THE NASDAO STOCK MARKET LLC NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF AWC

Certified, Return Receipt Requested

TO:

Cowen and Company Mr. Owen Littman **General Counsel** 599 Lexington Avenue

20th Floor

New York, NY 10022

FROM:

The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq")

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

Department of Market Regulation

9509 Key West Avenue Rockville, MD 20850

DATE:

August 27, 2013

RE:

Notice of Acceptance of Letter of Acceptance, Waiver and Consent No. 20120324346-01

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

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

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

Cowen and Company Page 2

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please call Daniel N. Hoeffner, Counsel, at (646) 430-7049.

Lara M. Posner

Chief Counsel, Legal Section

Department of Market Regulation, FINRA

Signed on behalf of NASDAQ

Enclosure

FINRA District 10 – New York Michael Solomon Regional Director One World Financial Center 200 Liberty Street New York, NY 10281

THE NASDAQ STOCK MARKET LLC LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER AND CONSENT NO. 20120324346-01

TO: The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

c/o Department of Market Regulation

Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA")

RE: Cowen and Company, Respondent

Broker-Dealer CRD No. 7616

Pursuant to Rule 9216 of The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq") Code of Procedure, Cowen and Company (the "firm") submits this Letter of Acceptance, Waiver and Consent ("AWC") for the purpose of proposing a settlement of the alleged rule violations described below. This AWC is submitted on the condition that, if accepted, Nasdaq will not bring any future actions against the firm alleging violations based on the same factual findings described herein.

I.

ACCEPTANCE AND CONSENT

A. The firm hereby accepts and consents, without admitting or denying the findings, and solely for the purposes of this proceeding and any other proceeding brought by or on behalf of Nasdaq, or to which Nasdaq is a party, prior to a hearing and without an adjudication of any issue of law or fact, to the entry of the following findings by Nasdaq:

BACKGROUND

The firm remains a registered broker-dealer with its principal place of business in New York, New York. The firm has been a FINRA member since May 23, 1978 and a Nasdaq member since July 12, 2006.

RELEVANT DISCIPLINARY HISTORY

The firm does not have any relevant disciplinary history.

SUMMARY

This matter originated from an OATS Non-reporting Sweep for the period of August 1, 2011 through November 30, 2011 (the "relevant period), which was conducted by the Order Audit Trail System ("OATS") Team of FINRA's Market Regulation Department.

STAR No. 20120324346 (dnh)

FACTS AND VIOLATIVE CONDUCT

During the relevant period, in 92,166 instances, the firm incorrectly entered a proprietary order with an agency capacity into the Nasdaq Market Center. The conduct described in this paragraph constitutes separate and distinct violations of Nasdaq Rule 4611(a)(6).

- B. The firm also consents to the imposition of the following sanctions:
 - (i) A censure; and
 - (ii) A fine of \$25,000.

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

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

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

П.

WAIVER OF PROCEDURAL RIGHTS

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

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

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

The firm further specifically and voluntarily waives any right to claim that a person violated the ex parte prohibitions of Rule 9143 or the separation of functions prohibitions of Rule 9144, in

connection with such person's or body's participation in discussions regarding the terms and conditions of this AWC, or other consideration of this AWC, including its acceptance or rejection.

III.

OTHER MATTERS

The firm understands that:

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

C. If accepted:

- this AWC will become part of the firm's permanent disciplinary record and may be considered in any future actions brought by Nasdaq or any other regulator against the firm;
- 2. this AWC will be made available through FINRA's public disclosure program in response to public inquiries about the firm's disciplinary record;
- 3. Nasdaq may make a public announcement concerning this agreement and the subject matter thereof in accordance with Nasdaq Rule 8310 and IM-8310-3; and
- 4. The firm may not take any action or make or permit to be made any public statement, including in regulatory filings or otherwise, denying, directly or indirectly, any finding in this AWC or create the impression that the AWC is without factual basis. The firm may not take any position in any proceeding brought by or on behalf of Nasdaq, or to which Nasdaq is a party, that is inconsistent with any part of this AWC. Nothing in this provision affects the firm's right to take legal or factual positions in litigation or other legal proceedings in which Nasdaq is not a party.
- D. The firm may attach a Corrective Action Statement to this AWC that is a statement of demonstrable corrective steps taken to prevent future misconduct. The firm understands that it may not deny the charges or make any statement that is inconsistent with the AWC in this Statement. This Statement does not constitute factual or legal findings by Nasdaq, nor does it reflect the views of Nasdaq or its staff.

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

Date

Respondent
Cowen and Company

By:

Name:

Owen Lithman

Title:

General Course

Reviewed by:

Attorney Name
Counsel for Respondent

Accepted by Nasdaq:

August 27, 2013 Date

Signed on behalf of the

Director of ODA, by delegated authority

Lara M. Posner Chief Counsel

Department of Market Regulation

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

ELECTION OF PAYMENT FORM

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

A firm check or bank check for the full amount;

Wire transfer; or

☐ The installment payment plan.¹

o Monthly

o Quarterly

Respectfully submitted, Respondent

Cowen and Company

August 17, 2013

Date

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Name

Title

General Course,

¹ The installment payment plan is only available for fines of \$50,000 or more. Certain requirements apply.