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**EXHIBIT 5** 

Deleted text is [bracketed]. New text is <u>underlined</u>.

Rules of Nasdaq BX

\* \* \* \* \*

1000. Membership, Registration and Qualification Requirements Membership, Registration and Qualification Requirements

Series 1000 of the Rules of the Nasdaq Stock Market, LLC ("Nasdaq"), as such rules may be in effect from time to time (the "Nasdag Rule 1000 Series"), are hereby incorporated by reference into this Nasdaq BX Rule 1000 Series (other than Nasdag Rules 1031, 1050, 1090, 1130, 1150, 1160, and 1170), and are thus Nasdag BX Rules and thereby applicable to Nasdaq BX Members, Associated Persons, and other persons subject to the Exchange's jurisdiction. Nasdag BX Members, Associated Persons, and other persons subject to the Exchange's jurisdiction shall comply with the Nasdaq Rule 1000 Series as though such rules were fully set forth herein. All defined terms, including any variations thereof, contained in the Nasdaq Rule 1000 Series shall be read to refer to the Nasdaq BX-related meaning of such term. The defined terms "Exchange" or "Nasdaq" shall be read to refer to the Nasdaq BX Exchange; "Rule" or "Exchange Rule" shall be read to refer to the Exchange Rules; the defined term "Applicant" in the Nasdaq Rule 1000 Series shall be read to refer to an Applicant to the Nasdaq BX Exchange; the defined terms "Board" or "Exchange Board" in the Nasdaq Rule 1000 Series shall be read to refer to the Nasdaq BX Board of Directors; the defined term "Director" in the Nasdaq Rule 1000 Series shall be read to refer to a Director of the Board of the Nasdag BX Exchange; the defined term "Exchange Review Council" in the Nasdaq Rule 1000 Series shall be read to refer to the Nasdaq BX Exchange Review Council; the defined term "Subcommittee" in the Nasdaq Rule 1000 Series shall be read to refer to a Subcommittee of the Nasdaq BX Exchange Review Council; the defined term "Interested Staff" in the Nasdaq Rule 1000 Series shall be read to refer to Interested Staff of Nasdag BX; the defined term "Member" in the Nasdag Rule 1000 Series shall be read to refer to a Nasdag BX Member; the defined term "Associated Person" shall be read to refer to a Nasdaq BX Associated Person; the defined terms "Exchange Membership Department" or "Membership Department" shall be read to refer to the Nasdaq BX Membership Department; and the defined term "Exchange Regulation Department" shall be read to refer to the Nasdaq BX **Regulation Department.** 

Additionally, cross references in the Nasdaq Rule 1000 Series to "Rule 0120" shall refer to Nasdaq BX Rule 0120, cross references in the Nasdaq Rule 1000 Series to Rule 3010 shall refer to Nasdaq BX Rule 3010; cross references in the Nasdaq Rule 1000 Series to Rule 3011 shall refer to Nasdaq BX Rule 3011; and cross references

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# to "General 4, Section 1.1200 Series" shall be read to refer to the Nasdaq BX Rule 1200 Series.

## [1001. FINRA Regulatory Contract

The Exchange and FINRA are parties to the FINRA Regulatory Contract, pursuant to which FINRA has agreed to perform certain functions described in the Rule 1000 Series and the Rule 1200 Series on behalf of the Exchange. Equity Rules that refer to the Regulation Department, Regulation Department staff, Exchange staff, and Exchange departments should be understood as also referring to FINRA staff and FINRA departments acting on behalf of the Exchange pursuant to the FINRA Regulatory Contract.

Notwithstanding the fact that the Exchange has entered into the FINRA Regulatory Contract with FINRA to perform some of the Exchange's functions, the Exchange shall retain ultimate legal responsibility for, and control of, such functions. In addition, the Exchange has incorporated by reference certain NASD rules. Exchange members shall comply with these rules and interpretations as if such rules and interpretations were part of the Equity Rules.

FINRA is in the process of consolidating certain NASD rules into a new FINRA rulebook. If an NASD rule that is incorporated by reference in a rule of the Exchange is transferred into the FINRA rulebook, then the Exchange rule shall be construed to require Exchange members to comply with the FINRA rule corresponding to the NASD rule (regardless of whether such rule is renumbered or amended) as if such rule were part of the Rules of the Exchange.]

#### [1002. Qualifications of Exchange Members and Associated Persons

- (a) Persons Eligible to Become Exchange Members and Associated Persons of Exchange Members.
- (1) Any registered broker or dealer shall be eligible for membership in the Exchange, except such registered brokers or dealers as are excluded under paragraph (b).
- (2) Any person shall be eligible to become an associated person of an Exchange member, except such persons as are excluded under paragraph (b).
- (b) Ineligibility of Certain Persons for Membership or Association
- (1) Subject to such exceptions as may be explicitly provided elsewhere in the Equity Rules, no registered broker or dealer shall be admitted to membership, and no Exchange member shall be continued in membership, if such broker, dealer, or Exchange member fails or ceases to satisfy the qualification requirements established by the Equity Rules, or if such broker, dealer, or Exchange member is or becomes subject to a statutory disqualification, or if such broker, dealer, or Exchange member fails to file such forms as the Exchange may require in accordance with such process as the Exchange may prescribe.

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(2) Subject to such exceptions as may be explicitly provided elsewhere in the Equity Rules, no person shall become associated with an Exchange member, continue to be associated with an Exchange member, or transfer association to another Exchange member, if such person fails or ceases to satisfy the qualification requirements established by the Equity Rules, or if such person is or becomes subject to a statutory disqualification; and no broker or dealer shall be admitted to membership, and no Exchange member shall be continued in membership, if any person associated with it is ineligible to be an associated person under this subsection.

- (c) Payment of Fees, Dues, Assessments, and Other Charges by Members and Associated Persons
- (1) Fees, dues, assessments, and other charges shall be called and payable by members and associated persons as determined by the Exchange from time to time.
- (2) Each Exchange member or associated person shall promptly furnish all information or reports requested by the Exchange in connection with the determination of the amount of fees, dues, assessments, or other charges owed.
- (d) Reinstatement of Membership or Registration. Any membership or registration suspended or canceled under the Equity Rules may be reinstated by the Exchange upon such terms and conditions as are permitted under the Act and the Equity Rules; provided, however, that any applicant for reinstatement of membership or registration shall possess the qualifications required for membership or registration in the Exchange.
- (e) Membership in a Registered Securities Association or Another Registered Exchange. As a condition to maintaining membership in the Exchange, members shall at all times maintain membership in a registered securities association that is not registered solely under Section 15A(k) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or another registered exchange that is not registered solely under Section 6(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Exchange members that transact business with customers shall at all times be members of FINRA.
- (f) Transition Rules for Members of the Exchange Prior to its Acquisition by Nasdaq
- (1) A registered broker-dealer that was a member organization in good standing of the Exchange on the date immediately prior to the acquisition of the Exchange by Nasdaq, Inc. (the "Nasdaq Acquisition") shall be eligible for continued membership in the Exchange following the Nasdaq Acquisition if such member organization satisfies the requirements for continued membership under the Rule 1000 Series. Such member organizations shall be required to sign a revised membership agreement in the form adopted by the Exchange.
- (2) A person registered with the Exchange as an associated person of a broker-dealer in a category of registration recognized under the Rule 1000 Series shall be eligible for

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continued registration with the Exchange following the Nasdaq Acquisition if such person satisfies the requirements for continued registration under the Rule 1000 Series.]

