

CIFA

Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Timothy C. Scheve President & CEO Janney Montgomery Scott LLC 1717 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear Mr. Scheve:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO



February 8, 2017

Lisa Kidd Hunt Executive Vice President International Services and Special Business Development Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. 211 Main Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Ms. Kidd Hunt:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We believe the public needs to know where individual firms stand. Those opposing the rule are hiding behind their trade associations who are filing lawsuits, pushing legislation, and subverting the regulatory process to delay and kill the rule. And firms that support a fiduciary

standard for retirement investment advice should not be passive bystanders to their trade associations' anti-investor activity. If you are in this category, we call on you to clearly and publicly disassociate yourself from SIFMA's anti-investor tactics by calling for a withdrawal of the lawsuits and for the rule to become effective, as drafted, on schedule.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





CIFA

Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

James Wallin Senior Vice President, Fixed Income AllianceBernstein L.P. 1345 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10105

Dear Mr. Wallin:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

James R. Allen Chairman & CEO Hilliard Lyons 500 West Jefferson Street, Suite 700 Louisville, KY 40202

Dear Mr. Allen:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Dan

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Dan Arnold President LPL Financial 75 State Street, 22nd Floor Boston, MA 02109

Dear Mr. Arnold:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Barry Bausano CEO & President Deutsche Bank Securities 60 Wall Street New York, NY 10005

Dear Mr. Bausano:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Curt Bradbury, Jr. Chief Operating Officer Stephens Inc. 111 Center Street Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Bradbury:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Dan

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO



February 8, 2017

William C. Caccamise General Counsel, Global Banking and Markets, and International Bank of America Merrill Lynch 100 North Tryon Street Charlotte, NC 28255

Dear Mr. Caccamise:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Daniel B. Coleman CEO KCG 300 Vesey Street New York, NY 10282

Dear Mr. Coleman:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO



February 8, 2017

Michael Crowl Group Managing Director and General Counsel UBS Group Americas and UBS Wealth Management Americas (WMA) UBS AG 1285 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10019

Dear Mr. Crowl:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We believe the public needs to know where individual firms stand. Those opposing the rule are hiding behind their trade associations who are filing lawsuits, pushing legislation, and subverting the regulatory process to delay and kill the rule. And firms that support a fiduciary

standard for retirement investment advice should not be passive bystanders to their trade associations' anti-investor activity. If you are in this category, we call on you to clearly and publicly disassociate yourself from SIFMA's anti-investor tactics by calling for a withdrawal of the lawsuits and for the rule to become effective, as drafted, on schedule.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Lisa Dolly Chief Executive Officer Pershing, a BNY Mellon company One Pershing Plaza Jersey City, NJ 07399

Dear Ms. Dolly:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Andrew S. Duff Chairman and CEO Piper Jaffray Companies 800 Nicollet Mall, Suite 1000 Minneapolis, MN 55402

Dear Mr. Duff:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





CIFA

Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

John Ettelson President & Chief Executive Officer William Blair 222 West Adams Street Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Mr. Ettelson:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Dan

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





CEA

Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

David Findlay President and CEO Nomura Holdings America Inc. Worldwide Plaza, 309 West 49th Street New York, NY 10019-7316

Dear Mr. Findlay:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Dan

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





CEÁ

Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Catherine Flax Managing Director Head of Commodity Derivatives & Foreign Exchange, Americas BNP Paribas 787 Seventh Avenue - The Equitable Tower New York, NY 10019

Dear Ms. Flax:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We believe the public needs to know where individual firms stand. Those opposing the rule are hiding behind their trade associations who are filing lawsuits, pushing legislation, and subverting the regulatory process to delay and kill the rule. And firms that support a fiduciary

standard for retirement investment advice should not be passive bystanders to their trade associations' anti-investor activity. If you are in this category, we call on you to clearly and publicly disassociate yourself from SIFMA's anti-investor tactics by calling for a withdrawal of the lawsuits and for the rule to become effective, as drafted, on schedule.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO



