

**FINANCIAL INDUSTRY REGULATORY AUTHORITY
LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER AND CONSENT
NO. 2012034686801**

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

RE: Sally Samaris, Respondent
Former Registered Representative
CRD No. 2957114

Pursuant to FINRA Rule 9216 of FINRA's Code of Procedure, I 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

Sally Samaris ("Samaris" or "Respondent") first entered the securities industry in 1997. Beginning in 1998, she was registered as a Series 6 (Investment Company Products/Variable Contracts Limited Representative) with FINRA member WMA Securities, Inc., and ultimately with Transamerica Financial Advisors, Inc. ("Transamerica" or the "Firm"). In 1998, she passed the Series 63 (Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination) and, in 2000, she became registered as a Series 26 (Investment Company Products/Variable Contracts Limited Principal). Other than from February 2011 to mid-July 2011, Samaris remained registered until November 7, 2012, when Transamerica filed a Form U5 that terminated her registration with FINRA.

On September 26, 2013, Transamerica filed an amended Form U5 in which it disclosed for the first time that Samaris had been arrested and charged in Los Angeles Superior Court with several felonies, including grand theft, conspiracy to commit grand theft, and home equity sales fraud.

Although Samaris is not currently associated with a FINRA member, FINRA retains jurisdiction over her pursuant to Article V, Section 4, of the FINRA by-Laws.

OVERVIEW

Respondent failed to provide documents, information, and to appear for testimony in response to FINRA Rule 8210 request letters issued by the FINRA staff. As a result, Respondent violated FINRA Rules 8210 and 2010.

FACTS AND VIOLATIVE CONDUCT

On November 7, 2012, Transamerica filed a Form U5 that terminated Samaris's registration with FINRA and stated that the termination was "Voluntary." Based on a review of the Form U5 filing, FINRA began to review potential late disclosures by Samaris of two bankruptcy filings, the late disclosure of a state regulatory action concerning her alleged involvement in a mortgage fraud scheme, as well as public information concerning criminal actions in Los Angeles Superior Court against Samaris and others concerning the mortgage fraud scheme.

During the course of FINRA's investigation, the FINRA staff requested information from Samaris, including through FINRA Rule 8210. Samaris complied fully with these requests.

Then, on August 1, 2014, the staff sent Samaris written requests pursuant to FINRA Rule 8210 that (1) she appear for on-the record testimony; and (2) produce documents and information concerning several topics, including both a completed criminal matter (in which Samaris entered a plea of nolo contendere and was convicted on multiple felony counts related to the mortgage fraud scheme) and a pending criminal matter also related to the mortgage fraud scheme. Samaris, through her attorney, advised the staff that she would not appear for testimony or respond further to the requests for documents and information. As a result, Samaris violated FINRA Rules 8210 and 2010.

B. I also consent to the imposition of the following sanctions:

1. A bar from associating with any FINRA member in all capacities.

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. Pursuant to FINRA Rule 8313(e), a bar or expulsion shall become effective upon approval or acceptance of this AWC.

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 Chief Legal Officer, 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:

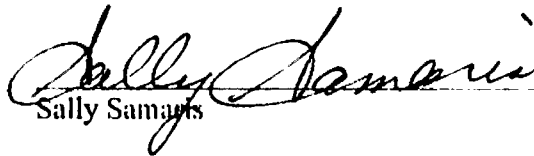
- A. Submission of this AWC is voluntary and will not resolve this matter unless and

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;

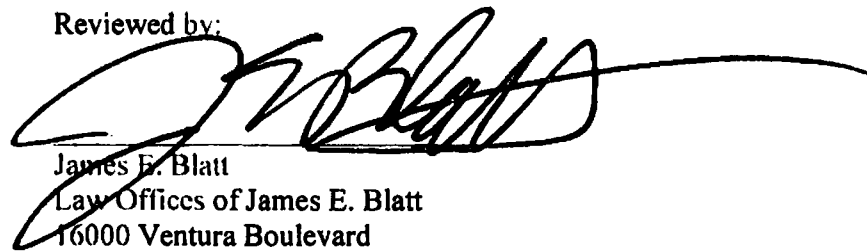
- B. If this AWC is not accepted, its submission will not be used as evidence to prove any of the allegations against me; and
- C. If accepted:
 - 1. this AWC will become part of my permanent disciplinary record and may be considered in any future actions brought by FINRA or any other regulator against 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: (i) testimonial obligations; or (ii) right to take legal or factual positions in litigation or other legal proceedings in which FINRA is not a party.

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.

8/19/2014
Date (mm/dd/yyyy)


Sally Samaris

Reviewed by:


James E. Blatt
Law Offices of James E. Blatt
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8/19/2014
Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Accepted by FINRA:

8/25/14
Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

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


James E. Day
Vice President and Chief Counsel
FINRA Department of Enforcement
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