[IM-1002-1. Filing of Misleading Information as to Membership or Registration No member or person associated with a member shall file with the Exchange 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.]

#### [IM-1002-4. Branch Offices and Offices of Supervisory Jurisdiction

Each member is under a duty to insure that its membership application with the Exchange is kept current at all times by supplementary amendments to its original application and that any offices other than the main office are properly designated and registered, if required, with the Exchange.

Each member must designate to the Exchange those offices of supervisory jurisdiction, including the main office, and must register those offices which are deemed to be branch offices in accordance with the standards set forth in Equity Rule 3010.

Exchange members that are also FINRA members shall be deemed to have complied with the provisions of Equity IM-1002-4 relating to designation of offices of supervisory jurisdiction and branch offices if they are in compliance with NASD IM-1000-4 and Article IV, Section 8 of the NASD By-Laws. Exchange Members that are FINRA members shall comply with NASD IM-1000-4 and Article IV, Section 8 of the NASD By-Laws as if such Rules were part of the Rules of the Exchange. Therefore, Exchange members are complying with the provisions of Equity IM-1002-4 relating to designation of offices or supervisory jurisdiction and branch offices by complying with NASD IM-1000-4 and Article IV, Section 8 of the NASD By-Laws as written, including, for example, filing requirements and notifications. In addition, functions performed by FINRA, FINRA departments, and FINRA staff under Equity IM-1002-4 are being performed by FINRA on behalf of the Exchange.

FINRA is in the process of consolidating certain NASD rules into a new FINRA rulebook. If the provisions of NASD IM-1000-4 or Article IV, Section 8 of the NASD By-Laws are transferred into the FINRA rulebook, then Equity Rule IM-1002-4 shall be construed to require Exchange members to comply with the FINRA rule corresponding to NASD IM-1000-4 or Article IV, Section 8 of the NASD By-Laws (regardless of whether such rules are renumbered or amended) as if such rules were part of the Rules of the Exchange.

Exchange members that are not FINRA members shall designate offices of supervisory jurisdiction and branch offices by submitting to the Exchange a written filing in such form as the Exchange may prescribe.]

#### [1010. Membership Proceedings

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#### 1011. Definitions

Unless otherwise provided, terms used in the Rule 1000 Series and the Rule 1200 Series shall have the meaning as defined in Rule 0120.

## (a) "Applicant"

The term "Applicant" means a person that applies for membership in the Exchange under Rule 1013 or a member that files an application for approval of a change in ownership, control, or business operations under Rule 1017.

#### (b) "Associated Person"

The term "Associated Person" means any partner, officer, director, or branch manager of an Exchange member or Applicant (or person occupying a similar status or performing similar functions), any person directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by, or under common control with such Exchange member or Applicant, or any employee of such Exchange member or Applicant, except that any person associated with an Exchange member or Applicant whose functions are solely clerical or ministerial shall not be included in the meaning of such term for purposes of the Equity Rules.

#### (c) "Department"

The term "Department" means the Membership Department located within the Exchange's Regulation Department.

#### (d) "Director"

The term "Director" means a member of the Exchange Board.

#### (e) "Interested Staff"

The term "Interested Staff" means an employee who directly participates in a decision under Rule 1014 or 1017, an employee who directly supervises an employee with respect to such decision, an employee who conducted an investigation or examination of a member that files an application under Rule 1017, and the head of the Department.

#### (f) "investment banking or securities business"

The term "investment banking or securities business" means the business, carried on by a broker or dealer, of underwriting or distributing issues of securities, or of purchasing securities and offering the same for sale as a dealer, or of purchasing and selling securities upon the order and for the account of others.

## (g) "material change in business operations"

The term "material change in business operations" includes, but is not limited to:

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- (1) removing or modifying a membership agreement restriction;
- (2)(A) acting as a dealer for the first time; or
- (**B**) market making for the first time on Nasdaq BX; provided, however, that market making for the first time on Nasdaq BX will not be considered a material change in business operations if the member's market making has previously been approved by FINRA under NASD Rule 1017 or Nasdaq under Nasdaq Rule 1017;
- (3) adding business activities that require a higher minimum net capital under SEC Rule 15c3-1; and
- (4) adding business activities that would cause a proprietary trading firm no longer to meet the definition of that term contained in this rule.
- (h) "Exchange Board"

The term "Exchange Board" means the Board of Directors of the Exchange.

(i) "principal place of business"

The term "principal place of business" means the executive office from which the sole proprietor or the officers, partners, or managers of the Applicant direct, control, and coordinate the activities of the Applicant, unless the Department determines that the principal place of business is where: (1) the largest number of Associated Persons of the Applicant are located; or (2) the books and records necessary to provide information and data to operate the business and comply with applicable rules are located.

(j) "registered broker or dealer"

The term "registered broker or dealer" means any registered broker or dealer, as defined in Section 3(a)(48) of the Act, that is registered with the Commission under the Act.

(k) "Representative"

The term "Representative" shall have the meaning assigned to it in Rule 1220(b)(1). All Representatives of Exchange Members are required to be registered with the Exchange, and Representatives that are so registered are referred to herein as "Registered Representatives."

(I) "sales practice event

The term "sales practice event" means any customer complaint, arbitration, or civil litigation that has been reported to the Central Registration Depository, currently is required to be reported to the Central Registration Depository, or otherwise has been reported to the Exchange.

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## (m) "Subcommittee"

The term "Subcommittee" means a subcommittee of the Exchange Review Council that is constituted pursuant to Rule 1015 to conduct a review of a Department decision issued under the Rule 1010 Series.

(n) "statutory disqualification"

The term "statutory disqualification" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3(a)(39) of the Act.

(o) "Proprietary Trading Firm"

The term "proprietary trading firm" means an Applicant with the following characteristics:

- (1) the Applicant is not required by Section 15(b)(8) of the Act to become a FINRA member but is a member of another registered securities exchange not registered solely under Section 6(g) of the Act;
- (2) all funds used or proposed to be used by the Applicant for trading are the Applicant's own capital, traded through the Applicant's own accounts;
- (3) the Applicant does not, and will not have "customers," as that term is defined in Equity Rule 0120(g); and
- (4) all Principals and Representatives of the Applicant acting or to be acting in the capacity of a trader must be owners of, employees of, or contractors to the Applicant.]