February 8, 2017

Kim Tillotson Fleming Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Hefren-Tillotson, Inc. 308 Seventh Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Dear Ms. Tillotson Fleming:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





CIFA

Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Suni Harford Head of Markets, North America Citi 388 Greenwich Street New York, NY 10013

Dear Ms. Harford:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Dan

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Tim Hockey President and CEO TD Ameritrade 200 South 108th Avenue Omaha, NE 68154

Dear Mr. Hockey:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Dan

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO



February 8, 2017

James B. Kelligrew, Jr. Vice Chairman/Co-Head Wholesale Banking U.S. Bancorp 800 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis, MN 55402 - 7014

Dear Mr. Kelligrew:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Andrew Komaroff Chief Operating Officer Neuberger Berman Group LLC 1290 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10104

Dear Mr. Komaroff:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Dan

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO



February 8, 2017

Ronald J. Kruszewski Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Stifel Financial Corp. 501 N. Broadway St. Louis, MO 63102

Dear Mr. Kruszewski:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Dan

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO



CEA

Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Gerard McGraw Chief Financial Officer Fidelity Management & Research, LLC 82 Devonshire Street Boston, MA 02109

Dear Mr. McGraw:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO



CEA

Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Brand Meyer Head of Independent Brokerage Group Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC One North Jefferson St. Louis, MO 63103

Dear Mr. Meyer:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Sandra O'Connor Chief Regulatory Affairs Officer JPMorgan Chase & Co. 270 Park Avenue New York, NY 10017

Dear Ms. O'Connor:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Dan

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Roger Ochs President & CEO HD Vest Financial Services 6333 North State Highway 161, Fourth Floor Irving, TX 75038

Dear Mr. Ochs:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

David Ornstein Managing Director, Markets Barclays 745 Seventh Avenue New York, NY 10019

Dear Mr. Ornstein:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





CIFA

Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Edward Pick Global Head of Sales and Trading Morgan Stanley 1585 Broadway New York, NY 10036

Dear Mr. Pick:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Paul E. Purcell Chairman & Chief Executive Officer Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated P.O. Box 0672 Milwaukee, WI 53201-0672

Dear Mr. Purcell:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Paul Reilly Chief Executive Officer Raymond James Financial 880 Carillon Parkway St. Petersburg, FL 33716

Dear Mr. Reilly:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Dan

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO



February 8, 2017

John F. W. Rogers Executive Vice President, Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board Goldman, Sachs & Co. 200 West Street New York, NY 10282

Dear Mr. Rogers:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We believe the public needs to know where individual firms stand. Those opposing the rule are hiding behind their trade associations who are filing lawsuits, pushing legislation, and subverting the regulatory process to delay and kill the rule. And firms that support a fiduciary

standard for retirement investment advice should not be passive bystanders to their trade associations' anti-investor activity. If you are in this category, we call on you to clearly and publicly disassociate yourself from SIFMA's anti-investor tactics by calling for a withdrawal of the lawsuits and for the rule to become effective, as drafted, on schedule.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO



CEA

Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Ursula Schliessler Chief Administrative Officer Legg Mason Global Asset Management 100 International Drive Baltimore, MD 21202-1099

Dear Ms. Schliessler:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Dan

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO



CEA

Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Suzanne Shank Chairwoman and CEO Siebert Cisneros Shank & Co., LLC 100 Wall Street, 18th Floor New York, NY 10005

Dear Ms. Shank:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





CFÁ

Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Paul Stevelman Head of US NatWest Markets (RBS Securities, Inc.) 600 Washington Boulevard Stamford, CT 06901

Dear Mr. Stevelman:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Dan

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO



February 8, 2017

Joseph E. Sweeney President, Advice & Wealth Management, Products and Services Delivery Ameriprise Financial, Inc. 55 Ameriprise Financial Center Minneapolis, MN 55474

