

**NASD
LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER AND CONSENT**

20050012141-03

TO: Department of Market Regulation
NASD

FROM: Richard Michael Hughes
CRD #2783806

Pursuant to Rule 9216 of NASD Code of Procedure, I, Richard Michael Hughes, submit this Letter of Acceptance, Waiver and Consent ("AWC") for the purpose of proposing a settlement of the alleged rule violations described in Part II below. I submit this AWC on the condition that, if accepted, NASD will not bring any future actions against me alleging violations based on the same factual findings.

I understand that:

1. Submission of this AWC is voluntary and will not resolve this matter unless and until it has been reviewed and accepted by NASD's Department of Market Regulation and National Adjudicatory Council ("NAC") Review Subcommittee or Office of Disciplinary Affairs ("ODA"), pursuant to NASD Rule 9216;
2. If this AWC is not accepted, its submission will not be used as evidence to prove any of the allegations against me; and
3. If accepted:
 - a. this AWC will become part of my permanent disciplinary record and may be considered in any future actions brought by NASD or any other regulator against me;
 - b. this AWC will be made available through NASD's public disclosure program in response to public inquiries about my disciplinary record;
 - c. NASD may make a public announcement concerning this agreement and the subject matter thereof in accordance with NASD Rule 8310 and IM-8310-2; and

- d. 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. Nothing in this provision affects my testimonial obligations or right to take legal or factual positions in litigation or other legal proceedings in which NASD is not a party.

I also understand that my experience in the securities industry and disciplinary history may be factors that will be considered in deciding whether to accept this AWC. That experience and history are as follows:

I entered the securities industry in 1996. Since that time, I have worked at several member firms in varying capacities. From August 2002 to June 2006, I was registered with Great Eastern Securities, Inc. as a General Securities Representative, a General Securities Principal and a Limited Representative -- Equity Trader.

I have no prior disciplinary history.

I.

WAIVER OF PROCEDURAL RIGHTS

I specifically and voluntarily waive the following rights granted under NASD's Code of Procedure:

- A. To have a Formal Complaint issued specifying the allegations against me;
- B. To be notified of the Formal 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 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 General Counsel, 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 Rule 9143 or the separation of functions prohibitions of 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.

II.

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 NASD, or to which NASD 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 NASD:
1. In connection with review 20050012141, NASD, in a letter dated July 5, 2006, requested pursuant to NASD Procedural Rule 8210 that I appear and testify before NASD on July 13, 2006 at NASD's offices in New York, New York. By letter dated July 10, 2006, I informed NASD that I would not appear and testify before NASD as requested on that date or at any time in the future in connection with this matter.
 2. The conduct described in paragraph one constitutes a violation of NASD Conduct Rule 2110 and NASD Procedural Rule 8210.
- B. I also consent to the imposition, at a maximum, of the following sanctions:
- A bar in all capacities from associating with any member firm.**

Pursuant to IM-8310-2(f), a bar or expulsion shall become effective upon approval or acceptance of this AWC by the NAC.

III.

OTHER MATTERS

- A. I understand that I may attach a Corrective Action Statement to this AWC that is a statement of demonstrable corrective steps taken to prevent future misconduct. I understand that I may not deny the charges or make any statement that is inconsistent with the AWC in this Statement. This Statement does not constitute factual or legal findings by NASD, nor does it reflect the views of NASD or its staff.
- B. I understand that if I am barred or suspended from association with any NASD member, I become subject to a statutory disqualification as that term is defined

in Section 3(a)(39) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Accordingly, I may not be associated with any NASD member in any capacity, including clerical or ministerial functions, during the period of the bar or suspension. (See NASD Rule 8310 and IM-8310-1.)

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, and that no offer, threat, inducement, or promise of any kind, other than the terms set forth herein, has been made to induce me to submit it.

7-28-06
Date

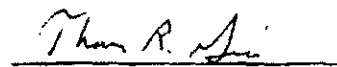

Richard Michael Hughes

Reviewed by:

Counsel for
Richard Michael Hughes

Accepted by NASD:

8/30/06
Date


Thomas R. Gira
Executive Vice President and Deputy
Department of Market Regulation

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