

**FINANCIAL INDUSTRY REGULATORY AUTHORITY
LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER AND CONSENT
NO. 2012033566202**

TO: Department of Enforcement
Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (“FINRA”)

RE: Jeffrey Alan Smith, Respondent
Former General Securities Principal and Registered Representative
CRD No. 2400590

Pursuant to FINRA Rule 9216 of FINRA’s Code of Procedure, I submit this Letter of Acceptance, Waiver and Consent (“AWC”) for the purpose of proposing a settlement of the alleged rule violations described below. This AWC is submitted on the condition that, if accepted, FINRA will not bring any future actions against me alleging violations based on the same factual findings described herein.

I.

ACCEPTANCE AND CONSENT

- A. I hereby accept and consent, without admitting or denying the findings, and solely for the purposes of this proceeding and any other proceeding brought by or on behalf of FINRA, or to which FINRA is a party, prior to a hearing and without an adjudication of any issue of law or fact, to the entry of the following findings by FINRA:

BACKGROUND

Jeffrey Alan Smith (“Smith”) first entered the securities industry in 1993 and has been a registered representative and/or a registered principal with a number of FINRA member firms since then. Smith obtained his Series 7 license in September 1993, his Series 63 license in October 1993, his Series 65 license in January 1994 (and again in March 2012), his Series 3 license in August 1994, his Series 8 license in January 1998, his Series 24 license in March 2008, and his Series 53 license in December 2010. On March 29, 2010, Smith became registered with Accelerated Capital Group (“ACG” or the “Firm”) as a registered representative and registered principal. Smith’s registration with ACG was terminated on July 8, 2016. He is not currently associated with a FINRA member firm.

Although Smith is no longer associated with a FINRA member firm, FINRA retains jurisdiction over him pursuant to Article V, Section 4 of the FINRA By-laws.

RELEVANT DISCIPLINARY HISTORY

In October 2011, Smith entered into an AWC with FINRA for failing to enforce a prior firm's written supervisory procedures and for failing to effectively supervise the activities of associated persons over whom he had supervisory responsibility during the period September 2009 through March 2010, in violation of NASD Rule 3010 and FINRA Rule 2010. Smith received a 20-day principal suspension but there was no fine due to Smith's inability to pay.

OVERVIEW

Between May 2012 and August 2015, Smith maintained and utilized pre-signed and altered forms. Smith's conduct violated FINRA Rule 2010 and caused ACG to have inaccurate books and records in violation of FINRA Rules 4511 and 2010.

FACTS AND VIOLATIVE CONDUCT

Smith had three customers sign blank forms, and made additional photocopies of some of the blank-signed forms so that he could re-use the customers' signatures. Smith at times utilized these blank-signed forms to effect transactions authorized by the clients. On another occasion, Smith, with the client's authorization, submitted an altered, pre-signed form upon which correction fluid had been used to white out and correct an inaccurate bank account number.

FINRA Rule 2010 requires that members, in the conduct of their business, observe high standards of commercial honor and just and equitable principles of trade. FINRA Rule 4511 requires FINRA members to make and preserve books and records as required under FINRA Rules, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and the applicable Exchange Act rules. By maintaining and using pre-signed and altered forms to conduct Firm business, as described above, Smith violated FINRA Rule 2010. His conduct also caused ACG to have inaccurate books and records, in violation of FINRA Rules 4511 and 2010.

B. I also consent to the imposition of the following sanctions:

- A suspension from association with any FINRA member in all capacities for a period of three months; and
- A \$5,000 fine.

The fine shall be due and payable either immediately upon re-association with a member firm, or prior to any application or request for relief from any statutory disqualification resulting from this or any other event or proceeding, whichever is earlier.

I specifically and voluntarily waive any right to claim that I am unable to pay,

now or at any time hereafter, the monetary sanction(s) imposed in this matter.

I understand that if I am barred or suspended from associating with any FINRA member, I become subject to a statutory disqualification as that term is defined in Article III, Section 4 of FINRA's By-Laws, incorporating Section 3(a)(39) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Accordingly, I may not be associated with any FINRA member in any capacity, including clerical or ministerial functions, during the period of the bar or suspension (see FINRA Rules 8310 and 8311).