Dear Mr. Sweeney:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We believe the public needs to know where individual firms stand. Those opposing the rule are hiding behind their trade associations who are filing lawsuits, pushing legislation, and subverting the regulatory process to delay and kill the rule. And firms that support a fiduciary

standard for retirement investment advice should not be passive bystanders to their trade associations' anti-investor activity. If you are in this category, we call on you to clearly and publicly disassociate yourself from SIFMA's anti-investor tactics by calling for a withdrawal of the lawsuits and for the rule to become effective, as drafted, on schedule.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

James A. Tricarico, Jr. Chief Legal Officer, Principal Edward Jones 12555 Manchester Road Saint Louis, MO 63131

Dear Mr. Tricarico:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO



February 8, 2017

John Adams Vaccaro Chief Executive Officer Westport Resources Investment Services, Inc. 55 Greens Farms Road Westport, CT 06880

Dear Mr. Vaccaro:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO



February 8, 2017

Lewis H. Wirshba Vice Chairman and Managing Director Credit Suisse Holdings (USA) Eleven Madison Avenue New York, NY 10010

Dear Mr. Wirshba:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Gary Wunderlich Chief Executive Officer Wunderlich Securities, Inc. 6000 Poplar Avenue, Suite 150 Memphis, TN 38119

Dear Mr. Wunderlich:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Dan

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





CFA

Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

W. Rufus Yates President & CEO BB&T Securities 200 West Second Street Winston-Salem, NC 27101

Dear Mr. Yates:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA board of directors, you share responsibility for the organization's anti-investor activity. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO





Consumer Federation of America

February 8, 2017

Valerie G. Brown Executive Chairman Advisor Group c/o Royal Alliance One World Financial Center, 15th Floor New York, NY 10281

Dear Ms. Brown:

Since the Department of Labor finalized its conflict of interest rule last April, the vast majority of financial firms appear to be moving forward in good faith to implement it. Indeed, firms' public announcements regarding their implementation plans show that the rule is not only workable, but working as intended—it is reducing the toxic financial conflicts that encourage and reward advice that is not in customers' best interests while preserving access to commission-based advice. Not just retirement savers, but all investors, stand to benefit greatly from changes being adopted.

Despite this striking record of success, a number of the major financial industry lobbying groups, including the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA) and Financial Services Institute (FSI), are spending massive amounts of money on an aggressive campaign to overturn the rule in the courts, in Congress, and through the regulatory process. If successful, this anti-investor campaign would deny retirement savers the reduced costs and improved advice quality they both desperately need and reasonably expect. In short, it would preserve a system that allows firms to put their own profits ahead of their customers' best interests, with costly and detrimental consequences for the income security of America's retirees.

As a member of the SIFMA and FSI boards of directors, you share responsibility for the organizations' anti-investor activities. While we understand that some individual board members may have taken different positions on decisions regarding whether and how to fight the conflict of interest rule, retirement savers and the public as a whole have no way of distinguishing those firms that are working within the organization to protect the rule from those that are working to preserve the harmful status quo.

We believe the public needs to know where individual firms stand. Those opposing the rule are hiding behind their trade associations who are filing lawsuits, pushing legislation, and subverting the regulatory process to delay and kill the rule. And firms that support a fiduciary

standard for retirement investment advice should not be passive bystanders to their trade associations' anti-investor activity. If you are in this category, we call on you to clearly and publicly disassociate yourself from SIFMA's and FSI's anti-investor tactics by calling for a withdrawal of the lawsuits and for the rule to become effective, as drafted, on schedule.

We think there will be significant public interest in knowing those who speak out on the side of investors and those that refuse to do so, either by offering explicit support for these anti-investor tactics or by remaining silently on the sidelines, and we plan to share the information.

We look forward to your prompt response.

hnl

Lisa Donner Executive Director Americans for Financial Reform

Barbara Ropin

Barbara Roper Director of Investor Protection Consumer Federation of America

Damon A. Silvers Associate General Counsel AFL-CIO