#### [1012. General Provisions

- (a) Filing by Applicant or Service by the Exchange
- (1) An Applicant may file an application or any document or information requested under the Equity Rule 1010 Series by first-class mail, overnight courier, or hand delivery. If the Department and the Applicant agree, the Applicant also may file a requested document or information by facsimile.
- (2) The Exchange shall serve a notice or decision issued under the Rule 1010 Series by first-class mail on the Applicant or its counsel, unless a Rule specifies a different method of service.
- (3) Service by the Exchange or filing by an Applicant shall be deemed complete as follows:
- (A) Service or filing by first-class mail shall be deemed complete on the date of postmark;

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**(B)** Service or filing by overnight courier shall be deemed complete on the date of delivery to the overnight courier as specified in the airbill;

- (C) Service or filing by hand delivery shall be deemed complete on the date of receipt as evidenced by a date stamp; and
- **(D)** Service or filing by facsimile shall be deemed complete on the date specified in the document and on the written confirmation of transmission.

## (b) Lapse of Application

- (1) Absent a showing of good cause, an application filed under Rule 1013 or 1017 shall lapse if an Applicant fails to:
- (A) respond fully within 15 business days after service of an initial or subsequent written request for information or documents under Rule 1013, within 30 days after service of an initial or subsequent written request for information or documents under Rule 1017, or within such other time period agreed to by the Department and the Applicant;
- **(B)** appear at or otherwise participate in a scheduled membership interview pursuant to Rule 1013(b) or 1017(f), if required; or
- (C) file an executed membership agreement under Rule 1014(d) or 1017(g)(4) within 25 days after service of the agreement, or within such other period agreed to by the Department and the Applicant.
- (2) If an Applicant wishes to continue to seek membership or approval of a change in ownership, control, or business operations, then the Applicant shall be required to submit a new application under Rule 1013 or 1017, respectively, and any required fee. The Exchange shall not refund any fee for a lapsed application.

## (c) Ex Parte Communications

- (1) The prohibitions against ex parte communications shall become effective when Exchange staff has knowledge that an Applicant intends to file a written request for review by the Exchange Review Council under Rule 1015.
- (2) Unless on notice and opportunity for an Applicant and Interested Staff to participate, or to the extent required for the disposition of ex parte matters as authorized by the Equity Rules:
- (A) an Applicant, a counsel or representative of an Applicant, or an Interested Staff shall not make or knowingly cause to be made an ex parte communication relevant to the merits of a membership proceeding under the Rule 1010 Series to a Director, a member of the Exchange Review Council or a Subcommittee thereof, or an Exchange employee

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who is participating or advising in a decision of such a person with respect to that proceeding; and

- **(B)** a Director, a member of the Exchange Review Council or a Subcommittee thereof, or an Exchange employee who is participating or advising in the decision of such a person with respect to a membership proceeding shall not make or knowingly cause to be made to an Applicant, a counsel or representative of the Applicant, or an Interested Staff an exparte communication relevant to the merits of that proceeding.
- (3) A Director, a member of the Exchange Review Council or a Subcommittee thereof, or an Exchange employee participating or advising in the decision of such a person, who receives, makes, or knowingly causes to be made a communication prohibited by this paragraph shall place in the record of the membership proceeding:
- (A) all such written communications;
- (B) memoranda stating the substance of all such oral communications; and
- (C) all written responses and memoranda stating the substance of all oral responses to all such communications.

## (d) Recusal or Disqualification

A Director or a member of the Exchange Review Council or a Subcommittee thereof shall not participate in a matter governed by the Rule 1010 Series as to which that person has a conflict of interest or bias, or if circumstances otherwise exist where his or her fairness might reasonably be questioned. In such a case, the person shall recuse himself or shall be disqualified as follows:

- (1) The Chair of the Exchange Board shall have authority to direct the disqualification of a Director, and a majority of the Directors of the Exchange Board excluding the Chair shall have authority to direct the disqualification of the Chair of the Exchange Board.
- (2) The Chair of the Exchange Review Council shall have authority to direct the disqualification of a member of the Exchange Review Council or a member of a Subcommittee appointed pursuant to Rule 1015, and the Vice Chair of the Exchange Review Council shall have authority to direct the disqualification of the Chair of the Exchange Review Council.

#### (e) Computation of Time

#### (1) Calendar Day

In the Rule 1010 Series, "day" means calendar day, unless otherwise specified.

#### (2) Formula

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In computing a period of time under the Rule 1010 Series, the day of the act, event, default, or lapse from which the period of time designated begins to run shall not be included. The last day of the period so computed shall be included unless it is a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, in which event the period runs until the end of the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday. Intermediate Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays shall be excluded from the computation when the period prescribed is ten days or less or when the term "business day" is used.

## (f) Similarity of Membership Names

- (1) No person or firm shall be admitted to or continued in membership in the Exchange if such person or firm has a name that is identical to the name of another Exchange member appearing in the membership role of the Exchange or a name so similar to any such name as to tend to confuse or mislead.
- (2) No Exchange member may change its name without prior approval of the Exchange.

# (g) Resignation of Exchange Members

Membership in the Exchange may be voluntarily terminated only by formal resignation. Resignations of Exchange members must be filed via electronic process or such other process as the Exchange may prescribe and addressed to the Exchange. Any Exchange member may resign from the Exchange at any time. Such resignation shall not take effect until 30 days after receipt thereof by the Exchange and until all indebtedness due the Exchange from such Exchange member shall have been paid in full and so long as any complaint or action is pending against the Exchange member under the Rules of the Exchange. The Exchange, however, may in its discretion declare a resignation effective at any time.

#### (h) Reserved

#### (i) Transfer and Termination of Membership

- (1) Except as provided hereinafter, no member of the Exchange may transfer its membership or any right arising therefrom; the membership of a corporation, partnership, or any other business organization that is a member of the Exchange shall terminate upon its liquidation, dissolution, or winding up; and the membership of a sole proprietorship that is an Exchange member shall terminate at death, provided that all obligations of membership under the Rules of the Exchange have been fulfilled.
- (2) The consolidation, reorganization, merger, change of name, or similar change in any corporate member of the Exchange shall not terminate the membership of such corporate member, provided that the Exchange member or surviving corporation, if any, shall be deemed a successor to the business of the corporate Exchange member, and the Exchange member or the surviving organization shall continue in the investment banking or securities business, and shall possess the qualifications for membership in the Exchange.

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The death, change of name, withdrawal of any partner, the addition of any new partner, reorganization, consolidation, or any change in the legal structure of a partnership member of the Exchange shall not terminate the membership of such partnership member, provided that the Exchange member or surviving organization, if any, shall be deemed a successor to the business of the partnership member, and the Exchange member or surviving organization shall possess the qualifications for membership in the Exchange. If the business of any predecessor Exchange member is to be carried on by an organization deemed to be a successor organization by the Exchange, the membership of such predecessor Exchange member shall be extended to the successor organization subject to the notice and application requirements of the Equity Rules and the right of the Exchange to place restrictions on the successor organization pursuant to the Equity Rules; otherwise, any surviving organization shall be required to satisfy all of the membership application requirements of the Equity Rules.