The sanctions imposed herein shall be effective on a date set by FINRA staff.

II.

WAIVER OF PROCEDURAL RIGHTS

I specifically and voluntarily waive the following rights granted under FINRA's Code of Procedure:

- A. To have a Complaint issued specifying the allegations against me;
- B. To be notified of the Complaint and have the opportunity to answer the allegations in writing;
- C. To defend against the allegations in a disciplinary hearing before a hearing panel, to have a written record of the hearing made and to have a written decision issued; and
- D. To appeal any such decision to the National Adjudicatory Council ("NAC") and then to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and a U.S. Court of Appeals.

Further, I specifically and voluntarily waive any right to claim bias or prejudgment of the Chief Legal Officer, the NAC, or any member of the NAC, in connection with such person's or body's participation in discussions regarding the terms and conditions of this AWC, or other consideration of this AWC, including acceptance or rejection of this AWC.

I further specifically and voluntarily waive any right to claim that a person violated the ex parte prohibitions of FINRA Rule 9143 or the separation of functions prohibitions of FINRA Rule 9144, in connection with such person's or body's participation in discussions regarding the terms and conditions of this AWC, or other consideration of this AWC, including its acceptance or rejection.

III.

OTHER MATTERS

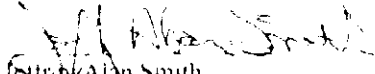
I understand that:

- A. Submission of this AWC is voluntary and will not resolve this matter unless and until it has been reviewed and accepted by the NAC, a Review Subcommittee of the NAC, or the Office of Disciplinary Affairs (“ODA”), pursuant to FINRA Rule 9216;
- B. If this AWC is not accepted, its submission will not be used as evidence to prove any of the allegations against me; and
- C. If accepted:
 - 1. this AWC will become part of my permanent disciplinary record and may be considered in any future actions brought by FINRA or any other regulator against me;
 - 2. this AWC will be made available through FINRA's public disclosure program in accordance with FINRA Rule 8313;
 - 3. FINRA may make a public announcement concerning this agreement and the subject matter thereof in accordance with FINRA Rule 8313; and
 - 4. I may not take any action or make or permit to be made any public statement, including in regulatory filings or otherwise, denying, directly or indirectly, any finding in this AWC or create the impression that the AWC is without factual basis. I may not take any position in any proceeding brought by or on behalf of FINRA, or to which FINRA is a party, that is inconsistent with any part of this AWC. Nothing in this provision affects my: (i) testimonial obligations; or (ii) right to take legal or factual positions in litigation or other legal proceedings in which FINRA is not a party.
- D. I may attach a Corrective Action Statement to this AWC that is a statement of demonstrable corrective steps taken to prevent future misconduct. I understand that I may not deny the charges or make any statement that is inconsistent with the AWC in this Statement. This Statement does not constitute factual or legal findings by FINRA, nor does it reflect the views of FINRA or its staff.

I certify that I have read and understand all of the provisions of this AWC and have been given a

full opportunity to ask questions about it; that I have agreed to its provisions voluntarily and that no offer, threat, inducement, or promise of any kind, other than the terms set forth herein and the prospect of avoiding the issuance of a Complaint, has been made to induce me to submit it.

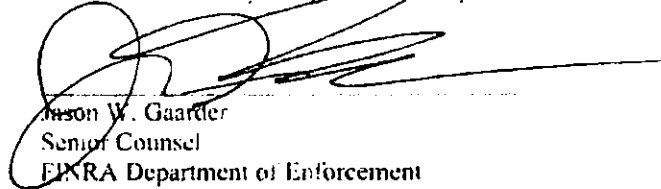
08/21/2017
Date (mm dd yyyy)


Alan Smith

Accepted by FINRA:

9/15/2017
Date

Signed on behalf of the
Director of ODA, by delegated authority



Jason W. Gaarder
Senior Counsel
FINRA Department of Enforcement
15200 Omega Drive, Third Floor
Rockville, MD 20850
(301) 258-8548 (t); (301) 208-8090 (f)
jason.gaarder@finra.org