

INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT CUSTODIAL ACCOUNT AGREEMENT

Form 5305-A under section 408(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

FORM (Rev. April 2017)

The depositor named on the application is establishing a Traditional individual retirement account under section 408(a) to provide for his or her retirement and for the support of his or her beneficiaries after death.

The custodian named on the application has given the depositor the disclosure statement required by Regulations section 1.408-6.

The depositor has assigned the custodial account the sum indicated on the application.

The depositor and the custodian make the following agreement:

ARTICLE I

Except in the case of a rollover contribution described in section 402(c), 403(a)(4), 403(b)(8), 408(d)(3), or 457(e)(16), an employer contribution to a simplified employee pension plan as described in section 408(k) or a recharacterized contribution described in section 408A(d)(6), the custodian will accept only cash contributions up to \$5,500 per year for tax years 2013 through 2017. For individuals who have reached the age of 50 by the end of the year, the contribution limit is increased to \$6,500 per year for tax years 2013 through 2017. For years after 2017, these limits will be increased to reflect a cost-of-living adjustment, if any.

ARTICLE II

The depositor's interest in the balance in the custodial account is nonforfeitable.

ARTICLE III

1. No part of the custodial account funds may be invested in life insurance contracts, nor may the assets of the custodial account be commingled with other property except in a common trust fund or common investment fund (within the meaning of section 408(a)(5)).
2. No part of the custodial account funds may be invested in collectibles (within the meaning of section 408(m)) except as otherwise permitted by section 408(m)(3), which provides an exception for certain gold, silver, and platinum coins, coins issued under the laws of any state, and certain bullion.

ARTICLE IV

1. Notwithstanding any provision of this agreement to the contrary, the distribution of the depositor's interest in the custodial account shall be made in accordance with the following requirements and shall otherwise comply with section 408(a)(6) and the regulations thereunder, the provisions of which are herein incorporated by reference.
2. The depositor's entire interest in the custodial account must be, or begin to be, distributed not later than the depositor's required beginning date, April 1 following the calendar year in which the depositor reaches age 70½. By that date, the depositor may elect, in a manner acceptable to the custodian, to have the balance in the custodial account distributed in: (a) A single sum or (b) Payments over a period not longer than the life of the depositor or the joint lives of the depositor and his or her designated beneficiary.
3. If the depositor dies before his or her entire interest is distributed to him or her, the remaining interest will be distributed as follows:
 - (a) If the depositor dies on or after the required beginning date and:
 - (i) the designated beneficiary is the depositor's surviving spouse, the remaining interest will be distributed over the surviving spouse's life expectancy as determined each year until such spouse's death, or over the period in paragraph (a)(iii) below if longer. Any interest remaining after the spouse's death will be distributed over such spouse's remaining life expectancy as

determined in the year of the spouse's death and reduced by one for each subsequent year, or, if distributions are being made over the period in paragraph (a)(iii) below, over such period.

- (ii) the designated beneficiary is not the depositor's surviving spouse, the remaining interest will be distributed over the beneficiary's remaining life expectancy as determined in the year following the death of the depositor and reduced by one for each subsequent year, or over the period in paragraph (a)(iii) below if longer.
 - (iii) there is no designated beneficiary, the remaining interest will be distributed over the remaining life expectancy of the depositor as determined in the year of the depositor's death and reduced by one for each subsequent year.
- (b) If the depositor dies before the required beginning date, the remaining interest will be distributed in accordance with paragraph (i) below or, if elected or there is no designated beneficiary, in accordance with paragraph (ii) below.
 - (i) The remaining interest will be distributed in accordance with paragraphs (a)(i) and (a)(ii) above (but not over the period in paragraph (a)(iii), even if longer), starting by the end of the calendar year following the year of the depositor's death. If, however, the designated beneficiary is the depositor's surviving spouse, then this distribution is not required to begin before the end of the calendar year in which the depositor would have reached age 70½. But, in such case, if the depositor's surviving spouse dies before distributions are required to begin, then the remaining interest will be distributed in accordance with paragraph (a)(ii) above (but not over the period in paragraph (a)(iii), even if longer), over such spouse's designated beneficiary's life expectancy, or in accordance with paragraph (ii) below if there is no such designated beneficiary.
 - (ii) The remaining interest will be distributed by the end of the calendar year containing the fifth anniversary of the depositor's death.
4. If the depositor dies before his or her entire interest has been distributed and if the designated beneficiary is not the depositor's surviving spouse, no additional contributions may be accepted in the account.
 5. The minimum amount that must be distributed each year, beginning with the year containing the depositor's required beginning date, is known as the "required minimum distribution" and is determined as follows:
 - (a) The required minimum distribution under paragraph 2(b) for any year, beginning with the year the depositor reaches age 70½, is the depositor's account value at the close of business on December 31 of the preceding year divided by the distribution period in the uniform lifetime table in Regulations section 1.401(a)(9)-9. However, if the depositor's designated beneficiary is his or her surviving spouse, the required minimum distribution for a year shall not be more than the depositor's account value at the close of business on December 31 of the preceding year divided by the number in the joint and last survivor table in Regulations section 1.401(a)(9)-9. The required minimum distribution for a year under this paragraph (a) is determined using the depositor's (or, if applicable, the depositor and spouse's) attained age (or ages) in the year.

- (b) The required minimum distribution under paragraphs 3(a) and 3(b)(i) for a year, beginning with the year following the year of the depositor's death (or the year the depositor would have reached age 70½, if applicable under paragraph 3(b)(i)) is the account value at the close of business on December 31 of the preceding year divided by the life expectancy (in the single life table in Regulations section 1.401(a)(9)-9) of the individual specified in such paragraphs 3(a) and 3(b)(i).
 - (c) The required minimum distribution for the year the depositor reaches age 70½ can be made as late as April 1 of the following year. The required minimum distribution for any other year must be made by the end of such year.
6. The owner of two or more Traditional IRAs may satisfy the minimum distribution requirements described above by taking from one Traditional IRA the amount required to satisfy the requirement for another in accordance with the regulations under section 408(a)(6).

ARTICLE V

1. The depositor agrees to provide the custodian with all information necessary to prepare any reports required by section 408(i) and Regulations sections 1.408-5 and 1.408-6.
2. The custodian agrees to submit to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and depositor the reports prescribed by the IRS.

ARTICLE VI

Notwithstanding any other articles which may be added or incorporated, the provisions of Articles I through III and this sentence will be controlling. Any additional articles inconsistent with section 408(a) and the related regulations will be invalid.

ARTICLE VII

This agreement will be amended as necessary to comply with the provisions of the Code and the related regulations. Other amendments may be made with the consent of the persons whose signatures appear on the application.

ARTICLE VIII

- 8.01 **Definitions** – In this part of this agreement (Article VIII), the words “you” and “your” mean the depositor. The words “we,” “us,” and “our” mean the custodian. The word “Code” means the Internal Revenue Code, and “regulations” means the Treasury regulations.
- 8.02 **Notices and Change of Address** – Any required notice regarding this IRA will be considered effective when we send it to the intended recipient at the last address that we have in our records. Any notice to be given to us will be considered effective when we actually receive it. You, or the intended recipient, must notify us of any change of address.
- 8.03 **Representations and Responsibilities** – You represent and warrant to us that any information you have given or will give us with respect to this agreement is complete and accurate. Further, you agree that any directions you give us or action you take will be proper under this agreement, and that we are entitled to rely upon any such information or directions. If we fail to receive directions from you regarding any transaction, if we receive ambiguous directions regarding any transaction, or if we, in good faith, believe that any transaction requested is in dispute, we reserve the right to take no action until further clarification acceptable to us is received from you or the appropriate government or judicial authority. We will not be responsible for losses of any kind that may result from your directions to us or your actions or failures to act, and you agree to reimburse us for any loss we may incur as a result of such directions, actions, or failures to act. We will not be responsible for any penalties, taxes, judgments, or expenses you incur in connection

with your IRA. We have no duty to determine whether your contributions or distributions comply with the Code, regulations, rulings, or this agreement.

We may permit you to appoint, through written notice acceptable to us, an authorized agent to act on your behalf with respect to this agreement (e.g., attorney-in-fact, executor, administrator, investment manager), but we have no duty to determine the validity of such appointment or any instrument appointing such authorized agent. We will not be responsible for losses of any kind that may result from directions, actions, or failures to act by your authorized agent, and you agree to reimburse us for any loss we may incur as a result of such directions, actions, or failures to act by your authorized agent.

You will have 60 days after you receive any documents, statements, or other information from us to notify us in writing of any errors or inaccuracies reflected in these documents, statements, or other information. If you do not notify us within 60 days, the documents, statements, or other information will be deemed correct and accurate, and we will have no further liability or obligation for such documents, statements, other information, or the transactions described therein.

By performing services under this agreement we are acting as your agent. You acknowledge and agree that nothing in this agreement will be construed as conferring fiduciary status upon us. We will not be required to perform any additional services unless specifically agreed to under the terms and conditions of this agreement, or as required under the Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder with respect to IRAs. You agree to indemnify and hold us harmless for any and all claims, actions, proceedings, damages, judgments, liabilities, costs, and expenses, including attorney's fees arising from or in connection with this agreement.

To the extent written instructions or notices are required under this agreement, we may accept or provide such information in any other form permitted by the Code or applicable regulations including, but not limited to, electronic communication.

