conducted. FINRA understands that numerous sales and trading associated persons often interact with institutional accounts, depending on such factors as the scope of the relationship with the institutional account and the products involved, and that, for purposes of institutional accounts, compliance with the recordkeeping requirements of FINRA Rule 4512(a)(1)(C) would cause significant operational challenges. Accordingly, FINRA proposes to amend the rule to except institutional accounts from the recordkeeping requirements of FINRA Rule 4512(a)(1)(C). Additionally, FINRA proposes to add Supplementary Material .05 (Supervision of Accounts) to FINRA Rule 4512 to clarify that nothing in paragraph (a)(1)(C) of the rule obviates a member's obligation to supervise an account that it services, including determining the associated persons responsible for the account and ensuring that such persons are appropriately qualified and registered, and to comply with the requirements of Rule 2090 (Know Your Customer) (which becomes effective on July 9, 2012). Moreover, the Supplementary Material states that, with respect to a member's obligation to supervise an account, it is incumbent upon the member to design appropriate mechanisms to determine the associated persons responsible for the account, ensure that such persons are appropriately qualified and registered, and have the ability to provide such information to FINRA or SEC staff upon request.

FINRA has requested the Commission to find good cause pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act⁸ for approving the proposed rule change prior to the 30th day after its publication in the Federal Register so that FINRA can implement the proposed rule

^{8 15} U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

change on December 5, 2011, which coincides with the implementation date for the amendments to the FINRA books and records rules.

2. Statutory Basis

FINRA believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act, which requires, among other things, that FINRA rules must be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. FINRA believes that the proposed rule change will further these purposes by providing greater clarity to members regarding the application of FINRA Rule 4512(a)(1)(C), which, in turn, will assist them in their compliance efforts. The clarification regarding FINRA Rule 4512(a)(1)(C) would except institutional accounts from the recordkeeping requirements of the provision, while new Supplementary Material .05 (Supervision of Accounts) emphasizes a member's obligation to supervise all accounts that it services, including determining the associated persons responsible for the account and ensuring that such persons are appropriately qualified and registered, and to comply with the requirements of Rule 2090 (which becomes effective on July 9, 2012). The Supplementary Material also states that, with respect to a member's obligation to supervise an account, it is incumbent upon the member to design appropriate mechanisms to determine the associated persons responsible for the account, ensure that such persons are appropriately qualified and registered, and have the ability to provide such information to FINRA or SEC staff upon request.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 780-3(b)(6).

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

FINRA does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

FINRA has requested that the Commission find good cause pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act¹⁰ for approving the proposed rule change prior to the 30th day after publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>. The Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to FINRA and, in particular, the requirements of Section 15A of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder. The Commission finds good cause for approving the proposed rule change prior to the 30th day after the date of publication of notice of filing thereof in that accelerated approval will provide greater clarity to FINRA members regarding their recordkeeping obligations and assist them in their compliance efforts and will allow FINRA to implement the proposed rule change on December 5, 2011, which coincides with the implementation date for the amendments to the FINRA books and records rules.

Within 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the <u>Federal Register</u> or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or
(ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

- (A) by order approve or disapprove such proposed rule change, or
- (B) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number
 SR-FINRA-2011-070 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary,
 Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-FINRA-2011-070. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet website (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). Copies of the submission, all subsequent

amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of FINRA. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-FINRA-2011-070 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. 11

Elizabeth M. Murphy
Secretary

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¹¹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).