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GLENN S. GITOMER
[REDACTED]

May 26, 2017

VIA EMAIL ONLY

rule-comments@sec.gov

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

Re: SR-FINRA-2017-09
Notice of Filing of a Proposed Rule Change Relating to Expediting List
Selection in Arbitration

To the Office of the Secretary:

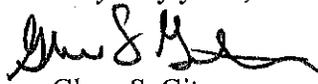
I am a Partner and Chair of the Litigation Group of McCausland Keen + Buckman. My practice is devoted to the representation of individuals and institutions in disputes with the financial services industry. I am a former member of the Board of Directors of the Public Investors Arbitration Association (PIABA), and a former member of FINRA's National Arbitration and Mediation Committee (NAMC). I currently serve as Chair of FINRA's Discovery Tasks Force.

I write in support of the proposed amendments to FINRA Rules 12402 and 12403 of the Code of Arbitration Procedure for Customer Disputes and Rule 13403 of the Code of Arbitration Procedure for Industry Disputes. These amendments provide that the arbitrator lists generated by the Neutral List Selection System be sent to the parties within thirty (30) days after the date the last answer is originally due, even if the parties have agreed to extend the time to file an answer.

My practice has been to liberally grant extensions to answer Statements of Claim contingent on an agreement to the issuance of the arbitrator lists within thirty (30) days of the original answer due date. The proposed amendments, in my view, merely codifies what I believe to be the accepted practice and enhances the prompt administration of FINRA arbitrations. I, therefore, fully support the proposed amended rules.

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to comment on this rule filing.

Very truly yours,


Glenn S. Gitomer

GSG/mr