- 8.04 **Disclosure of Account Information** – We may use agents and/or subcontractors to assist in administering your IRA. We may release nonpublic personal information regarding your IRA to such providers as necessary to provide the products and services made available under this agreement, and to evaluate our business operations and analyze potential product, service, or process improvements.
 - 8.05 **Service Fees** – We have the right to charge an annual service fee or other designated fees (e.g., a transfer, rollover, or termination fee) for maintaining your IRA. In addition, we have the right to be reimbursed for all reasonable expenses, including legal expenses, we incur in connection with the administration of your IRA. We may charge you separately for any fees or expenses, or we may deduct the amount of the fees or expenses from the assets in your IRA at our discretion. We reserve the right to charge any additional fee after giving you 30 days' notice. Fees such as subtransfer agent fees or commissions may be paid to us by third parties for assistance in performing certain transactions with respect to this IRA.
- Any brokerage commissions attributable to the assets in your IRA will be charged to your IRA. You cannot reimburse your IRA for those commissions.
- 8.06 **Investment of Amounts in the IRA** – You have exclusive responsibility for and control over the investment of the assets of your IRA. All transactions will be subject to any and all restrictions or limitations, direct or indirect, that are imposed by our charter, articles of incorporation, or bylaws; any and all applicable federal and state laws and regulations; the rules, regulations, customs and usages of

any exchange, market or clearing house where the transaction is executed; our policies and practices; and this agreement. After your death, your beneficiaries will have the right to direct the investment of your IRA assets, subject to the same conditions that applied to you during your lifetime under this agreement (including, without limitation, Section 8.03 of this article). We will have no discretion to direct any investment in your IRA. We assume no responsibility for rendering investment advice with respect to your IRA, nor will we offer any opinion or judgment to you on matters concerning the value or suitability of any investment or proposed investment for your IRA. In the absence of instructions from you, or if your instructions are not in a form acceptable to us, we will have the right to hold any uninvested amounts in cash, and we will have no responsibility to invest uninvested cash unless and until directed by you. We will not exercise the voting rights and other shareholder rights with respect to investments in your IRA unless you provide timely written directions acceptable to us.

You will select the investment for your IRA assets from those investments that we are authorized by our charter, articles of incorporation, or bylaws to offer and do in fact offer for IRAs (e.g., term share accounts, passbook accounts, certificates of deposit, money market accounts.) We may in our sole discretion make available to you additional investment offerings, which will be limited to publicly traded securities, mutual funds, money market instruments, and other investments that are obtainable by us and that we are capable of holding in the ordinary course of our business.

8.07 Beneficiaries – If you die before you receive all of the amounts in your IRA, payments from your IRA will be made to your beneficiaries. We have no obligation to pay to your beneficiaries until such time we are notified of your death by receiving a valid death certificate.

You may designate one or more persons or entities as beneficiary of your IRA. This designation can only be made on a form provided by or acceptable to us, and it will only be effective when it is filed with us during your lifetime. Each beneficiary designation you file with us will cancel all previous designations. The consent of your beneficiaries will not be required for you to revoke a beneficiary designation. If you have designated both primary and contingent beneficiaries and no primary beneficiary survives you, the contingent beneficiaries will acquire the designated share of your IRA. If you do not designate a beneficiary or if all of your primary and contingent beneficiaries predecease you, your estate will be the beneficiary.

A spouse beneficiary will have all rights as granted under the Code or applicable regulations to treat your IRA as his or her own.

We may allow, if permitted by state law, an original IRA beneficiary (the beneficiary who is entitled to receive distributions from an inherited IRA at the time of your death) to name successor beneficiaries for the inherited IRA. This designation can only be made on a form provided by or acceptable to us, and it will only be effective when it is filed with us during the original IRA beneficiary's lifetime. Each beneficiary designation form that the original IRA beneficiary files with us will cancel all previous designations. The consent of a successor beneficiary will not be required for the original IRA beneficiary to revoke a successor beneficiary designation. If the original IRA beneficiary does not designate a successor beneficiary, his or her estate will be the successor beneficiary. In no event will the successor beneficiary be able to extend the distribution period beyond that required for the original IRA beneficiary.

If we so choose, for any reason (e.g., due to limitations of our charter or bylaws), we may require that a beneficiary of a deceased IRA owner take total distribution of all IRA assets by December 31 of the year following the year of death.

8.08 Required Minimum Distributions – Your required minimum distribution is calculated using the uniform lifetime table in Regulations section 1.401(a)(9)-9. However, if your spouse is your sole designated beneficiary and is more than 10 years younger than you, your required minimum distribution is calculated each year using the joint and last survivor table in Regulations section 1.401(a)(9)-9.

If you fail to request your required minimum distribution by your required beginning date, we can, at our complete and sole discretion, do any one of the following.

- Make no distribution until you give us a proper withdrawal request
- Distribute your entire IRA to you in a single sum payment
- Determine your required minimum distribution from your IRA each year based on your life expectancy, calculated using the uniform lifetime table in Regulations section 1.401(a)(9)-9, and pay those distributions to you until you direct otherwise

We will not be liable for any penalties or taxes related to your failure to take a required minimum distribution.

8.09 Termination of Agreement, Resignation, or Removal of Custodian – Either party may terminate this agreement at any time by giving written notice to the other. We can resign as custodian at any time effective 30 days after we send written notice of our resignation to you. Upon receipt of that notice, you must make arrangements to transfer your IRA to another financial organization. If you do not complete a transfer of your IRA within 30 days from the date we send the notice to you, we have the right to transfer your IRA assets to a successor IRA trustee or custodian that we choose in our sole discretion, or we may pay your IRA to you in a single sum. We will not be liable for any actions or failures to act on the part of any successor trustee or custodian, nor for any tax consequences you may incur that result from the transfer or distribution of your assets pursuant to this section.

If this agreement is terminated, we may charge to your IRA a reasonable amount of money that we believe is necessary to cover any associated costs, including but not limited to one or more of the following.

- Any fees, expenses, or taxes chargeable against your IRA
- Any penalties or surrender charges associated with the early withdrawal of any savings instrument or other investment in your IRA

If we are a nonbank custodian required to comply with Regulations section 1.408-2(e) and we fail to do so or we are not keeping the records, making the returns, or sending the statements as are required by forms or regulations, the IRS may require us to substitute another trustee or custodian.

We may establish a policy requiring distribution of the entire balance of your IRA to you in cash or property if the balance of your IRA drops below the minimum balance required under the applicable investment or policy established.

8.10 Successor Custodian – If our organization changes its name, reorganizes, merges with another organization (or comes under the control of any federal or state agency), or if our entire organization (or any portion that includes your IRA) is bought by another organization, that organization (or agency) will automatically become the trustee or custodian of your IRA, but only if it is the type of organization authorized to serve as an IRA trustee or custodian.

8.11 **Amendments** – We have the right to amend this agreement at any time. Any amendment we make to comply with the Code and related regulations does not require your consent. You will be deemed to have consented to any other amendment unless, within 30 days from the date we send the amendment, you notify us in writing that you do not consent.

8.12 **Withdrawals or Transfers** – All requests for withdrawal or transfer will be in writing on a form provided by or acceptable to us. The method of distribution must be specified in writing or in any other method acceptable to us. The tax identification number of the recipient must be provided to us before we are obligated to make a distribution. Withdrawals will be subject to all applicable tax and other laws and regulations, including but not limited to possible early distribution penalty taxes, surrender charges, and withholding requirements.

8.13 **Transfers From Other Plans** – We can receive amounts transferred to this IRA from the trustee or custodian of another IRA. In addition, we can accept rollovers of eligible rollover distributions from employer-sponsored retirement plans as permitted by the Code. We reserve the right not to accept any transfer or direct rollover.

8.14 **Liquidation of Assets** – We have the right to liquidate assets in your IRA if necessary to make distributions or to pay fees, expenses, taxes, penalties, or surrender charges properly chargeable against your IRA. If you fail to direct us as to which assets to liquidate, we will decide, in our complete and sole discretion, and you agree to not hold us liable for any adverse consequences that result from our decision.

8.15 **Restrictions on the Fund** – Neither you nor any beneficiary may sell, transfer, or pledge any interest in your IRA in any manner whatsoever, except as provided by law or this agreement.

The assets in your IRA will not be responsible for the debts, contracts, or torts of any person entitled to distributions under this agreement.

8.16 **What Law Applies** – This agreement is subject to all applicable federal and state laws and regulations. If it is necessary to apply any state law to interpret and administer this agreement, the law of our domicile will govern.

If any part of this agreement is held to be illegal or invalid, the remaining parts will not be affected. Neither your nor our failure to enforce at any time or for any period of time any of the provisions of this agreement will be construed as a waiver of such provisions, or your right or our right thereafter to enforce each and every such provision.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

PURPOSE OF FORM

Form 5305-A is a model custodial account agreement that meets the requirements of section 408(a). However, only Articles I through VII have been reviewed by the IRS. A Traditional individual retirement account (Traditional IRA) is established after the form is fully executed by both the individual (depositor) and the custodian. To make a regular contribution to a Traditional IRA for a year, the IRA must be established no later than the due date of the individual's income tax return for the tax year (excluding extensions). This account must be created in the United States for the exclusive benefit of the depositor and his or her beneficiaries.

Do not file Form 5305-A with the IRS. Instead, keep it with your records.

For more information on IRAs, including the required disclosures the custodian must give the depositor, see Pub. 590-A, *Contributions to Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)*, and Pub. 590-B, *Distributions from Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)*.

DEFINITIONS

Custodian – The custodian must be a bank or savings and loan association, as defined in section 408(n), or any person who has the approval of the IRS to act as custodian.

Depositor – The depositor is the person who establishes the custodial account.

TRADITIONAL IRA FOR NONWORKING SPOUSE

Form 5305-A may be used to establish the IRA custodial account for a nonworking spouse.

Contributions to an IRA custodial account for a nonworking spouse must be made to a separate IRA custodial account established by the nonworking spouse.

SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Article IV – Distributions made under this article may be made in a single sum, periodic payment, or a combination of both. The distribution option should be reviewed in the year the depositor reaches age 70½ to ensure that the requirements of section 408(a)(6) have been met.

Article VIII – Article VIII and any that follow it may incorporate additional provisions that are agreed to by the depositor and custodian to complete the agreement. They may include, for example, definitions, investment powers, voting rights, exculpatory provisions, amendment and termination, removal of the custodian, custodian's fees, state law requirements, beginning date of distributions, accepting only cash, treatment of excess contributions, prohibited transactions with the depositor, etc. Attach additional pages if necessary.

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RIGHT TO REVOKE YOUR IRA

You have the right to revoke your IRA within seven days of the receipt of the disclosure statement. If revoked, you are entitled to a full return of the contribution you made to your IRA. The amount returned to you would not include an adjustment for such items as sales commissions, administrative expenses, or fluctuation in market value. You may make this revocation only by mailing or delivering a written notice to the custodian at the address listed on the application.