#### (j) Registration of Branch Offices.

- (1) Each branch office of a member of the Exchange shall be registered with and listed upon the membership roll of the Exchange, and shall pay such dues, assessments, and other charges as shall be fixed from time to time under the Equity Rules.
- (2) Each member of the Exchange shall promptly advise the Exchange via electronic process or such other process as the Exchange may prescribe of the opening, closing, relocation, change in designated supervisor, or change in designated activities of any branch office of such Exchange member not later than 30 days after the effective date of such change.
- (A) Exchange members that are also FINRA members shall be deemed to have complied with Equity Rule 1012(j) if they are in compliance with NASD IM-1000-4 and Article IV, Section 8 of the NASD By-Laws. Exchange Members that are FINRA members shall comply with NASD IM-1000-4 and Article IV, Section 8 of the NASD By-Laws as if such Rule were part of the Rules of the Exchange. The Exchange and FINRA are parties to the Regulatory Contract pursuant to which FINRA has agreed to perform certain functions on behalf of the Exchange. Therefore, Exchange members are complying with Equity Rule 1012(j) by complying with NASD IM-1000-4 and Article IV, Section 8 of the NASD By-Laws as written, including, for example, filing requirements and notifications. In addition, functions performed by FINRA, FINRA departments, and FINRA staff under Equity Rule 1012(j) are being performed by FINRA on behalf of the Exchange.

FINRA is in the process of consolidating certain NASD rules into a new FINRA rulebook. If the provisions of NASD IM-1000-4 or Article IV, Section 8 of the NASD By-Laws are transferred into the FINRA rulebook, then Equity Rule 1012(j) shall be construed to require Exchange members to comply with the FINRA rule corresponding to NASD IM-1000-4 or Article IV, Section 8 of the NASD By-Laws (regardless of whether such rules are renumbered or amended) as if such rules were part of the Rules of the Exchange.

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**(B)** Exchange members that are not FINRA members shall promptly advise the Exchange of the opening, closing, relocation, change in designated supervisor, or change in designated activities of any branch office of such Exchange member by submitting a written filing to the Exchange in such form as the Exchange may prescribe.]

## [1013. New Member Application

- (a) Filing of Application
- (1) Where to File; Contents

An Applicant for Exchange membership shall file its application with the Department in accordance with this Rule. An Applicant shall submit an application that includes:

- (A) a copy of the Applicant's current Form BD;
- (**B**) an original Exchange-approved fingerprint card for each Associated Person who will be subject to SEC Rule 17f-2 and for whom a fingerprint card has not been filed with another self-regulatory organization;
- (C) a check for such fee as may be required under the Equity Rules;
- **(D)** a description of the Applicant's proposed trading activities on the Exchange, such as the types of securities it will trade, whether it will be a market maker, an order entry firm, and/or engage in block trading activities, and the extent to which the Applicant is conducting such activities as a member of other SRO(s);
- (E) a copy of the Applicant's most recent audited financial statements and a description of any material changes in the Applicant's financial condition since the date of the financial statements;
- (**F**) an organizational chart;
- (G) the intended location of the Applicant's principal place of business and all other offices, if any, whether or not such offices would be required to be registered under the Equity Rules, and the names of the persons who will be in charge of each office;
- (H) a description of the communications and operational systems the Applicant will employ to conduct business and the plans and procedures the Applicant will employ to ensure business continuity, including: system capacity to handle the anticipated level of usage; contingency plans in the event of systems or other technological or communications problems or failures; system redundancies; disaster recovery plans; and system security;
- (I) a copy of any decision or order by a federal or state authority or self-regulatory organization taking permanent or temporary adverse action with respect to a registration or licensing determination regarding the Applicant or an Associated Person;

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(J) a statement indicating whether the Applicant is currently, or has been in the last ten years, the subject of any investigation or disciplinary proceeding conducted by any self-regulatory organization, the foreign equivalent of a self-regulatory organization, a foreign or international securities exchange, a contract market designated pursuant to the Commodity Exchange Act or any substantially equivalent foreign statute or regulation, a futures association registered under the Commodity Exchange Act or any substantially similar foreign statute or regulation, the Commission or any other "appropriate regulatory agency" (as defined in the Act), the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, or any state financial regulatory agency regarding the Applicant's activities that has not been reported to the Central Registration Depository, together with all relevant details, including any sanctions imposed;

- (K) a statement indicating whether any person listed on Schedule A of the Applicant's Form BD is currently, or has been in the last ten years, the subject of any investigation or disciplinary proceeding conducted by any self-regulatory organization, the foreign equivalent of a self-regulatory organization, a foreign or international securities exchange, a contract market designated pursuant to the Commodity Exchange Act or any substantially equivalent foreign statute or regulation, a futures association registered under the Commodity Exchange Act or any substantially similar foreign statute or regulation, the Commission or any other "appropriate regulatory agency", the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, or any state financial regulatory agency regarding the Applicant's activities that has not been reported to the Central Registration Depository, together with all relevant details, including any sanctions imposed;
- (L) a copy of any contract or agreement with another broker-dealer, a bank, a clearing entity, a service bureau or a similar entity to provide the Applicant with services regarding the execution or clearance and settlement of transactions effected on the Exchange;
- (M) if the Applicant proposes to make markets on the Exchange, a description of the source and amount of Applicant's capital to support its market making activities on the Exchange, and the source of any additional capital that may become necessary;
- (N) a description of the financial controls to be employed by the Applicant with respect to Equity Rule 3011;
- (O) a copy of the Applicant's written supervisory procedures with respect to the activities identified in paragraph (a)(1)(D);
- (P) a list of the persons conducting the Applicant's market making and other trading activities, and a list of the persons responsible for such persons' supervision, together with the CRD number (if applicable) or a copy of Form U-4 for each such person;
- (Q) if not previously provided to FINRA, a FINRA Entitlement Program Agreement and Terms of Use and an Account Administration Entitlement Form;

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(**R**) a copy of the Applicant's most recent "FOCUS Report" (Form X-17A-5) filed with the SEC pursuant to SEC Rule 17a-5 (the most current Parts I, II, and III, as applicable);

- (S) all examination reports and corresponding responses regarding the Applicant for the previous two years from the self-regulatory organizations of which it is a member;
- (T) an agreement to comply with the federal securities laws, the rules and regulations thereunder, the Rules of the Exchange, and all rulings, orders, directions, and decisions issued and sanctions imposed under the Rules of the Exchange;
- (U) an agreement to pay such dues, assessments, and other charges in the manner and amount as from time to time shall be fixed pursuant to the Rules of the Exchange; and
- (V) such other reasonable information with respect to the applicant as the Exchange may require.

