

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-80105; File No. SR-FINRA-2017-004)

February 24, 2017

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Update Rule 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 February 17, 2017, 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, II, and III 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. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of the Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

FINRA is proposing to update cross-references and make other non-substantive changes within FINRA rules, due in part to the adoption of a new consolidated FINRA rule.

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

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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

1. Purpose

FINRA has been developing a consolidated rulebook ("Consolidated FINRA Rulebook").⁴ 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 changes in the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook.

The proposed rule change would make some of those changes, as well as other non-substantive changes unrelated to the adoption of rules in the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook.

First, the proposed rule change would update rule cross-references to reflect the adoption of FINRA Rule 3210 (Accounts At Other Broker-Dealers and Financial Institutions), a new

⁴ 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).

consolidated rule addressing accounts opened or established by associated persons of members at firms other than the firm with which they are associated. The SEC approved the new rule on April 7, 2016. As part of that rule filing, FINRA also deleted in their entirety NASD Rule 3050, Incorporated NYSE Rules 407, 407A, and Incorporated NYSE Rule Interpretation 407.⁵ Rule 3210 will be implemented on April 3, 2017. As such, the proposed rule change would update references to the new rule number in FINRA Rules 0150 (Application of Rules to Exempted Securities Except Municipal Securities), 2150 (Improper Use of Customers' Securities or Funds; Prohibition Against Guarantees and Sharing in Accounts), 3110 (Supervision), 3280 (Private Securities Transactions of an Associated Person), and 6630 (Applicability of FINRA Rules to Securities Previously Designated as PORTAL Securities). Also, the proposed rule change would update the reference to Incorporated NYSE Rule 407 in FINRA Rule 9217 (Violations Appropriate for Disposition Under Plan Pursuant to SEA Rule 19d-1(c)(2)), given that, as explained more fully in SR-FINRA-2015-029, new FINRA Rule 3210 is the consolidated successor to the NYSE rule.⁶

Furthermore, the proposed rule change would make technical changes to FINRA Rules 5210 (Publication of Transactions and Quotations)⁷ and 6750 (Dissemination of Transaction Information)⁸ to reflect FINRA Manual style convention changes.

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 77550 (April 7, 2016), 81 FR 21924 (April 13, 2016) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2015-029).

⁶ See supra note 5. In addition, current FINRA Rule 9217 includes reference to Incorporated NYSE Rule 407A. Such reference would be deleted pursuant to the rule change. As explained more fully in SR-FINRA-2015-029, FINRA deleted Incorporated NYSE Rule 407A because that rule is superseded by FINRA Rule 3210.

⁷ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 79361 (November 21, 2016), 81 FR 85650 (November 28, 2016) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of File No. SR-FINRA-2016-043).

FINRA has filed the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness. The implementation date for the changes to FINRA Rule 6750 will be March 20, 2017, to coincide with the implementation date of earlier changes to the rule.⁹ The implementation date for the proposed changes to FINRA Rules 0150, 2150, 3110, 3280, 5210, 6630 and 9217 will be April 3, 2017.

2. Statutory Basis

FINRA believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act,¹⁰ 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. The proposed rule change brings clarity and consistency to FINRA rules without adding any burden on firms.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

⁸ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 78925 (September 23, 2016), 81 FR 67023 (September 29, 2016) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2016-023).

⁹ See supra note 8 for additional detail.

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78o-3(b)(6).

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission 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 Act¹¹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹²

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. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

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 rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-FINRA-2017-004 on the subject line.

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

Paper comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-FINRA-2017-004. 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 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 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the 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-2017-004, 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.¹³

Robert W. Errett
Deputy Secretary

¹³ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).