Jennifer Piorko Mitchell
Office of the Corporate Secretary
FINRA
1735 K Street
Washington, DC 20006-1506
RE: Regulatory Notice 18-22 Proposed Amendment to Discovery Guide To Require
Production of Insurance Information
Dear Ms. Mitchell:
I write in support of the proposed amendments to the Discovery Guide to require the production of insurance information when requested by claimants. As a lawyer who has represented Claimants for almost 30 years, this rule has been long in coming.
It always mystified me when I compared my FINRA cases to court cases, how I would automatically get these policies in court but have to struggle and occasionally fail to get them in arbitrations. FINRA needs to better align its rules with the ease of obtaining insurance information in Court cases.
The proposed rule provides much needed information to allow a claimant to determine which claims to advance or abandon as a case progresses. It is useful to know which claims are covered or excluded from a particular policy.
Finally, as a member of the FINRA Task Force that took a hard look at the FINRA arbitration process a few years ago, it is my recollection that the Group unanimously recommended that a rule like this be adopted. The Task force was comprised of representatives from all stakeholders in the arbitration process and was extremely knowledgeable and professional.
Thank you for considering my views.
Sincerely,
Mark E. Maddox

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