# THE NASDAQ STOCK MARKET LLC NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF AWC

# Certified, Return Receipt Requested

TO:

Wells Fargo Securities, LLC

Mr. Jonathan Weiss

President

550 South Tryon Street

6th Floor

Charlotte, NC 28202

FROM:

The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq")

c/o Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA")

Department of Market Regulation

9509 Key West Avenue Rockville, MD 20850

DATE:

November 2, 2016

RE:

Notice of Acceptance of Letter of Acceptance, Waiver and Consent No. 20150449128-01

Please be advised that your above-referenced Letter of Acceptance, Waiver and Consent ("AWC") has been accepted on November 2, 2016 by the Nasdaq Review Council's Review Subcommittee, or by the Office of Disciplinary Affairs on behalf of the Nasdaq Review Council, pursuant to Nasdaq Rule 9216. A copy of the AWC is enclosed herewith.

You are again reminded of your obligation, if currently registered, immediately to update your Uniform Application for Broker-Dealer Registration ("Form BD") to reflect the conclusion of this disciplinary action. Additionally, you must also notify FINRA (or NASDAQ if you are not a member of FINRA) in writing of any change of address or other changes required to be made to your Form BD.

You are reminded that Section I of the attached Letter of Acceptance, Waiver, and Consent includes an undertaking. In accordance with the terms of the AWC, a registered principal of the firm is required to notify the Compliance Assistant, Legal Section, Market Regulation Department, 9509 Key West Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, of completion of the undertaking.

You will be notified by the Registration and Disclosure Department regarding sanctions if a suspension has been imposed and by NASDAQ's Finance Department regarding the payment of any fine if a fine has been imposed.

Wells Fargo Securities, LLC Page 2

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Christian J. Cannon, Senior Counsel, at (240) 386-5670.

Gerard P. Finn

Chief Counsel, Legal Section Department of Market Regulation

Signed on behalf of NASDAQ

Enclosure

FINRA District 7 – Atlanta Jeffrey M. Pasquerella Vice President and Regional Director (Via email)

# THE NASDAQ STOCK MARKET LLC LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER AND CONSENT NO. <u>2015044</u>9128-01

TO: The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC
c/o Department of Market Regulation
Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA")

RE: Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, Respondent Broker-Dealer CRD No. 126292

Pursuant to Rule 9216 of The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq") Code of Procedure, Respondent Wells Fargo Securities, LLC (the "firm") submits 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, Nasdaq will not bring any future actions against the firm alleging violations based on the same factual findings described herein.

I.

#### ACCEPTANCE AND CONSENT

A. The firm hereby accepts and consents, without admitting or denying the findings, and solely for the purposes of this proceeding and any other proceeding brought by or on behalf of Nasdaq, or to which Nasdaq 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 Nasdaq:

## **BACKGROUND**

The firm has been a member of FINRA since May 29, 2003, and a member of Nasdaq since July 12, 2006. Its registrations remain in effect.

#### RELEVANT PRIOR DISCIPLINARY HISTORY

On March 9, 2015, FINRA accepted an AWC in connection with 20130385807 in which the firm was fined \$7,500 for violations of SEC Rule 604 that occurred during the second quarter of 2013.

#### **SUMMARY**

In connection with Matter No. 20150449128, the Market Analysis Section of the Department of Market Regulation (the "staff") reviewed the firm's compliance with SEC Rule 604 of Regulation NMS (the "Display Rule") during the period October 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 (the "review period"). As a result of its review, the staff found violations of the Display Rule as set forth below.

#### FACTS AND VIOLATIVE CONDUCT

- 1. During the review period, the firm failed to display immediately 63 customer limit orders in Nasdaq securities (including the orders' full size and price) in its public quotation, when each such order was at a price that would have improved the firm's bid or offer in each such security; or when the order was priced equal to the firm's bid or offer and the national best bid or offer for each such security, and the size of the order represented more than a *de minimis* change in relation to the size associated with the firm's bid or offer in each such security. The conduct described in this paragraph constitutes separate and distinct violations of SEC Rule 604 of Regulation NMS.
- 2. The firm's supervisory system did not provide for supervision reasonably designed to achieve compliance with respect to the applicable securities laws and regulations, and Nasdaq Rules, concerning the Display Rule. Specifically, the firm's supervisory system did not include written supervisory procedures providing for adequate steps that the person(s) responsible for supervision should take to ensure compliance with the Display Rule. The conduct described in this paragraph constitutes a violation of Nasdaq Rules 3010 and 2010A.

