

# DISCIPLINARY DECISION Choe BZX Exchange, Inc. File No. URE-302-03 Susquehanna Securities, LLC

Pursuant to Exchange Rule 8.3, attached to and incorporated as part of this Decision is a Letter of Consent.

# **Applicable Rules**

- BZX Rule 18.1 Adherence to Law.
- Rule 14e-4 <u>Prohibited Transactions in Connection with Partial Tender Offers</u>, promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

# **Sanction**

A censure, a monetary fine in the amount of \$7,500 and disgorgement in the amount of \$2,583.70.

## **Effective Date**

July 19, 2024

# /s/ Greg Hoogasian

Greg Hoogasian, CRO, EVP

# Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. <u>LETTER OF CONSENT</u> File No. URE-302-03

In the Matter of:

Susquehanna Securities, LLC 175 W. Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700 Chicago, IL 60604,

Subject

Pursuant to the provisions of Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. ("BZX" or the "Exchange") Rule 8.3 – Expedited Proceeding, Susquehanna Securities, LLC (the "Firm") submits this Letter of Consent for the purpose of proposing a settlement of the alleged rule violations described below.

The Firm neither admits nor denies that violations of Exchange Rules or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ("Exchange Act") rules have been committed, and the stipulation of facts and findings described herein do not constitute such an admission.

#### BACKGROUND

- 1. During all relevant periods herein, the Firm was acting as a registered Broker-Dealer and was an Exchange Trading Permit Holder. The Firm's registrations remain in effect.
- 2. This matter originated from an investigation conducted by Exchange Regulatory staff on behalf of BZX and other Cboe Exchanges<sup>1</sup> to determine the Firm's compliance with Rule 14e-4, promulgated under the Exchange Act, in connection with the partial tender offer for SuRo Capital Corp. ("SSSS").

#### VIOLATIVE CONDUCT

#### Applicable Rules

3. During all relevant periods herein, the following rules were in full force and effect: Exchange Rule 18.1 – <u>Adherence to Law</u> and Rule 14e-4 – <u>Prohibited Transactions in Connection with Partial Tender Offers</u>, promulgated under the Exchange Act.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Cboe Exchange, Inc. ("Cboe"), Cboe C2 Exchange, Inc. ("C2"), and Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. ("EDGXO").

- 4. During all relevant periods herein, Exchange Rule 18.1 provided, in relevant part, that "[n]o Options Member shall engage in conduct in violation of the Exchange Act or Rules thereunder..."
- 5. During all relevant periods herein, Exchange Act Rule 14e-4(b) provided, in relevant part, that "[i]t shall be unlawful for any person acting alone or in concert with others, directly or indirectly, to tender any subject security in a partial tender offer: (1) For his own account unless at the time of tender, and at the end of the proration period or period during which securities are accepted by lot (including any extensions thereof), he has a net long position equal to or greater than the amount tendered in: (i) The subject security and will deliver or cause to be delivered such security for the purpose of tender to the person making the offer within the period specified in the offer; or (ii) An equivalent security and, upon the acceptance of his tender will acquire the subject security by conversion, exchange, or exercise of such equivalent security to the extent required by the terms of the offer, and will deliver or cause to be delivered the subject security so acquired for the purpose of tender to the person making the offer within the period specified in the offer..."

### Over-Tender in SSSS

- 6. On or about September 2, 2022, the Firm failed to account for its relevant in-the-money short call options positions when determining its "net long position" pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 14e-4, and as a result, tendered 12,759 shares for the partial tender offer in SSSS in excess of its net long position.
- 7. The acts, practices, and conduct described in Paragraph 6 constitute violations of Exchange Rule 18.1 and Exchange Act Rule 14e-4 by the Firm, in that the Firm tendered shares for the partial tender offer in SSSS in excess of the Firm's net long position.

#### SANCTIONS

- 8. The Firm does not have any prior relevant disciplinary history.
- 9. In light of the alleged rule violations described above, the Firm consents to the imposition of the following sanctions:
  - a. A censure;
  - b. A monetary fine in the amount of \$7,500; and
  - c. Disgorgement in the amount of \$2,583.70.2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This settlement relates to other settlements the Firm reached with Cboe, C2, and EDGXO. The total monetary fine for settlement of these matters was \$30,000 and the total disgorgement was \$10,334.79.

If this Letter of Consent is accepted, the Firm acknowledges that it shall be bound by all terms, conditions, representations, and acknowledgements of this Letter of Consent, and, in accordance with the provisions of Exchange Rule 8.3, waives the right to review or to defend against any of these allegations in a disciplinary hearing before a Hearing Panel. The Firm further waives the right to appeal any such decision to the Board of Directors, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, a U.S. Federal District Court, or a U.S. Court of Appeals.

The Firm waives any right to claim bias or prejudgment of the Chief Regulatory Officer ("CRO") in connection with the CRO's participation in discussions regarding the terms and conditions of this Letter of Consent, or other consideration of this Letter of Consent, including acceptance or rejection of this Letter of Consent. The Firm further waives any claim that a person violated the ex parte prohibitions of Exchange Rule 8.16, in connection with such person's participation in discussions regarding the terms and conditions of this Letter of Consent, or other consideration of this Letter of Consent, including its acceptance or rejection.

The Firm agrees to pay the monetary sanctions upon notice that this Letter of Consent has been accepted and that such payments are due and payable. The Firm specifically and voluntarily waives any right to claim that it is unable to pay, now or at any time hereafter, the monetary sanctions imposed in this matter.

The Firm understands that submission of this Letter of Consent is voluntary and will not resolve this matter unless and until it has been reviewed and accepted by the CRO, pursuant to Exchange Rule 8.3. If the Letter of Consent is not accepted, it will not be used as evidence to prove any of the allegations against the Firm.

The Firm understands and acknowledges that acceptance of this Letter of Consent will become part of its disciplinary record and may be considered in any future actions brought by the Exchange or any other regulator against the Firm. The Letter of Consent will be published on a website maintained by the Exchange in accordance with Exchange Rule 8.18.

The Firm understands that it may not deny the charges or make any statement that is inconsistent with the Letter of Consent. The Firm may attach a Corrective Action Statement to this Letter of Consent that is a statement of demonstrable corrective steps taken to prevent future misconduct. Any such statement does not constitute factual or legal findings by the Exchange, nor does it reflect the views of the Exchange or its staff.

The undersigned, on behalf of the Firm, certifies that a person duly authorized to act on its behalf has read and understands all of the provisions of this Letter of Consent and has been given a full opportunity to ask questions about it; that it has agreed to the Letter of Consent's provisions voluntarily; and that no offer, threat, inducement, or promise of any kind, other than the terms set forth herein, has been made to induce the Firm to submit it.

Date:	71	16	24	

Susquehanna Securities, LLC

By:

Name: Bran Sopinty
Title: Secretary