If you send your notice by first class mail, your revocation will be deemed mailed as of the postmark date.

If you have any questions about the procedure for revoking your IRA, please call the custodian at the telephone number listed on the application.

REQUIREMENTS OF AN IRA

- A. **Cash Contributions** – Your contribution must be in cash, unless it is a rollover contribution.
- B. **Maximum Contribution** – The total amount you may contribute to an IRA for any taxable year cannot exceed the lesser of 100 percent of your compensation or \$7,000 (for 2024 and 2025), with possible cost-of-living adjustments each year thereafter. If you also maintain a Roth IRA (i.e., an IRA subject to the limits of Internal Revenue Code Section (IRC Sec.) 408A), the maximum contribution to your Traditional IRAs is reduced by any contributions you make to your Roth IRAs. Your total annual contribution to all Traditional IRAs and Roth IRAs cannot exceed the lesser of the dollar amounts described above or 100 percent of your compensation.
- C. **Contribution Eligibility** – You are eligible to make a regular contribution to your IRA for a tax year at any age if you have compensation for the taxable year for which the contribution is made.
- D. **Catch-Up Contributions** – If you are age 50 or older by the close of the taxable year, you may make an additional contribution to your IRA. The maximum additional contribution is \$1,000 per year. This amount is subject to possible cost-of-living adjustments each year beginning in tax year 2025.
- E. **Nonforfeitable** – Your interest in your IRA is nonforfeitable.
- F. **Eligible Custodians** – The custodian of your IRA must be a bank, savings and loan association, credit union, or a person or entity approved by the Secretary of the Treasury.
- G. **Commingling Assets** – The assets of your IRA cannot be commingled with other property except in a common trust fund or common investment fund.
- H. **Life Insurance** – No portion of your IRA may be invested in life insurance contracts.
- I. **Collectibles** – You may not invest the assets of your IRA in collectibles (within the meaning of IRC Sec. 408(m)). A collectible is defined as any work of art, rug or antique, metal or gem, stamp or coin, alcoholic beverage, or other tangible personal property specified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). However, specially minted United States gold and silver coins, and certain state-issued coins are permissible investments. Platinum coins and certain gold, silver, platinum, or palladium bullion (as described in IRC Sec. 408(m)(3)) are also permitted as IRA investments.
- J. **Required Minimum Distributions** – You are required to take minimum distributions from your IRA at certain times in accordance with Treasury Regulation 1.408-8. Below is a summary of the IRA distribution rules.

1. **Applicable Age for RMDs** – You are required to take a minimum distribution from your IRA for the year in which you reach the applicable age for RMDs and for each year thereafter. The applicable age for RMDs is age 70½ if you were born before July 1, 1949; age 72 if you were born on or after July 1, 1949, but before January 1, 1951; age 73 if you were born on or after January 1, 1951, but before January 1, 1960; and age 75 if you were born on or after January 1, 1960. You must take your first distribution by your required beginning date, which is April 1 of the year following the year you attain the applicable age.

2. **Calculation** – The minimum distribution for any taxable year is equal to the amount obtained by dividing the account balance at the end of the previous year by the applicable denominator. The applicable denominator generally is determined using the Uniform Lifetime Table provided by the IRS. If your spouse is your sole designated beneficiary for the entire calendar year, and is more than 10 years younger than you, the RMD is determined each year using the actual joint life expectancy of you and your spouse obtained from the Joint Life Expectancy Table provided by the IRS, rather than the life expectancy factor from the Uniform Lifetime Table.

We reserve the right to do any one of the following by your required beginning date.

- (a) Make no distribution until you give us a proper withdrawal request
- (b) Distribute your entire IRA to you in a single sum payment
- (c) Determine your RMD each year based on your life expectancy calculated using the Uniform Lifetime Table, and pay those distributions to you until you direct otherwise

- K. **Beneficiary Distributions** – Upon your death, your beneficiaries are required to take distributions according to IRC Sec. 401(a)(9) and Treasury Regulation 1.408-8. These requirements are described below.

1. **Death of IRA Owner Before January 1, 2020** – Your designated beneficiary is determined based on the beneficiaries designated as of the date of your death, who remain your beneficiaries as of September 30 of the year following the year of your death.

If you die on or after your required beginning date, distributions must be made to your beneficiaries over the longer of the single life expectancy of your designated beneficiaries, or your remaining life expectancy. If a beneficiary other than a person or qualified trust as defined in the Treasury Regulations is named, you will be treated as having no designated beneficiary of your IRA for purposes of determining the distribution period. If there is no designated beneficiary of your IRA, distributions will commence using your single life expectancy, reduced by one in each subsequent year.

If you die before your required beginning date, the entire amount remaining in your account will, at the election of your designated beneficiaries, either

- (a) be distributed by December 31 of the year containing the fifth anniversary of your death, or
- (b) be distributed over the remaining life expectancy of your designated beneficiaries.

If your spouse is your sole designated beneficiary, he or she must elect either option (a) or (b) by the earlier of December 31 of the year containing the fifth anniversary of your death, or December 31 of the year life expectancy payments would be required to begin. Your designated beneficiaries, other than a spouse who is the sole designated beneficiary, must elect either option (a) or (b) by December 31 of the year following the year of your death. If no

election is made, distribution will be calculated in accordance with option (b). In the case of distributions under option (b), distributions must commence by December 31 of the year following the year of your death. Generally, if your spouse is the designated beneficiary, distributions need not commence until December 31 of the year you would have attained RMD age (as described in the *Required Minimum Distributions* section above), if later. If a beneficiary other than a person or qualified trust as defined in the Treasury Regulations is named, you will be treated as having no designated beneficiary of your IRA for purposes of determining the distribution period. If there is no designated beneficiary of your IRA, the entire IRA must be distributed by December 31 of the year containing the fifth anniversary of your death.

2. **Death of IRA Owner On or After January 1, 2020** – Upon your death, your IRA will be paid to your beneficiary. The beneficiary's options for payment will differ depending on whether the beneficiary is an eligible designated beneficiary, a designated beneficiary, or a nonperson beneficiary, and the timing of your death. The options described below assume that separate accounting for the inherited IRA is established by December 31 of the year following the year of your death. If separate accounting is not established by this date, your beneficiaries' options may be further limited, and payments may be accelerated. Beneficiaries should consult with their tax professional or attorney for a determination of their distribution options and payment calculations.

Designated Beneficiary. A designated beneficiary is an individual who is a beneficiary specified under the IRA. Certain see-through trusts may also qualify as a designated beneficiary under the IRA for purposes of determining available payment options and distribution calculations. For purposes of determining the RMD due after your death, a designated beneficiary is determined based on the beneficiaries designated as of the date of your death, who remain your beneficiaries as of September 30 of the year following the year of your death.

Eligible Designated Beneficiary. An eligible designated beneficiary is any designated beneficiary who, as of the date of your death, is one of the following:

- your surviving spouse,
- your child who has not reached age 21,
- a disabled individual (a physician must determine that the impairment can be expected to result in death or to be of long, continued, and indefinite duration),
- an individual who is not more than 10 years younger than you, or
- a chronically ill individual (the individual must have been certified by a licensed health care practitioner that, as of the date of the certification, the individual is someone who
 1. is unable to perform (without substantial assistance from another individual) at least two activities of daily living for an indefinite period that is reasonably expected to be lengthy in nature due to a loss of functional capacity,
 2. has a level of disability similar to the level of disability described above requiring assistance with daily living based on a loss of functional capacity, or
 3. requires substantial supervision to protect the individual from threats to health and safety due to severe cognitive impairment).

- (a) **Death Before Your Required Beginning Date.**

Designated Beneficiary. The entire amount remaining in your account will generally be distributed by December 31 of the year containing the tenth anniversary of your death unless you have an eligible designated beneficiary, or you have no designated beneficiary for purposes of determining a distribution period. This 10-year rule is not subject to an annual distribution requirement.

Eligible Designated Beneficiary. If your beneficiary is an eligible designated beneficiary, the beneficiary may choose to distribute the entire amount remaining in your account by using either the:

- (i) 10-year rule: This option requires a total distribution of the entire account by December 31 of the year containing the tenth anniversary of your death. No annual payment is required under this option.
- (ii) Life expectancy payment option: Annual payments taken over the remaining life expectancy of the eligible designated beneficiary.

If your spouse is your sole eligible designated beneficiary, he or she must elect either the 10-year rule or life expectancy payments by the earlier of December 31 of the year containing the tenth anniversary of your death, or December 31 of the year you would have attained the applicable age for RMDs. If no election is made, distributions will be made in accordance with the life expectancy payment option. All other eligible designated beneficiaries must elect either the 10-year rule or life expectancy payment option by December 31 of the year following the year of your death. If no election is made by an eligible designated beneficiary, payments will be made using the life expectancy payment option.

A nonspouse eligible designated beneficiary's remaining life expectancy is determined by using the beneficiary's age in the year following the year of your death to determine the factor from the IRS Single Life Expectancy table, reducing it by one in each subsequent year. A spouse beneficiary's remaining life expectancy is determined using the spouse beneficiary's age and the Uniform Lifetime Table each year, as permitted under the Treasury Regulations.

Note that certain trust beneficiaries (e.g., certain trusts for disabled and chronically ill individuals, and certain see-through trusts) may take a distribution of the amount remaining in your account over the remaining life expectancy of the designated beneficiary of the trust. The trustee of the trust is responsible for determining whether the trust is a see-through trust, the trust beneficiary's options, and the minimum payment required for the year. No trust paperwork is required to be provided to the IRA trustee or custodian.

Generally, life expectancy distributions to an eligible designated beneficiary must commence by December 31 of the year following the year of your death. However, if your spouse is the eligible designated beneficiary, distributions need not commence until December 31 of the year you would have attained the applicable age for RMDs (as described in the *Required Minimum Distributions* section above), if later. If your eligible designated beneficiary is your minor child, life expectancy payments must begin by December 31 of the year following the year of your death and continue until the child reaches the age of majority (age 21). Once the age of majority is reached, the beneficiary will have 10 years to deplete the account with annual payments continuing each year.

