# FINANCIAL INDUSTRY REGULATORY AUTHORITY LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER, AND CONSENT NO. 2022076505601

TO: Department of Enforcement

Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA)

RE: Lynn W. Bryant (Respondent)

Former General Securities Representative

CRD No. 3216344

Pursuant to FINRA Rule 9216, Respondent Lynn W. Bryant 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**

Lynn Bryant entered the securities industry in June 1999 when she registered with FINRA as a General Securities Representative through an association with a FINRA member firm. In October 2007, Bryant associated with LPL Financial, LLC and registered with FINRA as a General Securities Representative, a General Securities Principal, and a Municipal Fund Securities Principal. On October 7, 2022, LPL Financial filed a Uniform Termination Notice for Securities Industry Registration (Form U5), reporting Bryant's discharge. The Form U5 stated that Bryant had "participated in private security transactions with clients without prior notice to or approval from Firm."

Respondent is not currently registered or associated with any FINRA member firm. However, she remains subject to FINRA's jurisdiction pursuant to Article V, Section 4 of FINRA's By-Laws.<sup>1</sup>

### **OVERVIEW**

Bryant refused to appear for on-the-record testimony requested pursuant to FINRA Rule 8210. Therefore, Bryant violated FINRA Rules 8210 and 2010.

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

# FACTS AND VIOLATIVE CONDUCT

This matter originated from FINRA's review of the Form U5 filed by LPL Financial.

FINRA Rule 8210(a)(1) requires "a member, person associated with a member, or any other person subject to FINRA's jurisdiction to provide information orally, in writing, or electronically . . . and to testify at a location specified by FINRA staff, under oath or affirmation administered by a court reporter or a notary public if requested, with respect to any matter involved in [a FINRA] investigation [or] examination." FINRA Rule 8210(c) provides that "[n]o member or person shall fail to provide information or testimony . . . pursuant to this Rule." A violation of FINRA Rule 8210 is also a violation of FINRA Rule 2010, which requires persons associated with a FINRA member to "observe high standards of commercial honor and just and equitable principles of trade" in the conduct of their business.

On June 27, 2023, FINRA sent a request to Bryant for on-the-record testimony pursuant to FINRA Rule 8210. FINRA issued its request in connection with its investigation into whether Bryant engaged in private securities transactions without providing prior written notice to, and receiving prior written approval from, her member firm. As stated during her counsel's email to FINRA on July 5, 2023, and by this agreement, Bryant acknowledges that she received FINRA's request and will not appear for on-the-record testimony at any time.

By refusing to appear for on-the-record testimony as requested pursuant to FINRA Rule 8210, Bryant 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 she is barred or suspended from associating with any FINRA member, she 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, she 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 her;
- 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 she 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 her to submit this AWC.

July 10, 2023

Lynn W. Bryant

Reviewed by:

Alina Veneziano

Counsel for Respondent

Oberheiden, P.C.

440 Louisiana Street, Suite 200

Houston, TX 77002

Accepted	by	FINRA:	

Director of O

Director of ODA, by delegated authority

July 18, 2023

Date

Jason M. Ross

Counsel

**FINRA** 

Department of Enforcement 12801 N. Central Expressway

Signed on behalf of the

Suite 1050

Dallas, TX 75243