

**FINANCIAL INDUSTRY REGULATORY AUTHORITY
LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER AND CONSENT
NO. 2014043777201**

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

RE: Charles Posner
General Securities Representative
CRD No. 2171942

Pursuant to FINRA Rule 9216 of FINRA's Code of Procedure, Charles ("Posner" or "Respondent") submits 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 him alleging violations based on the same factual findings described herein.

I.

ACCEPTANCE AND CONSENT

- A. Respondent hereby accepts and consents, 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

Posner entered the securities industry in August 1991 when he associated with a FINRA member firm. Posner registered with FINRA on November 10, 1993. He subsequently associated with several other member firms including Ascendant Capital Markets, LLC ("Ascendant") from March 2011 to November 2013, and World Trade Financial Corporation, LLC ("World Trade") from March 2014 to December 2014. On December 12, 2014, World Trade filed a Form U5 on Posner's behalf, terminating his registrations with FINRA and his association with the firm on that day. During his career in the securities industry, Posner obtained Series 7, 55 and 63 securities licenses.

Although he is no longer associated with a FINRA member firm, Posner remains subject to FINRA's jurisdiction pursuant to Article V, Section 4 of FINRA's By-Laws.

RELEVANT DISCIPLINARY HISTORY

Posner has no prior disciplinary history.

OVERVIEW

Posner willfully failed to timely disclose a Chapter 13 bankruptcy filing on his Form U4.

FACTS AND VIOLATIVE CONDUCT

Article V, Section 2(c) of FINRA's By-Laws requires associated persons to keep their Forms U4 "current at all times," and that amendments to Forms U4 be filed "not later than 30 days after learning of the facts or circumstances giving rise to the amendment." Disclosure Question 14K(1) of Form U4 asks: "Within the past 10 years: (1) have you made a compromise with creditors, filed a bankruptcy petition or been the subject of an involuntary bankruptcy petition?"

FINRA Rule 1122 provides that "[n]o member or person associated with a member shall file with FINRA information with respect to membership or registration which is incomplete or inaccurate so as to be misleading, or which could in any way tend to mislead, or fail to correct such filing after notice thereof."

FINRA Rule 2010 provides that "[a] member, in the conduct of his business, shall observe high standards of commercial honor and just and equitable principles of trade."

Posner voluntarily filed a Chapter 13 bankruptcy petition on February 14, 2013. During the period from March 2013 through November 2013, while associated with Ascendant, Posner willfully failed to amend his Form U4 to disclose his bankruptcy within thirty days of the filing.

Posner completed a new Form U4 when he associated with World Trade in March 2014. He falsely answered "no" to Form U4 disclosure question 14K(1). Posner's bankruptcy filing was not disclosed on his Form U4 until November 2014, when World Trade discovered the undisclosed filing and required Posner to amend his Form U4. Accordingly, during the period from March 2014 to November 2014, Posner willfully failed to disclose his bankruptcy filing on his Form U4.

As a result of the foregoing conduct, Respondent Posner violated Article V, Section 2 of the FINRA's By-Laws and FINRA Rules 1122 and 2010.

- B. Respondent also consents to the imposition of the following sanctions:

A \$5,000 fine and a three-month suspension from association with any FINRA member firm in any capacity.

The fine shall be due and payable either immediately upon reassociation with a member firm following the three-month suspension noted above, or prior to any application or request for relief from any statutory disqualification resulting from this or any other event or proceeding, whichever is earlier.

Respondent specifically and voluntarily waives any right to claim that he is unable to pay, now or at any time hereafter, the monetary sanction imposed in this matter.

Respondent understands that if he is barred or suspended from associating with any FINRA member, he 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, he 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).

Respondent understands that this settlement includes a finding that he willfully omitted to state material facts on a Form U4, and that under Section 3(a)(39)(F) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Article III, Section 4 of FINRA's By-Laws, the omission makes him subject to a statutory disqualification with respect to association with a member.

The sanctions imposed herein shall be effective on a date set by FINRA staff.

II.

WAIVER OF PROCEDURAL RIGHTS

Respondent specifically and voluntarily waives the following rights granted under FINRA's Code of Procedure:

- A. To have a Complaint issued specifying the allegations against him;
- 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, Respondent specifically and voluntarily waives 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.

Respondent further specifically and voluntarily waives 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

Respondent understands that:

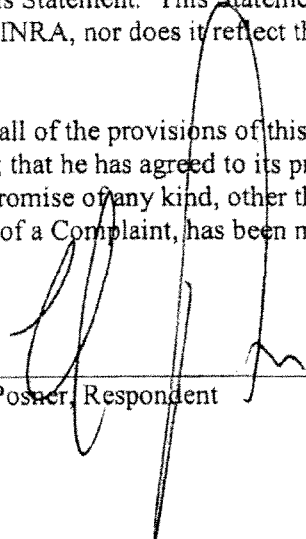
- A. Submission of this AWC is voluntary and will not resolve this matter unless and until it has been reviewed and accepted by the NAC, a Review Subcommittee of the NAC, or the Office of Disciplinary Affairs (“ODA”), pursuant to FINRA Rule 9216;
- B. If this AWC is not accepted, its submission will not be used as evidence to prove any of the allegations against Respondent; and
- C. If accepted:
 - 1. this AWC will become part of Respondent’s permanent disciplinary record and may be considered in any future actions brought by FINRA or any other regulator against him;
 - 2. this AWC will be made available through FINRA's public disclosure program in accordance with FINRA Rule 8313;
 - 3. FINRA may make a public announcement concerning this agreement and the subject matter thereof in accordance with FINRA Rule 8313; and
 - 4. Respondent 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. Respondent 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 Respondent's: (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.

- D. Respondent may attach a Corrective Action Statement to this AWC that is a statement of demonstrable corrective steps taken to prevent future misconduct. Respondent understands that he 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.

Respondent certifies that he has read and understands all of the provisions of this AWC and has been given a full opportunity to ask questions about it; that he has 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 him to submit it.

7.17.15
Date

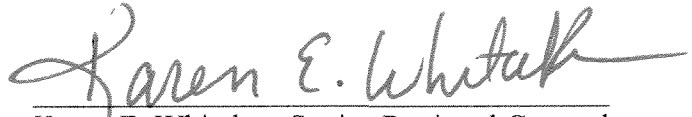


Charles Posner, Respondent

Accepted by FINRA:

8/5/2015
Date

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Karen E. Whitaker", written in dark ink.

Karen E. Whitaker, Senior Regional Counsel
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