No Designated Beneficiary. If a beneficiary other than a person (e.g., your estate, a charity, or a trust that is not a see-through trust) is named, you will be treated as having no designated beneficiary of your IRA for purposes of determining the distribution period. If you die before your required beginning date and there is no designated beneficiary of your IRA, the entire IRA must be distributed by December 31 of the year containing the fifth anniversary of your death.

Hypothetical RMD. If your spouse beneficiary is using the ten-year rule and, before the tenth year, chooses to treat the IRA as his or her own or roll over the IRA to his or her own IRA or eligible employer-sponsored retirement plan, a hypothetical RMD may need to be calculated and distributed. This amount is not eligible to roll over or be treated as the spouse's own IRA. If, in the year the spouse is treating the IRA as his or her own IRA or rolling over to his or her own IRA, the spouse beneficiary will attain the applicable age for RMDs or older, the spouse beneficiary must calculate and distribute a hypothetical RMD amount that would have been required had the life expectancy payment option applied instead of the ten-year option. This RMD amount must be calculated and distributed for each year, beginning with the later of the year the IRA owner or the spouse beneficiary would have attained the applicable age for RMDs and for each year until the year the transaction moving the IRA to the spouse beneficiary's own IRA or plan occurs. The amount is calculated using the spouse beneficiary's life expectancy in those years determined using the Uniform Lifetime Table. For additional information on hypothetical RMD requirements, you may wish to obtain IRS Publication 590-B, *Distributions from Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)*, from the IRS or refer to the IRS website at www.irs.gov.

(b) Death On or After Your Required Beginning Date.

Designated Beneficiary. A portion of your account must continue to be distributed annually to your designated beneficiary. The amount of the distribution must be determined using the longer of your single life expectancy in the year of death, reduced by one each year, or the beneficiary's single life expectancy in the year after the year of your death, reduced by one each year. In addition, the account must be depleted by the earlier of December 31 of the year containing the tenth anniversary of your death or December 31 of the year the single life expectancy factor is equal to, or less than, one.

Eligible Designated Beneficiary. If your beneficiary is a nonspouse eligible designated beneficiary, the beneficiary may continue to distribute the amount remaining in your account over the longer of your single life expectancy in the year of death, reduced by one each year, or the beneficiary's single life expectancy in the year after the year of your death, reduced by one each year. Spouse beneficiaries may use the longer of your single life expectancy in the year of death, reduced by one each year, or the spouse beneficiary's life expectancy each year determined by using the Uniform Lifetime Table, as permitted under the Treasury Regulations. A minor child who is your beneficiary must continue the payments annually based upon the beneficiary's single life expectancy in the year after death, reduced by one, and must deplete the account by December 31 of the year the beneficiary attains age 31.

Note that certain trust beneficiaries (e.g., certain trusts for disabled and chronically ill individuals, and certain see-through trusts) may take a distribution of the amount remaining in your account over the longer of your single life expectancy or the remaining life expectancy of the beneficiary of the trust. The trustee of the trust is responsible for determining whether the trust is a see-through trust, the trust beneficiary's options, and the minimum payment required for the year. No trust paperwork is required to be provided to the IRA trustee or custodian.

No Designated Beneficiary. If you die on or after your required beginning date and there is no designated beneficiary of your IRA, distributions will continue to the beneficiary using your single life expectancy in the year of your death, reduced by one in each subsequent year.

Year of Death RMD. If you die before satisfying the RMD amount for the year, to avoid a 25 percent excess accumulation penalty tax a beneficiary must remove the remaining year-of-death RMD no later than the tax-filing deadline (including extensions thereof) for the taxable year of that beneficiary that begins with or within that calendar year (or, if later, the last day of the calendar year following the year of your death).

- (c) **Special Rules for Spouse Beneficiaries.** A spouse who is the sole eligible designated beneficiary of your entire IRA will be deemed to elect to treat your IRA as his or her own by either (1) transferring it to an IRA in the spouse beneficiary's name, (2) making contributions to your IRA or (3) failing to timely remove an RMD, other than the year of death RMD, from your IRA. Regardless of whether the spouse is the sole eligible designated beneficiary of your IRA, a spouse beneficiary may roll over his or her share of the assets to his or her own IRA or eligible employer-sponsored retirement plan.

If we so choose, for any reason (e.g., due to limitations of our charter or bylaws), we may require that a beneficiary of a deceased IRA owner take total distribution of all IRA assets by December 31 of the year following the year of death.

- L. **Missed RMD** – If you, or your beneficiary upon your death, fail to timely remove an RMD, an excess accumulation penalty tax of 25 percent is imposed on the amount of the RMD that should have been taken but was not. If the failure to take an RMD is corrected in a timely manner, the penalty tax is reduced to 10 percent. You, or your beneficiary upon your death, must file IRS Form 5329 along with the income tax return to report and remit any additional taxes to the IRS.

The correction window for the reduced penalty begins on the date the penalty tax is imposed and ends the earlier of: (1) the date a notice of deficiency regarding the tax is mailed, (2) the date the tax is assessed, or (3) the last day of the second taxable year beginning after the year in which the tax is imposed.

- M. **Qualifying Longevity Annuity Contracts and RMDs** – A qualifying longevity annuity contract (QLAC) is a deferred annuity contract that, among other requirements, must guarantee lifetime income starting no later than age 85.

When calculating your RMD, you may reduce the prior year end account value by the value of QLACs that your IRA holds as investments.

For more information on QLACs, you may wish to refer to the IRS website at www.irs.gov.

- N. **Waiver of 2020 RMD** – RMDs and life expectancy payments for beneficiaries were waived for calendar year 2020. If the five-year rule applies to an IRA with respect to any decedent, the five-year period is determined without regard to calendar year 2020 because of this waiver. For example, if an IRA owner died in 2019, the beneficiary's five-year period ends in 2025 instead of 2024.

INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF ESTABLISHING AN IRA

- A. **IRA Deductibility** – If you are eligible to contribute to your IRA, the amount of the contribution for which you may take a tax deduction will depend upon whether you (or, in some cases, your spouse) are an active participant in an employer-sponsored retirement plan. If you (and your spouse, if married) are not an active participant, your entire IRA contribution will be deductible. If you are an active participant (or are married to an active participant), the deductibility of your IRA contribution will depend on your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) and your tax filing status for the tax year for which the contribution was made. MAGI is determined on your income tax return using your adjusted gross income but disregarding any deductible IRA contribution and certain other deductions and exclusions.

Definition of Active Participant. Generally, you will be an active participant if you are covered by one or more of the following employer-sponsored retirement plans.

1. Qualified pension, profit sharing, 401(k), or stock bonus plan
2. Qualified annuity plan of an employer
3. Simplified employee pension (SEP) plan
4. Retirement plan established by the federal government, a state, or a political subdivision (except certain unfunded deferred compensation plans under IRC Sec. 457)
5. Tax-sheltered annuity for employees of certain tax-exempt organizations or public schools
6. Plan meeting the requirements of IRC Sec. 501(c)(18)
7. Savings incentive match plan for employees of small employers (SIMPLE) IRA plan or a SIMPLE 401(k) plan

If you do not know whether your employer maintains one of these plans or whether you are an active participant in a plan, check with your employer or your tax advisor. Also, the IRS Form W-2, *Wage and Tax Statement*, that you receive at the end of the year from your employer will indicate whether you are an active participant.

If you are an active participant, are single, and have MAGI within the applicable phase-out range listed below, the deductible amount of your contribution is determined as follows. (1) Begin with the appropriate phase-out range maximum for the applicable year (specified below) and subtract your MAGI; (2) divide this total by the difference between the phase-out maximum and minimum; and (3) multiply this number by the maximum allowable contribution for the applicable year, including catch-up contributions if you are age 50 or older. The resulting figure will be the maximum IRA deduction you may take. For example, if you are age 30 with MAGI of \$80,000 in 2025, your maximum deductible contribution is \$6,300 (the 2025 phase-out range maximum of \$89,000 minus your MAGI of \$80,000, divided by the difference between the maximum and minimum phase-out range limits of \$10,000, and multiplied by the contribution limit of \$7,000).

If you are an active participant, are married to an active participant and you file a joint income tax return and have MAGI within the applicable phase-out range listed below, the deductible amount of your contribution is determined as follows. (1) Begin with the appropriate phase-out maximum for the applicable year (specified below) and subtract your MAGI; (2) divide this total by the difference between the phase-out range maximum and minimum; and (3) multiply this number by the maximum allowable contribution for the applicable year, including catch-up contributions if you are age 50 or older. The resulting figure will be the maximum IRA deduction you may take. For example, if you are age 30 with MAGI of \$129,000 in 2025, your maximum deductible contribution is \$5,950 (the 2025 phase-out maximum of \$146,000 minus your MAGI of \$129,000, divided by the difference between the maximum and minimum phase-out limits of \$20,000, and multiplied by the contribution limit of \$7,000).

If you are an active participant, are married and you file a separate income tax return, your MAGI phase-out range is generally \$0–\$10,000. However, if you lived apart for the entire tax year, you are treated as a single filer.

Tax Year	Joint Filers Phase-Out Range*		Single Taxpayers Phase-Out Range*	
	(minimum)	(maximum)	(minimum)	(maximum)
2023	\$116,000	\$136,000	\$73,000	\$83,000
2024	\$123,000	\$143,000	\$77,000	\$87,000
2025	\$126,000	\$146,000	\$79,000	\$89,000

*MAGI limits are subject to cost-of-living adjustments each year.

The MAGI phase-out range for an individual that is not an active participant, but is married to an active participant, is \$230,000–\$240,000 (for 2024) and \$236,000–\$246,000 (for 2025). This limit is also subject to cost-of-living increases for tax years after 2025. If you are not an active participant in an employer-sponsored retirement plan, are married to someone who is an active participant, and you file a joint income tax return with MAGI between the applicable phase-out range for the year, your maximum deductible contribution is determined as follows. (1) Begin with the appropriate MAGI phase-out maximum for the year and subtract your MAGI; (2) divide this total by the difference between the phase-out range maximum and minimum; and (3) multiply this number by the maximum allowable contribution for the applicable year, including catch-up contributions if you are age 50 or older. The resulting figure will be the maximum IRA deduction you may take.