## B. The firm also consents to the imposition of the following sanctions:

A censure and a fine of \$27,500 (\$20,000 for the Display Rule violations and \$7,500 for the supervision violation), and an undertaking to revise the firm's written supervisory procedures with respect to the areas described in Section A.2. above. Within 30 business days of acceptance of this AWC, a registered principal of the firm shall submit to the Compliance Assistant, Legal Section, Market Regulation Department, 9509 Key West Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, a signed, dated letter, or an email from a work-related account of the registered principal to MarketRegulationComp@finra.org, providing the following information: (1) a reference to this matter; (2) a representation that the firm has revised its written supervisory procedures to address the deficiencies described in Section A above; and (3) the date the revised procedures were implemented.

The firm agrees to pay the monetary sanction(s) in accordance with its executed Election of Payment Form.

The firm specifically and voluntarily waives any right to claim that it is unable to pay, now or at any time hereafter, the monetary sanction(s) imposed in this matter.

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

# **WAIVER OF PROCEDURAL RIGHTS**

The firm specifically and voluntarily waives the following rights granted under Nasdaq's Code of Procedure:

- A. To have a Formal Complaint issued specifying the allegations against the firm;
- B. To be notified of the Formal 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 Nasdaq Review Council and then to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and a U.S. Court of Appeals.

Further, the firm specifically and voluntarily waives any right to claim bias or prejudgment of the Chief Regulatory Officer, the Nasdaq Review Council, or any member of the Nasdaq Review Council, 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.

The firm further specifically and voluntarily waives any right to claim that a person violated the ex parte prohibitions of Rule 9143 or the separation of functions prohibitions of 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**

#### The firm understands that:

- A. Submission of this AWC is voluntary and will not resolve this matter unless and until it has been reviewed and accepted by FINRA's Department of Market Regulation and the Nasdaq Review Council, the Review Subcommittee, or the Office of Disciplinary Affairs ("ODA"), pursuant to Nasdaq Rule 9216;
- B. If this AWC is not accepted, its submission will not be used as evidence to prove any of the allegations against the firm; and

# C. If accepted:

- 1. This AWC will become part of the firm's permanent disciplinary record and may be considered in any future actions brought by Nasdaq or any other regulator against the firm;
- Nasdaq may release this AWC or make a public announcement concerning this agreement and the subject matter thereof in accordance with Nasdaq Rule 8310 and IM-8310-3; and
- 3. The firm 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. The firm may not take any position in any proceeding brought by or on behalf of Nasdaq, or to which Nasdaq is a party, that is inconsistent with any part of this AWC. Nothing in this provision affects the firm's right to take legal or factual positions in litigation or other legal proceedings in which Nasdaq is not a party.
- D. The firm may attach a Corrective Action Statement to this AWC that is a statement of demonstrable corrective steps taken to prevent future misconduct. The firm understands that it 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 Nasdaq, nor does it reflect the views of Nasdaq or its staff.

The undersigned, on behalf of the firm, certifies that a person duly authorized to act on its behalf has read and understands all of the provisions of this AWC and has been given a full opportunity to ask questions about it; that it has agreed to the AWC's 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 Formal Complaint, has been made to induce the firm to submit it.

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Date	e			7			

Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, Respondent

Name Tanathan G Weis

Title: President

Accepted by Nasdaq:

11/2/16 Data

Date

Gerard P. Finn

Chief Counsel, Legal Section Department of Market Regulation

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

# **ELECTION OF PAYMENT FORM**

The firm intends to pay the fine proposed in the attached Letter of Acceptance,	Waiver
and Consent by the following method (check one):	

	A firm	check or	bank check	for the	full amount:
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- Wire transfer;
- The installment payment plan .1
  - Monthly
  - O Quarterly

Respectfully submitted,

Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, Respondent

Name: 🟒

Name and Contract

Title:

<sup>1</sup> The installment payment plan is only available for a fine of \$50,000 or more. Certain requirements apply.