Each Applicant and Exchange member shall ensure that its membership application with the Exchange is kept current at all times by supplementary amendments via electronic process or such other process as the Exchange may prescribe. Such amendments to the application shall be filed with the Exchange not later than 15 business days after the applicant or the Exchange member knew or should have known of the facts or circumstances giving rise to the need for the amendment. The Applicant shall promptly notify the Department in writing of any material adverse change in its financial condition.

## (2) Uniform Registration Forms

Upon approval of the Applicant's Account Administrator Entitlement Form, the Applicant shall submit its Forms U4 for each Associated Person who is required to be registered under the Rules, any amendments to its Forms BD or U4, and any Form U5 electronically via Web CRD.

#### (3) Rejection of Application That Is Not Substantially Complete

If the Department determines within 15 business days after the filing of an application that the application is not substantially complete, the Department may reject the application and deem it not to have been filed. In such case, within the 15 day period, the Department shall serve a written notice on the Applicant of the Department's determination and the reasons therefor. The Exchange shall refund the application fees, if any, in accordance with the provisions of the Equity Rules governing such fees. If the Applicant determines to continue to seek membership, the Applicant shall submit a new application and any required fee under this Rule.

## (4) Additional Documents Or Information

Within 15 business days after the filing of an application, the Department shall serve an initial request for any additional information or documents necessary to render a decision

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on the application. The Department may serve subsequent requests for additional information or documents at any time during the membership application process.

Unless otherwise agreed by the Department and the Applicant, the Applicant shall file any additional information and documents with the Department within 15 business days after service of the Department's request.

# (5) Applicants That Are Members of an Association or Another Exchange

- (A) Applicants for BX membership that are also simultaneously applying for FINRA membership may file one application with FINRA in compliance with the NASD Rule 1010 Series; however, the Exchange will not take action on applicants that are members of another exchange until the applicant is an active member of FINRA.
- **(B)** Applicants that are members of another registered national securities exchange or association must submit a complete application form containing all of the required items of information listed in Rule 1013(a)(1).
- (C) An applicant that is an approved FINRA, Nasdaq or Nasdaq PHLX LLC ("PHLX") member shall have the option to apply to become a member of the Exchange and to register with the Exchange all associated persons of the firm whose registrations with the firm are approved with FINRA, Nasdaq or PHLX in categories recognized by the Rules of the Exchange through an expedited process by submitting a Waive-in Membership Application Form and a BX Membership Agreement.

## (b) Membership Interview

#### (1) Optional Interview

Before the Department serves its decision on an application for new membership in the Exchange, the Department may conduct a membership interview with a representative or representatives of the Applicant if the Department determines that an interview is necessary to clarify aspects of an application.

#### (2) Service of Notice

At least seven days before a membership interview, the Department shall serve on the Applicant a written notice that specifies the date and time of the interview and the representative or representatives of the Applicant who are required to participate in the interview. The Department shall serve the notice by facsimile or overnight courier. The Applicant and the Department may agree to a shorter or longer period for notice or a different method of service under this subparagraph.

#### **(3) Time**

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Unless the Department directs otherwise for good cause shown, any membership interview shall be scheduled to occur within 60 days after the filing of an application or within 15 business days after the filing of all additional information or documents requested, whichever is later.

#### (4) Place

The membership interview shall be conducted in a location specified by the Exchange.

#### (5) Review of Standards for Admission

During any membership interview, the Department shall review the application and the bases for denial of membership with the Applicant's representative or representatives.

## (6) Information From Other Sources

During any membership interview, the Department shall provide to the Applicant's representative or representatives any information or document that the Department has obtained from the Central Registration Depository or a source other than the Applicant and upon which the Department intends to base its decision under Rule 1014. If the Department does not conduct a membership interview, receives such information or document after the membership interview, or decides to base its decision on such information after the membership interview, the Department shall promptly serve the information or document and an explanation thereof on the Applicant. The Applicant may submit such materials as it may deem relevant with respect to such information or document at any time prior to the service of a decision under Rule 1014.]

#### [1014. Department Decision

#### (a) Bases for Denial of Membership

After considering the completed application, other information and documents provided by the Applicant, other information and documents obtained by the Department, and the public interest and the protection of investors, the Department shall approve an application under Rules 1013 or 1017 by an Applicant that is not, and is not required to become, a FINRA member unless the Department determines that such information or documents provide a basis for denial of membership:

- (1) The Department may deny (or condition) approval of an Applicant for the same reasons that the Securities and Exchange Commission may deny or revoke a broker or dealer registration and for those reasons required or allowed under the Act;
- (2) Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Department may deny (or condition) approval of an Applicant when the Applicant directly or indirectly:

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(A) is unable to satisfactorily demonstrate its present capacity to adhere to all applicable Exchange and Commission policies, rules, and regulations, including, without limitation, those concerning recordkeeping, reporting, finance, and trading procedures;

- (B) has previously violated, and there is a reasonable likelihood such Applicant will again engage in acts or practices violative of, any applicable Exchange or Commission policies, rules and regulations, including, without limitation, those concerning record-keeping, reporting, finance and trading procedures or those rules of other self-regulatory organizations of which such Applicant is or was a member;
- (C) has engaged, and there is a reasonable likelihood such Applicant will again engage, in acts or practices inconsistent with just and equitable principles of trade;
- (**D**) is not in compliance with the SEC's net capital rule (17 C.F.R. 240.15c3-1), or has financial difficulties involving an amount that is more than 5% of the Applicant's net worth;
- (E) has been itself, or is the successor to an entity which has been subject to any bankruptcy proceeding, receivership or arrangement for the benefit of creditors within the past three years;
- (**F**) has engaged in an established pattern of failure to pay just debts;
- (G) does not have such licenses and registrations as are required by governmental authorities and self-regulatory organizations; or
- (H) is unable satisfactorily to demonstrate reasonably adequate systems capacity and capability.
- (3) The Department will not approve an Applicant unless the Applicant is a member of another registered securities exchange or association that is not registered solely under Section 6(g) or Section 15A(k) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. An Applicant that will transact business with the public must be a member of FINRA.

## (b) Granting or Denying Application

- (1) Unless the Department determines that there is a basis for denying (or conditioning) approval of the application under the bases for denial in paragraph (a), the Department shall approve the application for membership. If the Department does not approve the application, the Department shall:
- (A) grant the application subject to one or more restrictions reasonably designed to address a specific financial, operational, supervisory, disciplinary, investor protection, or other regulatory concern; or
- **(B)** deny the application.

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#### (c) Decision

## (1) Time

The Department shall serve a written decision on the membership application within 15 business days after the conclusion of the membership interview (if any) or after the filing of all required information or documents, whichever is later.

#### (2) Content

If the Department denies the application or grants the application subject to restrictions, the decision shall explain in detail the reason for denial or restriction, referencing the applicable bases in paragraph (a).