You must round the resulting deduction to the next highest \$10 if the number is not a multiple of 10. If your resulting deduction is between \$0 and \$200, you may round up to \$200.

- B. Contribution Deadline** – The deadline for making an IRA contribution is your tax return due date (not including extensions). You may designate a contribution as a contribution for the preceding taxable year in a manner acceptable to us. For example, if you are a calendar-year taxpayer and you make your IRA contribution on or before your tax filing deadline, your contribution is considered to have been made for the previous tax year if you designate it as such.

If you are a member of the Armed Forces serving in a combat zone, hazardous duty area, or contingency operation, you may have an extended contribution deadline of 180 days after the last day served in the area. In addition, your contribution deadline for a particular tax year is also extended by the number of days that remained to file that year’s tax return as of the date you entered the combat zone. This additional extension to make your IRA contribution cannot exceed the number of days between January 1 and your tax filing deadline, not including extensions.

- C. Tax Credit for Contributions** – You may be eligible to receive a tax credit for your Traditional IRA contributions. This credit will be allowed in addition to any tax deduction that may apply and may not exceed \$1,000 in a given year. You may be eligible for this tax credit if you are

- age 18 or older as of the close of the taxable year,
- not a dependent of another taxpayer, and
- not a full-time student.

The credit is based upon your income (see chart below) and will range from 0 to 50 percent of eligible contributions. In order to determine the amount of your contributions, add all of the contributions made to your Traditional IRA and reduce these contributions by any distributions that you have taken during the testing period. The testing period begins two years prior to the year for which the credit is sought and ends on the tax return due date (including extensions) for the year for which the credit is sought. In order to determine your tax credit, multiply the applicable percentage from the chart below by the amount of your contributions that do not exceed \$2,000.

2024 Adjusted Gross Income*						Applicable Percentage
Joint Return		Head of Household		All Other Cases		
Over	Not Over	Over	Not Over	Over	Not Over	
	\$46,000		\$34,500		\$23,000	50
\$46,000	\$50,000	\$34,500	\$37,500	\$23,000	\$25,000	20
\$50,000	\$76,500	\$37,500	\$57,375	\$25,000	\$38,250	10
\$76,500		\$57,375		\$38,250		0

2025 Adjusted Gross Income*						Applicable Percentage
Joint Return		Head of Household		All Other Cases		
Over	Not Over	Over	Not Over	Over	Not Over	
	\$47,500		\$35,625		\$23,750	50
\$47,500	\$51,000	\$35,625	\$38,250	\$23,750	\$25,500	20
\$51,000	\$79,000	\$38,250	\$59,250	\$25,500	\$39,500	10
\$79,000		\$59,250		\$39,500		0

*Adjusted gross income (AGI) includes foreign earned income and income from Guam, America Samoa, North Mariana Islands, and Puerto Rico. AGI limits are subject to cost-of-living adjustments each year.

D. **Excess Contributions** – An excess contribution is any amount that is contributed to your IRA that exceeds the amount that you are eligible to contribute. If the excess is not corrected timely, an additional penalty tax of six percent will be imposed upon the excess amount. The procedure for correcting an excess is determined by the timeliness of the correction as identified below.

- 1. Removal Before Your Tax Filing Deadline.** An excess contribution may be corrected by withdrawing the excess amount, along with the earnings attributable to the excess, before your tax filing deadline, including extensions, for the year for which the excess contribution was made. An excess withdrawn under this method is not taxable to you, but you must include the earnings attributable to the excess in your taxable income in the year in which the contribution was made. The six percent excess contribution penalty tax will be avoided.
- 2. Removal After Your Tax Filing Deadline.** If you are correcting an excess contribution after your tax filing deadline, including extensions, remove only the amount of the excess contribution. The six percent excess contribution penalty tax will be imposed on the excess contribution for each year it remains in the IRA. An excess withdrawal under this method will only be taxable to you if the total contributions made in the year of the excess exceed the annual applicable contribution limit.
- 3. Carry Forward to a Subsequent Year.** If you do not withdraw the excess contribution, you may carry forward the contribution for a subsequent tax year. To do so, you under-contribute for that tax year and carry the excess contribution amount forward to that year on your tax return. The six percent excess contribution penalty tax will be imposed on the excess amount for each year that it remains as an excess contribution at the end of the year.

You must file IRS Form 5329 along with your income tax return to report and remit any additional taxes to the IRS.

- E. **Tax-Deferred Earnings** – The investment earnings of your IRA are not subject to federal income tax until distributions are made (or, in certain instances, when distributions are deemed to be made).
- F. **Nondeductible Contributions** – You may make nondeductible contributions to your IRA to the extent that deductible contributions are not allowed. The sum of your deductible and nondeductible IRA contributions cannot exceed your contribution limit (the lesser of the allowable contribution limit described previously, or 100 percent of compensation). You may elect to treat deductible IRA contributions as nondeductible contributions.

If you make nondeductible contributions for a particular tax year, you must report the amount of the nondeductible contribution along with your income tax return using IRS Form 8606. Failure to file IRS Form 8606 will result in a \$50 per failure penalty.

If you overstate the amount of designated nondeductible contributions for any taxable year, you are subject to a \$100 penalty unless reasonable cause for the overstatement can be shown.

G. **Taxation of Distributions** – The taxation of IRA distributions depends on whether or not you have ever made nondeductible IRA contributions. If you have only made deductible contributions, all IRA distribution amounts will be included in income.

If you have ever made nondeductible contributions to any IRA, the following formula must be used to determine the amount of any IRA distribution excluded from income.

$$\frac{\text{(Aggregate Nondeductible Contributions)} \times \text{(Amount Withdrawn)}}{\text{Aggregate IRA Balance}} = \text{Amount Excluded From Income}$$

NOTE: Aggregate nondeductible contributions include all nondeductible contributions made by you through the end of the year of the distribution that have not previously been withdrawn and excluded from income. Also note that the aggregate IRA balance includes the total balance of all of your Traditional and SIMPLE IRAs as of the end of the year of distribution and any distributions occurring during the year.

H. **Income Tax Withholding** – Ten percent federal income tax withholding will be applied to a withdrawal from your IRA unless you choose to withhold a different amount or elect not to have withholding apply. We are not required to withhold taxes from any distribution that we reasonably believe is not taxable.

- 1. Early Distribution Penalty Tax** – If you receive an IRA distribution before you attain age 59½, an additional early distribution penalty tax of 10 percent will apply to the taxable amount of the distribution unless one of the following exceptions apply. **1) Death.** After your death, payments made to your beneficiary are not subject to the 10 percent early distribution penalty tax. **2) Disability.** If you are disabled at the time of distribution, you are not subject to the additional 10 percent early distribution penalty tax. In order to be disabled, a physician must determine that your impairment can be expected to result in death or to be of long, continued, and indefinite duration. **3) Substantially equal periodic payments.** You are not subject to the additional 10 percent early distribution penalty tax if you are taking a series of substantially equal periodic payments (at least annual payments) over your life expectancy or the joint life expectancy of you and your beneficiary. You must continue these payments for the longer of five years or until you reach age 59½. **4) Unreimbursed medical expenses.** If you take payments to pay for unreimbursed medical expenses that exceed a specified percentage of your adjusted gross income, you will not be subject to the 10 percent early distribution penalty tax. For further detailed information and effective dates you may obtain IRS Publication 590-B, *Distributions from Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)*, from the IRS. The medical expenses may be for you, your spouse, or any dependent listed on your tax return. **5) Health insurance premiums.** If you are unemployed and have received unemployment compensation for 12 consecutive weeks under a federal or state program, you may take payments from your IRA to pay for health insurance premiums without incurring the 10 percent early distribution penalty tax. **6) Higher education expenses.** Payments taken for certain qualified higher education expenses for you, your spouse, or the children or grandchildren of you or your spouse, will not be subject to the 10 percent early distribution penalty tax. **7) First-time homebuyer.** You may take payments from your IRA to use toward qualified acquisition costs of buying or building a principal residence. The amount you may take for this reason may not exceed a lifetime maximum of \$10,000. The payment must be used for qualified acquisition costs within 120 days of receiving the distribution. **8) IRS levy.** Payments from your IRA made to the U.S. government in response to a federal tax levy are not subject to the 10 percent early distribution penalty tax. **9) Qualified reservist distributions.** If you are a qualified reservist member called to active duty for more than 179 days or an indefinite period, the payments you take from your IRA during the active-duty period are not subject to the 10 percent early

distribution penalty tax. **10) Qualified birth or adoption.** Payments from your IRA for the birth of your child or the adoption of an eligible adoptee will not be subject to the 10 percent early distribution penalty tax if the distribution is taken during the one-year period beginning on the date of birth of your child or the date on which your legal adoption of an eligible adoptee is finalized. An eligible adoptee means any individual (other than your spouse's child) who has not attained age 18 or is physically or mentally incapable of self-support. The aggregate amount you may take for this reason may not exceed \$5,000 for each birth or adoption. **11) Terminal illness.** Payments from your IRA made because you are terminally ill are not subject to the 10 percent early distribution penalty tax. You are terminally ill if you have been certified by a physician, in accordance with documentation requirements to be established by the IRS, as having an illness or physical condition that can reasonably be expected to result in death in 84 months or less after the date of the certification. **12) Qualified disaster recovery distribution.** If you are an affected IRA owner in a federally declared disaster area who has sustained an economic loss by reason of such qualified disaster, you may take up to \$22,000 per disaster from your IRA without incurring the 10 percent early distribution penalty tax. **13) Domestic abuse.** If you are a victim of domestic abuse you may withdraw up to \$10,000 (subject to possible cost-of-living adjustments each year beginning in 2025) or 50% of your IRA balance, whichever is less, within one year of the abuse without incurring the 10 percent early distribution penalty tax. **14) Emergency personal expenses.** You may take one withdrawal in a calendar year as an emergency personal expense distribution for purposes of meeting unforeseeable or immediate financial needs relating to necessary personal or family emergency expenses, without incurring the 10 percent early distribution penalty tax. The amount that may be treated as an emergency personal expense distribution in any calendar year is \$1,000 or the total balance in your IRA over \$1,000, determined as of the date of each such distribution, whichever is less. No further emergency personal expense distributions are allowed during the immediately following three calendar years unless repayment occurs, or you have made IRA contributions after the previous distribution in an amount at least equal to the previous distribution that has not been repaid.

