

FINANCIAL INDUSTRY REGULATORY AUTHORITY
LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER AND CONSENT
NO. 2010025367602

TO: Department of Enforcement
Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA")

RE: Ronald R. Covington ("Covington"), Respondent
General Securities Representative
CRD No. 1328039

Pursuant to FINRA Rule 9216 of FINRA's Code of Procedure, I, Ronald R. Covington, 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

Between 1984 and November 2010, Covington was registered as a general securities representative ("GSR") with FINRA through an association with Edward Jones (BD No. 250). On December 2, 2010, Edward Jones filed with the Central Registration Depository ("CRD") a Uniform Termination Notice for Securities Industry Registration ("Form U5") stating that Covington had been permitted to resign after the Firm determined, among other things, that Covington had failed to timely disclose certain liens on his Uniform Application for Securities Industry Registration or Transfer ("Form U4"). On December 14, 2010, Covington joined another FINRA member firm as a GSR.

RELEVANT DISCIPLINARY HISTORY

Covington has no prior disciplinary history.

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OVERVIEW

Covington, while registered through Edward Jones, was subject to three liens issued by the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") yet failed to amend his Form U4 to disclose them within the required timeframe.

FACTS AND VIOLATIVE CONDUCT

On April 9, 2008, February 20, 2009, and April 27, 2009, the IRS filed separate liens against Covington for unpaid taxes. Covington was registered as a GSR and was obligated to update his Form U4 to disclose that he was subject to the IRS tax liens. Nevertheless, Covington failed to ensure that his Form U4 was updated to disclose them until 2010, well after he was required to do so under NASD and FINRA rules.

By failing to amend his Form U4 to disclose that he was subject to three federal tax liens, Covington violated Article V, Section 2(c) of the FINRA By-Laws, FINRA Rules 2010 and 1122, NASD Rule 2110, and IM-1000-1.

- B. I also consent to the imposition of the following sanctions:
1. A 30-day suspension from association with any FINRA member in any capacity; and
 2. A fine of \$5,000.

I agree to pay the monetary sanctions upon notice that this AWC has been accepted and that such payment is due and payable. I have submitted an Election of Payment form showing the method by which I propose to pay the fine imposed.

I specifically and voluntarily waive any right to claim that I am unable to pay, now or at any time hereafter, the monetary sanctions imposed in this matter.

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.

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 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 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;
- B. If this AWC is not accepted, its submission will not be used as evidence to prove 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;
2. this AWC will be made available through FINRA's public disclosure program in response to public inquiries about my disciplinary record;
3. FINRA may make a public announcement concerning this agreement and 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 right to take legal or factual positions in litigation or other legal proceedings in which FINRA is not a party.

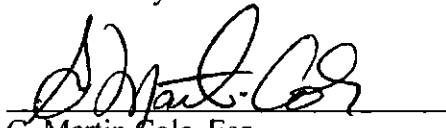
D. I may attach a Corrective Action Statement to this AWC that is a statement of demonstrable corrective steps taken to prevent future misconduct. I understand that I may not deny the charges or make any statement that is inconsistent with the AWC in this Statement. This Statement does not constitute factual or legal findings by FINRA, nor does it reflect the views of FINRA or its staff.

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 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.

Dec 17, 2012
Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Ronald R. Covington
Respondent Ronald R. Covington

Reviewed by:

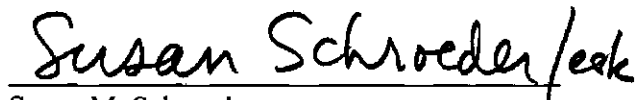


G. Martin Cole, Esq.
Counsel for Respondent
10326 Calverton Pass
Fort Wayne IN 46825
260-804-3722
gmartincole@gmail.com

Accepted by FINRA:

12/24/12
Date

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



Susan M. Schroeder
SVP & Deputy Chief of Enforcement
FINRA Department of Enforcement
One World Financial Center, 11th Fl.
200 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10281-1003
(646) 315-7466
Susan.Schroeder@FINRA.org