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Via Email Only
rule-comments@sec.gov

Office of the Secretary
Securities and Exchange Commission
100 F Street NE
Washington, D.C. 20549-1090

Re: SR-FINRA-2016-033
Notice of Filing of a Proposed Rule Change Amending Rule 12400 of the Code of Arbitration Procedure for Customer Disputes and Rule 13400 of the Code of Arbitration Procedure for Industry Disputes Relating to Broadening Chairperson Eligibility in Arbitration

To the Office of the Secretary:

I am a partner at Aidikoff, Uhl and Bakhtiari, a law firm devoted to the representation of individuals and institutions in disputes with Wall Street and the financial service industry. I am a former President of the Public Investors Arbitration Bar Association (PIABA) and the current Chairman of FINRA's National Arbitration and Mediation Committee (NAMC).

The purpose of this letter is to provide the Securities and Exchange Commission with comments on the above referenced rule proposal. The proposed rule would significantly increase the available number of arbitrators included on the Chair roster and represents an important step towards increasing the probability of drawing local chairpersons in suburban or remote hearing locations. I urge the Commission to approve the proposed rule on an expedited basis.

Very truly yours,

AIDIKOFF, UHL & BAKHTIARI


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