You must file IRS Form 5329 along with your income tax return to the IRS to report and remit any additional taxes or to claim a penalty tax exception.

J. Traditional IRA Portability – Your Traditional IRA may be transferred to another Traditional IRA or SIMPLE IRA of yours, rolled over to another Traditional IRA, SIMPLE IRA, or eligible employer-sponsored retirement plan of yours, may receive transfer or rollover contributions, or may be converted to a Roth IRA, provided that all of the applicable rules are followed. Rollover is a term used to describe a movement of cash or other property to your IRA from another IRA, or from your employer's qualified retirement plan, 403(a) annuity, 403(b) tax-sheltered annuity, 457(b) eligible governmental deferred compensation plan, or federal Thrift Savings Plan. The amount rolled over is not subject to taxation or the additional 10 percent early distribution penalty tax. Conversion is a term used to describe the movement of Traditional IRA assets to a Roth IRA. A conversion generally is a taxable event. The general portability rules are summarized below. These transactions are often complex. If you have any questions regarding a transfer, rollover, or conversion, please see a competent tax advisor.

1. Traditional IRA-to-Traditional IRA Transfers. You may transfer your Traditional IRA to another Traditional IRA at any time with no limits on the number of transfers that may be completed in a 12-month period. A transfer is the movement of assets directly from one IRA to another and is not subject to taxation or the early distribution penalty tax. You may not transfer a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA.

- 2. Traditional IRA-to-Traditional IRA Rollovers.** Assets distributed from your Traditional IRA may be rolled over to the same Traditional IRA or another Traditional IRA of yours if the requirements of IRC Sec. 408(d)(3) are met.
- 3. SIMPLE IRA-to-Traditional IRA Rollovers and Transfers.** Assets from your SIMPLE IRA may be rolled over or transferred to your Traditional IRA provided two years have passed since you first participated in a SIMPLE IRA plan sponsored by your employer.
- 4. Traditional IRA-to-SIMPLE IRA Rollovers and Transfers.** Your Traditional IRA may be rolled over or transferred to a SIMPLE IRA if the requirements of IRC Sec. 408(d)(3) are met and if two years have passed since you first participated in a SIMPLE IRA plan sponsored by your employer.

5. IRA-to-IRA Rollover Restrictions. A distribution that is payable to you and is eligible to be rolled over from any IRA must be rolled over within 60 days after the distribution is received. In the case of a distribution for a first-time homebuyer where there was a delay or cancellation of the purchase, the 60-day rollover period may be extended to 120 days.

Only one distribution from any IRA (Traditional, Roth, or SIMPLE) may be rolled over to another IRA in a 12-month period, regardless of the number of IRAs you own. A distribution may be rolled over to the same IRA or to another IRA that is eligible to receive the rollover.

If you are required to take an RMD for the year, you must remove all of your RMDs for the year for all of your IRAs before rolling over a distribution from any Traditional or SIMPLE IRA. The first distribution taken from your IRA will go toward satisfying your RMD and may not be rolled over.

For more information on rollover limitations, you may obtain IRS Publication 590-B, *Distributions from Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)*, from the IRS or refer to the IRS website at www.irs.gov.

- 6. Employer-Sponsored Retirement Plan-to-Traditional IRA Rollovers.** You may roll over, directly or indirectly, any eligible rollover distribution from an eligible employer-sponsored retirement plan. An eligible rollover distribution is defined generally as any distribution from a qualified retirement plan, 403(a) annuity, 403(b) tax-sheltered annuity, 457(b) eligible governmental deferred compensation plan, or federal Thrift Savings Plan unless it is a required minimum distribution, hardship distribution, part of a certain series of substantially equal periodic payments, corrective distributions of excess contributions, excess deferrals, excess annual additions and any income allocable to the excess, deemed loan distribution, dividends on employer securities, the cost of life insurance coverage, or a distribution of designated Roth account assets from a 401(k), 403(b), governmental 457(b), or federal Thrift Savings Plan.

If you elect to receive your rollover distribution prior to placing it in an IRA, thereby conducting an indirect rollover, your plan administrator generally will be required to withhold 20 percent of your distribution as a payment of income taxes. When completing the rollover, you may make up out of pocket the amount withheld and roll over the full amount distributed from your employer-sponsored retirement plan. To qualify as a rollover, your eligible rollover distribution generally must be rolled over to your IRA not later than 60 days after you receive the distribution. In the case of a plan loan offset due to plan termination or severance from employment, the deadline for completing the rollover is your tax return due date (including extensions) for the year in which the offset occurs. Alternatively, you may claim the withheld amount as income, and pay the applicable income tax and, if you are under age 59½, the 10 percent early distribution penalty tax (unless an exception to the penalty applies).

As an alternative to the indirect rollover, your employer generally must give you the option to directly roll over your employer-sponsored retirement plan balance to an IRA. If you elect the direct rollover option, your eligible rollover distribution will be paid directly to the IRA (or other eligible employer-sponsored retirement plan) that you designate. The 20 percent withholding requirements do not apply to direct rollovers.

7. Beneficiary Rollovers From Employer-Sponsored Retirement Plans.

If you are a spouse or nonspouse beneficiary of a deceased employer-sponsored retirement plan participant, or the trustee of an eligible type of trust named as beneficiary of such participant, you may directly roll over inherited assets, less any applicable RMDs for the year, from a qualified retirement plan, 403(a) annuity, 403(b) tax-sheltered annuity, or 457(b) eligible governmental deferred compensation plan to an inherited IRA, as permitted by the IRS. A spouse beneficiary may also indirectly roll over these assets to an inherited IRA within 60 days of receipt. The IRA must be maintained as an inherited IRA, subject to the beneficiary distribution requirements.

8. Traditional IRA-to-Employer-Sponsored Retirement Plan Rollovers.

You may roll over, directly or indirectly, any taxable eligible rollover distribution from an IRA to your qualified retirement plan, 403(a) annuity, 403(b) tax-sheltered annuity, or 457(b) eligible governmental deferred compensation plan as long as the employer-sponsored retirement plan accepts such rollover contributions.

9. Traditional IRA-to-Roth IRA Conversions.

If you convert to a Roth IRA, the amount of the conversion from your Traditional IRA to your Roth IRA will be treated as a distribution for income tax purposes and is includible in your gross income (except for any nondeductible contributions). Although the conversion amount generally is included in income, the 10 percent early distribution penalty tax will not apply to conversions from a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA, regardless of whether you qualify for any exceptions to the 10 percent penalty tax. If you are required to take an RMD for the year, you must remove all of your RMDs for all of your IRAs before converting your Traditional IRA.

10. Qualified HSA Funding Distribution.

If you are eligible to contribute to a health savings account (HSA), you may be eligible to take a one-time tax-free qualified HSA funding distribution from your IRA and directly deposit it to your HSA. The amount of the qualified HSA funding distribution may not exceed the maximum HSA contribution limit in effect for the type of high deductible health plan coverage (i.e., single or family coverage) that you have at the time of the deposit and counts toward your HSA contribution limit for that year. For further detailed information, you may wish to obtain IRS Publication 969, *Health Savings Accounts and Other Tax-Favored Health Plans*.

11. Rollover of IRS Levy.

If you receive a refund of eligible retirement plan assets that had been wrongfully levied, you may roll over the amount returned up until your tax return due date (not including extensions) for the year in which the money was returned.

12. Written Election.

At the time you make a rollover to an IRA, you must designate in writing to the custodian your election to treat that contribution as a rollover. Once made, the rollover election is irrevocable.

K. Repayments of Certain Distributions.

1. Qualified Birth or Adoption Distributions. If you have taken a qualified birth or adoption distribution, you may generally pay all or a portion of the aggregate amount of such distribution to an IRA at any time during the three-year period beginning on the day after the date on which such distribution was received. In the case

of a qualified birth or adoption distribution made on or before December 29, 2022, the deadline to repay the distribution is December 31, 2025.

2. Terminal Illness Distributions. If you have taken a distribution due to a terminal illness, you may generally pay all or a portion of the aggregate amount of such distribution to an IRA at any time during the three-year period beginning on the day after the date on which such distribution was received.

3. Domestic Abuse Distributions. If you have taken a distribution because you are a victim of domestic abuse, you may generally pay all or a portion of the aggregate amount of such distribution to an IRA at any time during the three-year period beginning on the day after the date on which such distribution was received.

4. Emergency Personal Expense Distributions. If you had taken an emergency personal expense distribution, the distribution may be repaid within a three-year period. No further emergency personal expense distributions are allowed during the immediately following three calendar years unless repayment occurs, or you have made IRA contributions after the previous distribution in an amount at least equal to the previous distribution that has not been repaid.

5. Qualified Disaster Recovery Distributions. If you have taken a qualified disaster recovery distribution, the distribution may be recontributed to an IRA at any time during the three-year period beginning on the day after the date on which such distribution was received.

For further information, you may wish to obtain IRS Publication 590-A, *Contributions to Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)*, or refer to the IRS website at www.irs.gov.

L. Transfer Due to Divorce – If all or any part of your IRA is awarded to your spouse or former spouse in a divorce or legal separation proceeding, the amount so awarded will be treated as the spouse's IRA (and may be transferred pursuant to a court-approved divorce decree or written legal separation agreement to another IRA of your spouse) and will not be considered a taxable distribution to you. A transfer is a tax-free direct movement of cash and/or property from one Traditional IRA to another.

M. Recharacterizations – If you make a contribution to a Traditional IRA and later recharacterize either all or a portion of the original contribution to a Roth IRA along with net income attributable, you may elect to treat the original contribution as having been made to the Roth IRA. The same methodology applies when recharacterizing a contribution from a Roth IRA to a Traditional IRA. The deadline for completing a recharacterization is your tax filing deadline (including any extensions) for the year for which the original contribution was made. You may not recharacterize a Roth IRA conversion.

LIMITATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

A. SEP Plans – Under a simplified employee pension (SEP) plan that meets the requirements of IRC Sec. 408(k), your employer may make contributions to your IRA. Your employer is required to provide you with information that describes the terms of your employer's SEP plan.

B. Spousal IRA – You may contribute to an IRA established for the benefit of your spouse, regardless of your spouse's age and whether or not your spouse has compensation, if you are married and have compensation for the taxable year for which the contribution is made. You must file a joint income tax return for the year for which the contribution is made.

The amount you may contribute to your IRA and your spouse's IRA is the lesser of 100 percent of your combined eligible compensation or \$14,000 for 2024 and 2025. This amount may be increased with cost-of-living adjustments each year. However, you may not contribute more than the individual contribution limit to each IRA.

If your spouse is age 50 or older by the close of the taxable year, and is otherwise eligible, you may make an additional contribution to your spouse's IRA. The maximum additional contribution is \$1,000 per year. This amount is subject to possible cost-of-living adjustments each year beginning in 2025.

- C. **Deduction of Rollovers and Transfers** – A deduction is not allowed for rollover or transfer contributions.
- D. **Gift Tax** – Transfers of your IRA assets to a beneficiary made during your life and at your request may be subject to federal gift tax under IRC Sec. 2501.
- E. **Special Tax Treatment** – Capital gains treatment and 10-year income averaging authorized by IRC Sec. 402 do not apply to IRA distributions.
- F. **Prohibited Transactions** – If you or your beneficiary engage in a prohibited transaction with your IRA, as described in IRC Sec. 4975, your IRA will lose its tax-deferred status, and you must include the value of your account in your gross income for that taxable year. The following transactions are examples of prohibited transactions with your IRA. (1) Taking a loan from your IRA (2) Buying property for personal use (present or future) with IRA assets (3) Receiving certain bonuses or premiums because of your IRA.
- G. **Pledging** – If you pledge any portion of your IRA as collateral for a loan, the amount so pledged will be treated as a distribution and will be included in your gross income for that year.

OTHER

- A. **IRS Plan Approval** – Articles I through VII of the agreement used to establish this IRA have been approved by the IRS. The IRS approval is a determination only as to form. It is not an endorsement of the plan in operation or of the investments offered.
- B. **Additional Information** – For further information on IRAs, you may wish to obtain IRS Publication 590-A, *Contributions to Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)*, or Publication 590-B, *Distributions from Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)*, by calling 800-TAX-FORM, or by visiting www.irs.gov on the Internet.
- C. **Important Information About Procedures for Opening a New Account** – To help the government fight the funding of terrorism and money laundering activities, federal law requires all financial organizations to obtain, verify, and record information that identifies each person who opens an account. Therefore, when you open an IRA, you are required to provide your name, residential address, date of birth, and identification number. We may require other information that will allow us to identify you.
- D. **Qualified Reservist Distributions** – If you are an eligible qualified reservist who has taken penalty-free qualified reservist distributions from your IRA or retirement plan, you may recontribute those amounts to an IRA generally within a two-year period from your date of return.
- E. **Qualified Charitable Distributions** – If you are age 70½ or older, you may be eligible to take tax-free IRA distributions of up to \$105,000 (for 2024) or \$108,000 (for 2025) per year and have these distributions paid directly to certain charitable organizations. This amount is subject to possible cost-of-living adjustments each year beginning in tax year 2025. A qualified charitable distribution also includes a one-time charitable distribution of up to \$50,000 to a split interest entity (i.e., charitable gift annuity, charitable remainder unitrust, and charitable remainder annuity trust). Special tax rules may apply. For

further detailed information you may obtain IRS Publication 590-B, *Distributions from Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)*, from the IRS or refer to the IRS website at www.irs.gov.

- F. **Disaster Related Relief** – If you qualify (for example, you sustained an economic loss due to, or are otherwise considered affected by, a federally-declared disaster in a specified disaster area), you may be eligible for favorable tax treatment on distributions, rollovers, and other transactions involving your IRA. Qualified disaster relief includes an automatic 60-day extension to perform certain acts and may include penalty-tax free early distributions made during specified timeframes for each disaster, the ability to include distributions in your gross income ratably over multiple years, the ability to roll over distributions to an eligible retirement plan without regard to the 60-day rollover rule, and more.

Qualified Disaster Recovery Distributions. If your principal residence is located in a qualified disaster area and you have sustained an economic loss by reason of such disaster, you may receive up to \$22,000 per disaster in aggregate distributions from your retirement plans and IRAs as qualified disaster recovery distributions. A qualified disaster is any major disaster declared by the President under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act after January 26, 2021. These distributions are not subject to the 10 percent early distribution penalty tax. In addition, unless you elect otherwise, any amount required to be included in your gross income for such taxable year shall be included ratably over a three-taxable year period, beginning with the taxable year of the distribution. Qualified disaster recovery distributions may be repaid at any time generally within a three-year period beginning on the day after the date the distribution was received.

Repayments of Withdrawals for Home Purchase. If you received a qualified first-time homebuyer distribution to purchase or construct a principal residence in the qualified disaster area, but which was not used on account of the qualified disaster, you are able to repay the distribution within 180 days of the applicable date of such disaster. The distribution must have been received during the period (1) beginning 180 days before the first day of the FEMA declared incident period, and (2) ending 30 days after the last day of the FEMA declared incident period.

For additional information on specific disasters, including a complete listing of disaster areas, qualification requirements for relief, and allowable disaster-related IRA transactions, you may wish to obtain IRS Publication 590-B, *Distributions from Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)*, from the IRS or refer to the IRS website at www.irs.gov.

METHOD II Growth can be projected

The financial projections below show the amount that would be available if you were to withdraw your IRA assets at the indicated times. These projections are based on the following assumptions.

CONTRIBUTION *(Select one)*

- Regular.** An annual \$1,000 deposit is made on the first day of each year.
- Rollover, Transfer, or Conversion.*** A one-time \$1,000 deposit is made on the first day of the first year.

Your Age on Your Birth Date in Contribution Year _____

Investment Instrument _____

Length of Time Deposit _____

Rate of Interest _____ %

Compounding Method _____

FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS

Number of Years in IRA Program	Total Accumulation of IRA Dollars	Amount After Fees and Penalties
1 Year	\$ _____	\$ _____
2 Years	\$ _____	\$ _____
3 Years	\$ _____	\$ _____
4 Years	\$ _____	\$ _____
5 Years	\$ _____	\$ _____

End of the Year You Reach Age	Total Accumulation of IRA Dollars	Amount After Fees and Penalties
60	\$ _____	\$ _____
65	\$ _____	\$ _____
70	\$ _____	\$ _____

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

The account values shown are projections based on many assumptions. These projections have been reduced by any applicable fees. They are not guaranteed, but depend upon many factors, including the interest rates and terms of future funding instruments.

We may charge you an annual service fee or other fees in connection with your IRA. If we do not charge these fees now, we may do so in the future after giving you notice. If you do not pay these fees separately, they may be paid from the assets of your IRA.

CURRENT FEES

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

*Conversion applies to Roth IRAs only

METHOD III Growth cannot be projected

The value of your IRA will be dependent solely upon the performance of any investment instrument used to fund your IRA. Therefore, no projection of the growth of your IRA can reasonably be shown or guaranteed.

Terms and conditions of the IRA that affect your investment are listed below.

INVESTMENT OPTIONS

You may direct the investment of your funds within this IRA into any investment instrument offered by or through the Custodian. The Custodian will not exercise any investment discretion regarding your IRA, as this is solely your responsibility.

FEES

There are certain fees and charges connected with your IRA investments. These fees and charges may include the following.

- Sales Commissions
- Investment Management Fees
- Distribution Fees
- Set Up Fees
- Annual Maintenance Fees
- Surrender or Termination Fees

To find out what fees apply, refer to the investment prospectus or contract.

There may be certain fees and charges connected with the IRA itself. *(Select and complete as applicable.)*

- Annual Service Fee \$ _____
- Transfer Fee \$ _____
- Rollover Fee \$ _____
- Termination Fee \$ _____
- Other *(Explain)* _____

We reserve the right to change any of the above fees after notice to you, as provided in your IRA agreement.

EARNINGS

The method for computing and allocating annual earnings (e.g., interest, dividends) on your IRA will differ based on the nature and issuer of the investments chosen. Refer to the investment prospectus or contract for the methods used for computing and allocating annual earnings.

OTHER

Other terms or conditions that apply to your IRA include the following.

IRS Approval Letter



TAX EXEMPT AND
GOVERNMENT ENTITIES
DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20224

JUN 26 2019

Axos Clearing, LLC
Attn.: Mr. Jeffrey N. Sime, President
1200 Landmark Center, Suite 800
Omaha, NE 68102

Re: Axos Clearing, LLC; EIN: 77-0616239
Nonbank Trustee or Custodian Status

Dear Mr. Sime:

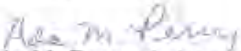
This letter responds to your letter dated March 25, 2019, concerning a change to your nonbank custodian application. Your nonbank custodian application was approved, pursuant to section 1.408-2(e) of the Income Tax Regulations (Regulations) on December 15, 2014. Our approval letter authorized COR Clearing, LLC (Applicant) to act as a passive or non-passive trustee or custodian of Archer MSAs established under section 220 of the Internal Revenue Code; health savings accounts described in section 223; plans qualified under section 401; section 403(b)(7) custodial accounts; individual retirement accounts (IRAs) established under sections 408, 408A, and 530; and eligible deferred compensation plans described in section 457(b).

Your March 25, 2019, letter and attached correspondence informed this office that the Applicant changed its name from COR Clearing, LLC to Axos Clearing, LLC. Your letter did not notify of us any other changes that would affect the continuing accuracy of your application.

We have updated our files and no further action will be taken. Please note that this letter does not constitute a determination as to whether the Applicant satisfies the requirements of section 1.408-2(e) of the Regulations.

Thank you for writing to us about this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Roz Ferber (Badge No. 1000221499) at (202) 317-8724.