## (3) Failure to Serve Decision

If the Department fails to serve a decision within 90 days after the filing of an application (or 120 days if the Department has opted to conduct a membership interview) or such later date as the Department and the Applicant have agreed in writing, the Applicant may file a written request with the Exchange Board requesting that the Exchange Board direct the Department to serve a decision. Within seven days after the filing of such a request, the Exchange Board shall direct the Department to serve its written decision immediately or to show good cause for an extension of time. If the Department shows good cause for an extension of time, the Exchange Board may extend the 90-day (or 120-day) time limit by not more than 45 days.

#### (d) Submission of Membership Agreement

If the Department grants an application, with or without restriction, the Applicant's approval for membership shall be contingent upon the Applicant's filing of an executed written membership agreement, satisfactory to the Department, undertaking to:

- (1) abide by any restriction specified in the Department's decision; and
- (2) obtain the Department's approval of a change in ownership, control, or business operations pursuant to Rule 1017, including the modification or removal of a membership agreement restriction.

The Applicant shall not waive the right to file a written request for review under Rule 1015 by executing a membership agreement under this paragraph.

## (e) Service and Effectiveness of Decision

The Department shall serve its decision and the membership agreement on the Applicant in accordance with Rule 1012. The decision shall become effective upon service and shall

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remain in effect during the pendency of any review until a decision constituting final action of the Exchange is issued under Rule 1015 or 1016, unless otherwise directed by the Exchange Review Council, the Exchange Board, or the Commission.

#### (f) Effectiveness of Restriction

A restriction imposed under this Rule shall remain in effect and bind the Applicant and all successors to the ownership or control of the Applicant unless:

- (1) removed or modified by a decision constituting final action of the Exchange issued under Rule 1015, 1016, or 1017; or
- (2) stayed by the Exchange Review Council, the Exchange Board, or the Commission.

### (g) Final Action

Unless the Applicant files a written request for a review under Rule 1015, the Department's decision shall constitute final action by the Exchange.]

[1015. Review by the Exchange Review Council

## (a) Initiation of Review by Applicant

Within 25 days after service of a decision under Rule 1014 or 1017, an Applicant may file a written request for review with the Exchange Review Council. A request for review shall state with specificity why the Applicant believes that the Department's decision is inconsistent with the bases for denial set forth in Rule 1014, or otherwise should be set aside, and state whether a hearing is requested. The Applicant simultaneously shall file by first-class mail a copy of the request with the Department.

#### (b) Transmission of Documents

Within ten days after the filing of a request for review, the Department shall:

- (1) transmit to the Exchange Review Council copies of all documents that were considered in connection with the Department's decision and an index to the documents; and
- (2) serve on the Applicant a copy of such documents (other than those documents originally submitted by Applicant) and a copy of the index.

#### (c) Membership Application Docket

The Department shall promptly record in the Exchange's membership application docket each request for review filed with the Exchange Review Council under this Rule and each material subsequent event, filing, and change in the status of a membership proceeding.

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## (d) Appointment of Subcommittee

The Exchange Review Council or the Review Subcommittee defined in Rule 9120 shall appoint a Subcommittee to participate in the review. The Subcommittee shall be composed of two or more persons who shall be current or past members of the Exchange Review Council or former Directors.

#### (e) Powers of Subcommittee

If a hearing is requested, the Subcommittee shall conduct the hearing. If a hearing is not requested, the Subcommittee may serve a notice directing that a hearing be held. If a hearing is not requested or directed, the Subcommittee shall conduct its review on the basis of the record developed before the Department and any written submissions made by the Applicant or the Department in connection with the request for review.

## (f) Hearing

#### (1) Notice

If a hearing is requested or directed, the hearing shall be held within 45 days after the filing of the request with the Exchange Review Council or service of the notice by the Subcommittee. The Exchange Review Council shall serve written notice of the date and time of the hearing to the Applicant by facsimile or overnight courier not later than 14 days before the hearing.

## (2) Counsel

The Applicant and the Department may be represented by counsel at a hearing conducted pursuant to this Rule.

#### (3) Evidence

Formal rules of evidence shall not apply to a hearing under this Rule. Not later than five days before the hearing, the Applicant and the Department shall exchange copies of their proposed hearing exhibits and witness lists and provide copies of the same to the Exchange Review Council. If the Applicant or the Department fails to provide copies of its proposed hearing exhibits or witness list within such time, the Subcommittee shall exclude the evidence or witnesses from the proceeding, unless the Subcommittee determines that good cause is shown for failure to comply with the production date set forth in this subparagraph.

# (4) Transcript

The hearing shall be recorded and a transcript prepared by a court reporter. A transcript of the hearing shall be available for purchase from the court reporter at prescribed rates. The Applicant, the Department, or a witness may seek to correct the transcript. A

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proposed correction of the transcript shall be submitted to the Subcommittee within a reasonable period of time prescribed by the Subcommittee. Upon notice to the Applicant and the Department, the Subcommittee may direct the correction to the transcript as requested or sua sponte.

#### (g) Additional Information, Briefs

At any time during its consideration, the Subcommittee or the Exchange Review Council may direct the Applicant or the Department to file additional information or briefs. Any additional information or brief filed shall be provided to all parties before the Exchange Review Council renders its decision.

## (h) Abandonment of Request for Review

If an Applicant fails to specify the grounds for its request for review under Rule 1015(a)(1), appear at a hearing for which it has notice, or file information or briefs as directed, the Exchange Review Council or the Review Subcommittee may dismiss the request for review as abandoned, and the decision of the Department shall become the final action of the Exchange. Upon a showing of good cause, the Exchange Review Council or the Review Subcommittee may withdraw a dismissal entered pursuant to this paragraph.

#### (i) Subcommittee Recommendation

The Subcommittee shall present a recommended decision in writing to the Exchange Review Council within 60 days after the date of the hearing held pursuant to paragraph (f), and not later than seven days before the meeting of the Exchange Review Council at which the membership proceeding shall be considered.

#### (j) Decision

#### (1) Proposed Written Decision

After considering all matters presented in the review and the Subcommittee's recommended written decision, the Exchange Review Council may affirm, modify, or reverse the Department's decision or remand the membership proceeding with instructions. The Exchange Review Council shall prepare a proposed written decision pursuant to subparagraph (2).

#### (2) Contents

The decision shall include:

- (A) a description of the Department's decision, including its rationale;
- **(B)** a description of the principal issues raised in the review;

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- (C) a summary of the evidence on each issue; and
- (**D**) a statement whether the Department's decision is affirmed, modified, or reversed, and a rationale therefor that references the bases for denial in Rule 1014.

