SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-63319; File No. SR-FINRA-2010-060)

November 16, 2010

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Update Certain Cross-References and Make Non-Substantive Technical Changes to Certain FINRA Rules

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on November 10, 2010, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by FINRA. FINRA has designated the proposed rule change as constituting a "non-controversial" rule change under paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 under the Act,³ which renders the proposal effective upon receipt of this filing by the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

FINRA is proposing to update cross-references within certain FINRA rules to reflect changes adopted in the consolidated FINRA rulebook and to make non-substantive technical changes to certain FINRA Rules.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

The text of the proposed rule change is available on FINRA's Web site at http://www.finra.org, at the principal office of FINRA and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, FINRA included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. FINRA has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

- A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u>
 <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>
- 1. Purpose

FINRA is in the process of developing a new consolidated rulebook ("Consolidated FINRA Rulebook"). That process involves FINRA submitting to the Commission for approval a series of proposed rule changes over time to adopt rules in the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook. The phased adoption and implementation of those rules necessitates periodic amendments to update rule cross-references and other non-substantive technical changes in the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook.

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The current FINRA rulebook consists of (1) FINRA Rules; (2) NASD Rules; and (3) rules incorporated from NYSE ("Incorporated NYSE Rules") (together, the NASD Rules and Incorporated NYSE Rules are referred to as the "Transitional Rulebook"). While the NASD Rules generally apply to all FINRA members, the Incorporated NYSE Rules apply only to those members of FINRA that are also members of the NYSE ("Dual Members"). The FINRA Rules apply to all FINRA members, unless such rules have a more limited application by their terms. For more information about the rulebook consolidation process, see Information Notice, March 12, 2008 (Rulebook Consolidation Process).

The proposed rule change would update rule cross-references to reflect recent changes adopted in the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook. In this regard, the proposed rule change would update references in FINRA Rules 0150 (Application of Rules to Exempted Securities Except Municipal Securities), 2130 (Approval Procedures for Day-Trading Accounts), 2140 (Interfering With the Transfer of Customer Accounts in the Context of Employment Disputes), 2150 (Improper Use of Customers' Securities or Funds; Prohibition Against Guarantees and Sharing in Accounts), 2270 (Day-Trading Risk Disclosure Statement), 2360 (Options), 5110 (Corporate Financing Rule – Underwriting Terms and Arrangements), 5122 (Private Placements of Securities Issued By Members), 5250 (Payments for Market Making), 6630 (Applicability of FINRA Rules to Securities Previously Designated as PORTAL Securities), 9217 (Violations Appropriate for Disposition Under Plan Pursuant to SEA Rule 19d-1(c)(2)), 9610 (Application), and 11574 (Certificate in Name of Deceased Person, Trustee, etc.) that are needed as the result of Commission approval of five recent FINRA proposed rule changes.⁵ In addition, the proposed rule change would amend FINRA Rules 11100 (Scope of Uniform Practice Code) and 11580 (Transfer of Limited Partnership Securities), to update cross-references to NASD Rule 2810, which was renumbered as

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 62482 (July 12, 2010), 75 FR 41562 (July 16, 2010) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2010-024); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 62539 (July 21, 2010), 75 FR 44033 (July 27, 2010) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2010-029); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 62702 (August 12, 2010), 75 FR 51147 (August 18, 2010) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2010-026); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 62762 (August 23, 2010), 75 FR 53362 (August 31, 2010) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2009-042); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 62842 (September 3, 2010), 75 FR 55842 (September 14, 2010) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2010-030).

FINRA Rule 2310.⁶ Finally, the proposed rule change would make non-substantive technical changes to FINRA Rules 6420 (Definitions), 8313 (Release of Disciplinary Complaints, Decisions and Other Information), 11560 (Certificate of Company Whose Transfer Books Are Closed), 11720 (Irregular Delivery – Transfer Refused – Lost or Stolen Securities), and 11870 (Customer Account Transfer Contracts), and delete a reference to Rule 11830 (Reserved) to reflect changes in FINRA style and naming conventions.

FINRA has filed the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness. The implementation date for the proposed rule change will be December 15, 2010, the date on which certain of the previously approved rule changes will be implemented, except for proposed rule changes to FINRA Rule 6630(d)(1) that would eliminate the references to NASD Rules 2730, 2740 and 2750 and add references to FINRA Rule 5141. Those proposed changes will be implemented on February 8, 2011, the date on which the relevant previously approved rule change will be implemented.

2. Statutory Basis

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See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59987 (May 27, 2009), 74 FR 26902 (June 4, 2009) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2009-016).

See Regulatory Notice 10-49 (October 2010) (regarding File Nos. SR-FINRA-2009-042, FINRA-2010-026, and SR-FINRA-2010-030, effective December 15, 2010). File No. SR-FINRA-2010-024 is effective December 2, 2010. See Regulatory Notice 10-45 (October 2010).

See <u>Regulatory Notice</u> 10-47 (October 2010) (regarding File No. SR-FINRA-2010-029).

FINRA believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act,⁹ which requires, among other things, that FINRA rules must be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. FINRA believes the proposed rule change will provide greater clarity to members and the public regarding FINRA's rules.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

FINRA does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission</u>
Action

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹⁰ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹¹

15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 780–3(b)(6).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number
 SR-FINRA-2010-060 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary,
 Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-FINRA-2010-060. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet website (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed

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with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of FINRA. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-FINRA-2010-060 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. ¹²

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

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