#### FINANCIAL INDUSTRY REGULATORY AUTHORITY LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER, AND CONSENT NO. 2021071099401

- TO: Department of Enforcement Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA)
- RE: Anthony Baker Liddle (Respondent) Former General Securities Representative CRD No. 5478479

Pursuant to FINRA Rule 9216, Respondent Anthony Baker Liddle submits this Letter of Acceptance, Waiver, and Consent (AWC) for the purpose of proposing a settlement of the alleged rule violations described below. This AWC is submitted on the condition that, if accepted, FINRA will not bring any future actions against Respondent alleging violations based on the same factual findings described in this AWC.

I.

### ACCEPTANCE AND CONSENT

A. Respondent accepts and consents to the following findings by FINRA without admitting or denying them:

#### BACKGROUND

Anthony Baker Liddle entered the securities industry in 2008. From October 2012 through April 2020, Liddle was associated with Western International Securities, Inc. and registered with FINRA as a General Securities Representative. From April 2020 through May 2022, he was associated with Landolt Securities, Inc. and registered with FINRA in the same capacity.

On June 8, 2022, the State of Wisconsin, Department of Financial Institutions, Division of Securities issued a Final Order by Consent permanently barring Liddle from future registration with the Division in any capacity.<sup>1</sup>

Liddle is not currently registered or associated with a FINRA member firm but is subject to FINRA's jurisdiction pursuant to Article V, Section 4 of FINRA's By-Laws.

#### **OVERVIEW**

Liddle refused to produce information and documents and to appear for on-the-record testimony requested pursuant to FINRA Rule 8210, in violation of FINRA Rules 8210 and 2010.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For more information about the respondent, including prior regulatory events, visit BrokerCheck® at www finra.org/brokercheck.

# FACTS AND VIOLATIVE CONDUCT

This matter originated from a FINRA cause investigation of Liddle.

FINRA Rule 8210(a) states that, for purposes of an investigation, FINRA may require any person subject to its jurisdiction to provide information and testimony, and to permit FINRA staff to inspect and copy books and records that are in the person's possession, custody, or control. FINRA Rule 8210(c) provides that "[n]o... person shall fail to provide information or testimony or to permit an inspection and copying of books, records, or accounts pursuant to this Rule." A violation of FINRA Rule 8210 also is a violation of FINRA Rule 2010.

In late May 2022, FINRA learned that Liddle allegedly borrowed more than \$1.8 million from at least 13 of his customers while he was associated with Landolt Securities and Western International Securities. On June 2, 2022, FINRA sent requests to Liddle, pursuant to FINRA Rule 8210, for the production of information and documents and for on-the-record testimony. As stated during his counsel's phone call and in his counsel's email to FINRA on June 9, 2022, and by this agreement, Liddle acknowledges that he received FINRA's requests and will neither produce the information and documents requested nor appear for on-the-record testimony at any time.

By refusing to produce the information and documents as requested pursuant to FINRA Rule 8210, and by refusing to appear for on-the-record testimony as requested pursuant to FINRA Rule 8210, Liddle violated FINRA Rules 8210 and 2010.

- B. Respondent also consents to the imposition of the following sanctions:
  - a bar from associating with any FINRA member in all capacities.

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

The sanctions imposed in this AWC shall be effective on a date set by FINRA. A bar or expulsion shall become effective upon approval or acceptance of this AWC.

#### II.

## WAIVER OF PROCEDURAL RIGHTS

Respondent specifically and voluntarily waives the following rights granted under FINRA's Code of Procedure:

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

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

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

#### III.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

Respondent understands that:

- A. Submission of this AWC is voluntary and will not resolve this matter unless and until it has been reviewed and accepted by the NAC, a Review Subcommittee of the NAC, or the Office of Disciplinary Affairs (ODA), pursuant to FINRA Rule 9216;
- B. If this AWC is not accepted, its submission will not be used as evidence to prove any of the allegations against Respondent; and
- C. If accepted:
  - 1. this AWC will become part of Respondent's permanent disciplinary record and may be considered in any future action brought by FINRA or any other regulator against Respondent;
  - 2. this AWC will be made available through FINRA's public disclosure program in accordance with FINRA Rule 8313;

- 3. FINRA may make a public announcement concerning this agreement and its subject matter in accordance with FINRA Rule 8313; and
- 4. Respondent may not take any action or make or permit to be made any public statement, including in regulatory filings or otherwise, denying, directly or indirectly, any finding in this AWC or create the impression that the AWC is without factual basis. Respondent may not take any position in any proceeding brought by or on behalf of FINRA, or to which FINRA is a party, that is inconsistent with any part of this AWC. Nothing in this provision affects Respondent's right to take legal or factual positions in litigation or other legal proceedings in which FINRA is not a party. Nothing in this provision affects Respondent's testimonial obligations in any litigation or other legal proceedings.

Respondent certifies that he has read and understands all of the provisions of this AWC and has been given a full opportunity to ask questions about it; Respondent has agreed to the AWC's provisions voluntarily; and no offer, threat, inducement, or promise of any kind, other than the terms set forth in this AWC and the prospect of avoiding the issuance of a complaint, has been made to induce him to submit this AWC.

June 13, 2022

Date

Anthony Baker Liddle Respondent

Reviewed by:

Nancy L. Hendrickson Nancy Hendrickson Counsel for Respondent O'Hagan Meyer One East Wacker Drive, Suite 3400 Chicago, IL 60601

Accepted by FINRA:

June 14, 2022

Date

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

# Joel Kornfeld

Joel Kornfeld Senior Counsel FINRA Department of Enforcement 300 S. Grand Ave., Suite 1600 Los Angeles, CA 90071