## (3) Issuance of Decision After Expiration of Call for Review Periods

The Exchange Review Council shall provide its proposed written decision to the Exchange Board. The Exchange Board may call the membership proceeding for review pursuant to Rule 1016. If the Exchange Board does not call the membership proceeding for review, the proposed written decision of the Exchange Review Council shall become final. The Exchange Review Council shall serve the Applicant with a written notice specifying the date on which the call for review period expired and stating that the final written decision will be served within 15 days after such date. The Exchange Review Council shall serve its final written decision within 15 days after the date on which the call for review period expired. The decision shall constitute the final action of the Exchange for purposes of SEC Rule 19d-3, unless the Exchange Review Council remands the membership proceeding.

#### (4) Failure to Issue Decision

If the Exchange Review Council fails to serve its final written decision within the time prescribed in subparagraph (3), the Applicant may file a written request with the Exchange Board requesting that the Exchange Board direct the Exchange Review Council to serve its decision immediately or to show good cause for an extension of time. Within seven days after the filing of such a request, the Board shall direct the Exchange Review Council to serve its written decision immediately or to show good cause for an extension of time. If the Exchange Review Council shows good cause for an extension of time, the Exchange Board may extend the 15-day time limit by not more than 15 days.]

[1016. Discretionary Review by the Exchange Board

## (a) Call for Review by Director

A Director may call a membership proceeding for review by the Exchange Board if the call for review is made within the period prescribed in paragraph (b).

#### (b) 15 Day Period; Waiver

A Director shall make his or her call for review at the next meeting of the Exchange Board that is at least 15 days after the date on which the Exchange Board receives the proposed written decision of the Exchange Review Council. By unanimous vote of the Exchange Board, the Exchange Board may shorten the period to less than 15 days. By an affirmative vote of the majority of the Exchange Board then in office, the Exchange Board may, during the 15 day period, vote to extend the period to more than 15 days.

#### (c) Review At Next Meeting

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If a Director calls a membership proceeding for review within the time prescribed in paragraph (b), the Exchange Board shall review the membership proceeding not later than the next meeting of the Exchange Board. The Exchange Board may order the Applicant and the Department to file briefs in connection with review proceedings pursuant to this paragraph.

#### (d) Decision of the Exchange Board, Including Remand

After review, the Exchange Board may affirm, modify, or reverse the proposed written decision of the Exchange Review Council. Alternatively, the Exchange Board may remand the membership proceeding with instructions. The Exchange Board shall prepare a written decision that includes all of the elements described in Rule 1015(j)(2).

## (e) Issuance of Decision

The Exchange Board shall serve its written decision on the Applicant within 15 days after the meeting at which it conducted its review. The decision shall constitute the final action of the Exchange for purposes of SEC Rule 19d-3, unless the Exchange Board remands the membership proceeding.]

[1017. Application for Approval of Change in Ownership, Control, or Business Operations

## (a) Events Requiring Application

A member shall file an application for approval of any of the following changes to its ownership, control, or business operations:

- (1) a merger of the member with another member, unless both are members of the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. or the surviving entity will continue to be a member of the New York Stock Exchange, Inc.;
- (2) a direct or indirect acquisition by the member of another member, unless the acquiring member is a member of the New York Stock Exchange, Inc.;
- (3) direct or indirect acquisitions or transfers of 25% or more in the aggregate of the member's assets or any asset, business or line of operation that generates revenues comprising 25% or more in the aggregate of the member's earnings measured on a rolling 36-month basis, unless both the seller and acquirer are members of the New York Stock Exchange, Inc.;
- (4) a change in the equity ownership or partnership capital of the member that results in one person or entity directly or indirectly owning or controlling 25 percent or more of the equity or partnership capital; or
- (5) a material change in business operations as defined in Rule 1011.

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## (b) Filing and Content of Application

- (1) The member shall file the application with the Department.
- (2) The application shall describe in detail the change in ownership, control, or business operations and include a business plan, pro forma financials, an organizational chart, and written supervisory procedures reflecting the change.
- (A) If the application requests approval of a change in ownership or control, the application also shall include the names of the new owners, their percentage of ownership, and the sources of their funding for the purchase and recapitalization of the member.
- **(B)** If the application requests the removal or modification of a membership agreement restriction, the application also shall:
- (i) present facts showing that the circumstances that gave rise to the restriction have changed; and
- (ii) state with specificity why the restriction should be modified or removed in light of the applicable bases for denial or standards for approval set forth in Rule 1014 or 1017 and the articulated rationale for the imposition of the restriction.
- **(C)** If the application requests approval of an increase in Associated Persons involved in sales, offices, or markets made, the application shall set forth the increases in such areas during the preceding 12 months.

## (c) Effecting Change and Imposition of Interim Restrictions

- (1) A member shall file an application for approval of a change in ownership or control at least 30 days prior to such change. A member may effect a change in ownership or control prior to the conclusion of the proceeding, but the Department may place new interim restrictions on the member based on the applicable bases for denial or standards for approval in Rule 1014 or 1017, pending final Department action.
- (2) A member may file an application to remove or modify a membership agreement restriction at any time. An existing restriction shall remain in effect during the pendency of the proceeding.
- (3) A member may file an application for approval of a material change in business operations, other than the modification or removal of a restriction, at any time, but the member may not effect such change until the conclusion of the proceeding, unless the Department and the member otherwise agree.

## (d) Rejection Of Application That Is Not Substantially Complete

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If the Department determines within 30 days after the filing of an application that the application is not substantially complete, the Department may reject the application and deem it not to have been filed. In such case, within the 30 day period, the Department shall serve a written notice on the Applicant of the Department's determination and the reasons therefor. If the Applicant determines to continue to apply for approval of a change in ownership, control, or business operations, the Applicant shall submit a new application under this Rule.

# (e) Request for Additional Documents and Information

Within 30 days after the filing of an application, the Department shall serve a request for any additional information or documents necessary to render a decision on the application. The Department may request additional information or documents at any time during the application process. Unless otherwise agreed to by the Department and the Applicant, the Applicant shall file such additional information or documents with the Department within 30 days after the Department's request.

# (f) Membership Interview

- (1) The Department may require the Applicant to participate in a membership interview within 30 days after the filing of the application, or if the Department requests additional information or documents, within 30 days after the filing of the additional information or documents by the Applicant.
- (2) At least seven days before the membership interview, the Department shall serve on the Applicant a written notice that specifies the date and time of the interview and persons who are required to participate in the interview. The Department shall serve the notice by facsimile or overnight courier. The Applicant and the Department may agree to a shorter or longer period for notice or a different method of service.
- (3) The membership interview shall be conducted in a location specified by the Exchange.
- (4) During the membership interview, the Department shall review the application and the considerations for the Department's decision set forth in paragraph (g)(1) with the Applicant's representative or representatives. The Department shall provide to the Applicant's representative or representatives any information or document that the Department has obtained from the Central Registration Depository or a source other than the Applicant and upon which the Department intends to base its decision under paragraph (g). If the Department receives such information or document after the membership interview or decides to base its decision on such information after the membership interview, the Department shall promptly serve the information or document and an explanation thereof on the Applicant.