Sincerely yours,


Ada M. Perry, Acting Manager
Employee Plans Technical Group 1

IRS Approval Letter



TAX EXEMPT AND
GOVERNMENT ENTITIES
DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20224

DEC 15 2014

COR Clearing, LLC
1200 Landmark, Suite 400
Omaha, NE 68102

EIN: 77-0616239

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In a letter dated December 9, 2013, your authorized representative requested a written notice of approval that COR Clearing, LLC (Applicant) may act as a passive or non-passive nonbank trustee or nonbank custodian for medical savings accounts established under section 220 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code), nonbank trustee or custodian for health savings accounts established under section 223, a nonbank trustee or custodian for plans qualified under section 401 and accounts described in section 403(b)(7), nonbank trustee or custodian of individual retirement arrangements (IRAs) established under sections 408, 408A, and 530, and as a nonbank custodian of eligible deferred compensation plans described in section 457(b).

Section 220(d)(1)(B) of the Code (dealing with Archer MSA (medical savings accounts)) provides, in pertinent part, that the trustee of a medical savings account must be a bank (as defined in section 408(n)), an insurance company (as defined in section 816), or another person who demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the manner in which such person will administer the trust will be consistent with the requirements of this section. Q&A-10 of Notice 96-53, 1996-2 C.B. 219 provides, in pertinent part, that persons other than banks, insurance companies, or previously approved IRA trustees or custodians may request approval to be a trustee or custodian in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 1.408-2(e) of the Income Tax Regulations (Regulations).

Section 223(d)(1)(B) of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the trustee of a health savings account must be a bank (as defined in section 408(n)), an insurance company (as defined in section 816), or another person who demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the manner in which such person will administer the trust will be consistent with the requirements of this section. Section 223(d)(4)(E) provides, in general, that rules similar to section 408(h) (dealing with custodial accounts) also apply to health savings accounts.

Section 401(f)(1) of the Code provides that a custodial account shall be treated as a qualified trust under this section if such custodial account would, except for the fact it is not a trust, constitute a qualified trust under this section. Section 401(f)(2) provides that

IRS Approval Letter

-2-

COR Clearing, LLC
EIN: 77-0616239

the custodian must be a bank (as defined in section 408(n)) or another person who demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the manner in which such other person will hold the assets will be consistent with the requirements of section 401 of the Code. Section 401(f) also provides that in the case of a custodial account treated as a qualified trust, the person holding the assets of such account shall be treated as the trustee thereof.

Section 403(b)(7)(A) of the Code requires, in part, that for amounts paid by an employer to a custodial account to be treated as amounts contributed to an annuity contract for his employee, the custodial account must satisfy the requirements of section 401(f)(2). That section also requires, in order for the amounts paid by an employer to be treated as amounts contributed to an annuity contract for his employee, that the amounts are to be invested in regulated investment company stock to be held in the custodial account, and under the custodial account no such amounts may be paid or made available to any distributee before the employee dies, attains age 59 ½, has a severance from employment, becomes disabled (within the meaning of section 72(m)(7)), or in the case of contributions made pursuant to a salary reduction agreement (within the meaning of section 3121(a)(5)(D)), encounters financial hardship.

Section 408(a)(2) of the Code requires that the trustee of an IRA be a bank (as defined in section 408(n)) or such other person who demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the manner in which such other person will administer the trust will be consistent with the requirements of section 408.

Section 408(h) of the Code provides that a custodial account shall be treated as a trust if the assets of such account are held by a bank (as defined in section 408(n)) or another person who demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the manner in which the person will administer the account will be consistent with the requirements of this section, and if the custodial account would, except for the fact that it is not a trust, constitute an IRA described in section 408(a). Section 408(h) also provides that, in the case of a custodial account treated as a trust by reason of the preceding sentence, the custodian of such account shall be treated as the trustee thereof.

Section 408A of the Code provides, in general, that a Roth IRA shall be treated in the same manner as an individual retirement plan. Section 7701(a)(37)(A) defines an individual retirement plan as an individual retirement account described in section 408(a).

Section 530(b)(1)(B) of the Code (dealing with Coverdell education savings accounts) requires that the trustee of such an account be a bank (as defined in section 408(n)) or another person who demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the manner in which that person will administer the trust will be consistent with the requirements of this section or who has so demonstrated with respect to any individual retirement plan.

IRS Approval Letter

-3-

COR Clearing, LLC
EIN: 77-0616239

Section 530(g) of the Code (dealing with Coverdell education savings accounts) provides that a custodial account shall be treated as a trust if the assets of such account are held by a bank (as defined in section 408(n)) or another person who demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the Secretary, that the manner in which he will administer the account will be consistent with the requirements of this section, and if the custodial account would, except for the fact that it is not a trust, constitute an account described in section 530(b)(1). For purposes of title 26, in the case of a custodial account treated as a trust by reason of the preceding sentence, the custodian of such account shall be treated as the trustee thereof.

Section 457(g) of the Code (dealing with eligible deferred compensation plans) provides, in relevant part, that plan assets and income must be held in trust. Section 457(g)(3) provides that custodial accounts and contracts described in section 401(f) shall be treated as trusts under rules similar to the rules under section 401(f). Section 1.457-8(a)(3) provides, in pertinent part, that for purposes of the trust requirements of section 457(g)(1), a custodial account will be treated as a trust if the custodian is a bank, as described in section 408(n), or a person who meets the nonbank trustee requirements of paragraph (a)(3)(ii)(B) of this section, and the account meets the requirements of paragraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this section, other than the requirement that it be a trust. Paragraph (a)(3)(ii)(B) provides that the custodian of a custodial account may be a person other than a bank only if the person demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that the manner in which the person will administer the custodial account will be consistent with the requirements of sections 457(g)(1) and (3). To do so, the person must demonstrate that the requirements of section 1.408-2(e)(2)-(6) of the Regulations, relating to nonbank trustees, are met.

The Regulations at section 1.408-2(e) contain the requirements with which one must comply in order to act as a custodian, for purposes of sections 220, 223, 401(f), 403(b)(7), 408(a)(2), 408(h), 408A, 457(b) and 530 of the Code. Section 1.408-2(e)(1) requires a person to file a written application with the Commissioner demonstrating that it meets sections 1.408-2(e)(2) through (6) of the Regulations.

Based on all the information submitted to this office and all the representations made in the application, we have concluded that the Applicant meets the requirements of section 1.408-2(e) of the Regulations, and therefore, it is approved to act as a passive or non-passive nonbank trustee or nonbank custodian for medical savings accounts established under section 220 of the Code, nonbank trustee or custodian for health savings accounts established under section 223, a nonbank trustee or custodian for plans qualified under section 401 and accounts described in section 403(b)(7), nonbank trustee or custodian of individual retirement arrangements (IRAs) established under sections 408, 408A, and 530, and as a nonbank custodian of eligible deferred compensation plans described in section 457(b).

IRS Approval Letter

-4-

COR Clearing, LLC
EIN: 77-0616239

This notice of approval authorizes the Applicant to act as a passive or non-passive custodian. When the Applicant acts as a passive nonbank custodian within the meaning of section 1.408-2(e)(6)(i) of the Regulations, that is, it is authorized only to acquire and hold particular investments specified by the custodial agreement. It may only act as a passive custodian if under the written custodial agreement/trust instrument, it has no discretion to direct investments of the trust (or custodial) funds or any other aspect of the business administration of the trust.

This notice of approval, while authorizing the Applicant to act as a passive or non-passive custodian, does not authorize it to pool accounts in a common investment fund (other than a mutual fund) within the meaning of section 1.408-2(e)(5)(vi) of the Regulations. Section 1.408-2(e)(6)(v) of the Regulations provides that the Applicant may only act as a custodian if it undertakes to act only under trust instruments or custodial agreements that contain a provision to the effect that the grantor is to substitute another trustee or custodian upon notification by the Commissioner that such substitution is required, because the Applicant has failed to comply with the requirements of section 1.408-2(e) of the Regulations or is not keeping such records, or making such returns or rendering such statements as are required by forms or Regulations. For example, one such form is Form 990-T for IRAs that have \$1000 or more of unrelated business taxable income that is subject to tax by section 511(b)(1) of the Code.

Section 1.408-2(e)(6)(iv) of the Regulations requires the Applicant to notify the Commissioner in writing of any change that affects the continuing accuracy of any representation made in its application. Further, the continued approval of the Applicant to act as a nonbank trustee as provided herein depends upon its continued satisfaction of the criteria set forth in section 1.408-2(e) of the Regulations.

This notice of approval is not transferable to any other entity. An entity that is a member of a controlled group of corporations, within the meaning of section 1563(a) of the Code, may not rely on an approval letter issued to another member of the same controlled group. Furthermore, any entity that goes through an acquisition, merger, consolidation or other type of reorganization may not necessarily be able to rely on the approval letter issued to such entity prior to the acquisition, merger, consolidation or other type of reorganization. Such entity may have to apply for a new notice of approval in accordance with section 1.408-2(e) of the Regulations.

This notice of approval constitutes a determination that the Applicant may act as a passive or non-passive custodian as described herein and does not bear upon its capacity to act as a trustee or custodian under any other applicable law. This is not an endorsement of any investment. The Internal Revenue Service does not review or approve investments.

IRS Approval Letter

-5-

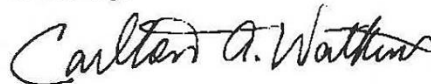
COR Clearing, LLC
EIN: 77-0616239

This notice of approval is effective as of the date of this letter and will remain in effect until withdrawn by the Applicant or revoked by the Service. Section 1.408-2(e)(7)(i) of the Regulations prohibits the acceptance of any fiduciary account prior to the effective date.

In accordance with the power of attorney on file in this office, a copy of this notice of approval is being sent to your authorized representative.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Danielle Norris (Badge No. 1002853909) at 202-317-8726. Please address all correspondence to SE:T:EP:RA:T1.

Sincerely,



Carlton A. Watkins, Manager
Employee Plans Technical Group 1

cc: Barbara R. Van Zomeren, Esq.
Ascensus
415 8th Avenue, NE
Brainerd, MN 56401