

August 9, 2018

Jennifer Piorko Mitchell
Office of the Corporate Secretary
FINRA
1735 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-1506

Re: Regulatory Notice 18-22

Dear Ms. Mitchell:

I have represented investors in FINRA arbitrations since the early 1990s and was one of the earliest members of PIABA. I urge FINRA to adopt the proposed amendment to Discovery Guide List 1.

The proposed rule should not be controversial. The List 1 amendment is consistent with the federal and state rules of civil procedure. *See, e.g.*, Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1)(A)(iv); N.C. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(2). An understanding of insurance coverage will assist claimant's counsel in evaluating the collectability of an award and will result in more informed settlement discussions. Under the current practice, a claimant is not entitled to learn of the respondent's insurance coverage unless an award is not timely paid and the claimant files a collection action. The limitation on the submission of the insurance information to the panel is sound and in keeping with the court rules.

The proposed amendment is long overdue.

Respectfully,

Andrew Whiteman

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