## (g) Department Decision

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(1) The Department shall consider the application, the membership interview, other information and documents provided by the Applicant or obtained by the Department, the public interest, and the protection of investors.

- (A) In rendering a decision on an application submitted under Rule 1017(a) by an Exchange member that is not, and is not required to become, a member of FINRA, the Department shall approve the application unless the Department determines that there is a basis for denying (or conditioning) approval of the Applicant under the bases for denial in Rule 1014(a).
- **(B)** In rendering a decision on an application submitted under Rule 1017(a) by an Exchange member that is also a member of FINRA, the Department shall consider whether the Applicant and its Associated Persons meet each of the standards in NASD Rule 1014(a). For purposes of this rule:
- (i) the provisions of NASD Rule 1014(a) shall apply to Exchange members as if such Rule were part of the Equity Rules;
- (ii) references to "NASD Rules" shall be construed as references to the "Equity Rules";
- (iii) the reference to "Rule 1013(a)(2)(E)(xii)" shall be construed as a reference to "NASD Rule 1013(a)(1)(F)(xii)";
- (iv) the reference to "information filed under Rule 1013(b)(5)" shall be construed as a reference to "the most up-to-date financial information available to the Department";
- (v) references to "NASD" or "FINRA" shall be construed as references to "the Exchange";
- (vi) the reference to "Notice to Members 97-19" shall be construed as a reference to "NASD Notice to Members 97-19 as incorporated by reference into the Equity Rules by IM-3010"; and
- (vii) where the Department determines that the Applicant or its Associated Person are the subject of any of the events set forth in NASD Rule 1014(a)(3)(A) and (C) through (E), a presumption exists that the application should be denied. The Applicant may overcome the presumption by demonstrating that it can meet each of the standards in NASD Rule 1014(a), notwithstanding the existence of any of the events set forth in Rule NASD 1014(a)(3)(A) and (C) through (E).

FINRA is in the process of consolidating certain NASD rules into a new FINRA rulebook. If the provisions of NASD Rule 1014(a) are transferred into the FINRA rulebook, then Equity Rule 1017 shall be construed to require Exchange members and persons associated with a member to comply with the FINRA rule corresponding to NASD Rule 1014(a) (regardless of whether such rule is renumbered or amended) as if such rule were part of the Rules of the Exchange.

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(C) In rendering a decision on an application for approval of a change in ownership or control, or an application for approval of a material change in business operations that does not involve modification or removal of a membership agreement restriction, the Department shall determine (i) if there would be a basis for denying (or conditioning) approval of the Applicant under the bases for denial in Rule 1014(a) upon approval of the application in the case of an Exchange member that is not, and is not required to become, a member of FINRA, and (ii) if the Applicant would continue to meet the standards in NASD Rule 1014(a) upon approval of the application in the case of an Exchange member that is a member of FINRA.

- (**D**) In rendering a decision on an application requesting the modification or removal of a membership agreement restriction, the Department shall consider whether maintenance of the restriction is appropriate in light of:
- (i) the applicable bases for denial or standards for approval set forth in Rules 1014 and 1017;
- (ii) the circumstances that gave rise to the imposition of the restriction;
- (iii) the Applicant's operations since the restriction was imposed;
- (iv) any change in ownership or control or supervisors and principals; and
- (v) any new evidence submitted in connection with the application.
- (2) The Department shall serve a written decision on the application within 30 days after the conclusion of the membership interview or the filing of additional information or documents, whichever is later. If the Department does not require the Applicant to participate in a membership interview or request additional information or documents, the Department shall serve a written decision within 45 days after the filing of the application under paragraph (a). The decision shall state whether the application is granted or denied in whole or in part, and shall provide a rationale for the Department's decision, referencing the applicable bases or standards in Rules 1014 or 1017.
- (3) If the Department fails to serve a decision within 180 days after filing of an application or such later date as the Department and the Applicant have agreed in writing, the Applicant may file a written request with the Exchange Board requesting that the Exchange Board direct the Department to issue a decision. Within seven days after the filing of such a request, the Exchange Board shall direct the Department to issue a written decision immediately or to show good cause for an extension of time. If the Department shows good cause for an extension of time, the Exchange Board may extend the time limit for issuing a decision by not more than 30 days.
- (4) Notwithstanding anything in this Rule 1017 to the contrary, in the event that a proposed change in ownership, control, or business operations by an Exchange member requires such member to become a member of FINRA, the Department shall not be

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required to serve a written decision under this rule until 10 business days after the Exchange member becomes a FINRA member.

(5) If the Department approves an application under this Rule in whole or part, the Department may require an Applicant to file an executed membership agreement.

#### (h) Service and Effectiveness of Decision

The Department shall serve its decision on the Applicant in accordance with Rule 1012. The decision shall become effective upon service and shall remain in effect during the pendency of any review until a decision constituting final action of the Exchange is issued under Rule 1015 or 1016, unless otherwise directed by the Exchange Review Council, the Exchange Board, or the Commission.

# (i) Request for Review; Final Action

An Applicant may file a written request for review of the Department's decision with the Exchange Review Council pursuant to Rule 1015. The procedures set forth in Rule 1015 shall apply to such review, and the Exchange Review Council's decision shall be subject to discretionary review by the Exchange Board pursuant to Rule 1016. If the Applicant does not file a request for a review, the Department's decision shall constitute final action by the Exchange.

# (j) Removal or Modification of Restriction on Department's Initiative

The Department shall modify or remove a restriction on its own initiative if the Department determines such action is appropriate in light of the considerations set forth in paragraph (g)(1). The Department shall notify the member in writing of the Department's determination and inform the member that it may apply for further modification or removal of a restriction by filing an application under paragraph (a).

# (k) Lapse or Denial of Application for Approval of Change in Ownership

If an application for approval of a change in ownership lapses, or is denied and all appeals are exhausted or waived, the member shall, no more than 60 days after the lapse or exhaustion or waiver of appeal:

- (1) submit a new application;
- (2) unwind the transaction; or
- (3) file a Form BDW.

For the protection of investors, the Department may shorten the 60-day period. For good cause shown by the member, the Department may lengthen the 60-day period. The Department shall serve written notice on the Applicant of any change in the 60-day

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period and the reasons therefor. During the 60-day or other imposed period, the Department may continue to place interim restrictions on the member for the protection of investors.]

[1018. Reserved]

[1019. Application to Commission for Review

A person aggrieved by final action of the Exchange under the Equity Rule 1010 Series may apply for review by the Commission pursuant to Section 19(d)(2) of the Act. The filing of an application for review shall not stay the effectiveness of a decision constituting final action of the Exchange, unless the Commission otherwise orders.]

1031. No change

1050. No change.

1090. No change.

1130. No change.

1150. No change.

1160. No change.

1170. No change.

1200.-1250. No change.

\* \* \* \* \*