- (4) Limit on employment or association. It is unlawful for a broker-dealer, or an issuer engaged in offering, selling, or purchasing securities in this state, to employ or associate with an agent who transacts business in this state on behalf of broker-dealers or issuers unless the agent is registered under sub. (1) for the broker-dealer or issuer or exempt from registration under sub. (2).
- (5) Limit on Affiliations. Except as permitted under sub. (6), an individual may not act as an agent for more than one broker—dealer or one issuer at a time, unless the broker—dealers or the issuers for which the agent acts are affiliated by direct or indirect common control or are authorized by rule or order under this chapter.
- **(6)** DUAL REPRESENTATION. An agent may make offers and sales of securities for more than one issuer that is a limited partnership or for more than one issuer that is an investment company without obtaining a separate registration for each limited partnership or investment company represented by the agent if all of the following conditions are satisfied:
- (a) The limited partnerships have the same general partner or the investment companies have the same investment adviser.
- (b) An application to amend the agent's registration to name each limited partnership or investment company as the agent's employer is filed with and approved by the administrator before the agent makes any offer or sale in the state on behalf of the additional limited partnership or investment company.

# 551.403 Investment adviser registration requirement and exemptions.

(1) REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT. It is unlawful for a person to transact business in this state as an investment adviser unless the person is registered under this chapter as

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| 1  | an investment adviser or is exempt from registration as an investment adviser under     |
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| 2  | sub. (2).   |
| 3  | (2) EXEMPTIONS FROM REGISTRATION. The following persons are exempt from the             |
| 4  | registration requirement of sub. (1):   |
| 5  | (a) A person whose only clients in this state are:                                      |
| 6  | 1. Federal covered investment advisers, investment advisers registered under            |
| 7  | this chapter, or broker-dealers registered under this chapter.                          |
| 8  | 2. Institutional investors.   |
| 9  | 2m. Accredited investors as defined in Rule 501 (a) (1), (2), (3), (7) or (8) adopted   |
| 10 | under the Securities Act of 1933.   |
| 11 | 3. Bona fide preexisting clients whose principal places of residence are not in         |
| 12 | this state if the investment adviser is registered or exempt from registration under    |
| 13 | the securities act of the state in which the clients maintain principal places of       |
| 14 | residence.  |
| 15 | 4. Any other client exempted by rule adopted or order issued under this chapter.        |
| 16 | (b) A person without a place of business in this state if the person has had,           |
| 17 | during the preceding 12 months, not more than 5 clients that are resident in this       |
| 18 | state in addition to those specified under par. (a).                                    |
| 19 | (c) Any other person exempted by rule adopted or order issued under this                |
| 20 | chapter.  |
| 21 | (3) Limits on employment or association. It is unlawful for an investment               |
| 22 | adviser, directly or indirectly, to employ or associate with an individual to engage in |
| 23 | an activity related to investment advice in this state if the registration of the       |

individual is denied or suspended or revoked or the individual is barred from

employment or association with an investment adviser, federal covered investment

adviser, or broker-dealer by an order under this chapter, the Securities and Exchange Commission, or a self-regulatory organization, unless the investment adviser did not know, and in the exercise of reasonable care could not have known, of the denial, suspension, revocation, or bar. Upon request from the investment adviser and for good cause, the administrator, by order, may waive, in whole or in part, the application of the prohibitions of this subsection to the investment adviser.

(4) Investment adviser representative registration required. It is unlawful for an investment adviser to employ or associate with an individual required to be

registered under this chapter as an investment adviser representative who transacts business in this state on behalf of the investment adviser unless the individual is

registered under s. 551.404 (1) or is exempt from registration under s. 551.404 (2).

- **551.404** Investment adviser representative registration requirement and exemptions. (1) REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT. It is unlawful for an individual to transact business in this state as an investment adviser representative unless the individual is registered under this chapter as an investment adviser representative or is exempt from registration as an investment adviser representative under sub. (2).
- **(2)** EXEMPTIONS FROM REGISTRATION. The following individuals are exempt from the registration requirement of sub. (1):
- (a) An individual who is employed by or associated with an investment adviser that is exempt from registration under s. 551.403 (2) or a federal covered investment adviser that is excluded from the notice filing requirements of s. 551.405.
- (am) An individual who is employed by or associated with an investment adviser or a federal covered investment adviser and whose clients in the state are exclusively those clients listed in s. 551.403 (2) (a) 1. to 2m. and 4.

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- (b) Any other individual exempted by rule adopted or order issued under this chapter.
- (3) REGISTRATION EFFECTIVE ONLY WHILE EMPLOYED OR ASSOCIATED. The registration of an investment adviser representative is effective only while the investment adviser representative is employed by or associated with an investment adviser registered under this chapter or a federal covered investment adviser that has made or is required to make a notice filing under s. 551.405.
- (4) Limit on Affiliations. An individual may transact business as an investment adviser representative for more than one investment adviser or federal covered investment adviser unless a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter prohibits or limits an individual from acting as an investment adviser representative for more than one investment adviser or federal covered investment adviser.
- (5) LIMITS ON EMPLOYMENT OR ASSOCIATION. It is unlawful for an individual acting as an investment adviser representative, directly or indirectly, to conduct business in this state on behalf of an investment adviser or a federal covered investment adviser if the registration of the individual as an investment adviser representative is suspended or revoked or the individual is barred from employment or association with an investment adviser or a federal covered investment adviser by an order under this chapter, the Securities and Exchange Commission, or a self-regulatory organization. Upon request and for good cause, the administrator, by order issued, may waive, in whole or in part, the application of the requirements of this subsection.
- **(6)** Referral fees. An investment adviser registered or exempt from registration under this chapter, a federal covered investment adviser that has filed a notice under s. 551.405 or is exempt from such notice filing requirement, or a

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broker-dealer registered or exempt from registration under this chapter is not required to employ or associate with an individual as an investment adviser representative if the only compensation paid to the individual for a referral of investment advisory clients is paid to an investment adviser registered or exempt from registration under this chapter, a federal covered investment adviser that has filed a notice or is exempt from filing a notice under s. 551.405, or a broker-dealer registered or exempt from registration under this chapter with which the individual is employed or associated as an investment adviser representative. 551.405 Federal covered investment adviser notice filing requirement. (1) Notice filing requirement. Except with respect to a federal covered investment adviser described in sub. (2), it is unlawful for a federal covered investment adviser to transact business in this state as a federal covered investment adviser unless the federal covered investment adviser complies with sub. (3). (2) NOTICE FILING REQUIREMENT NOT REQUIRED. The following federal covered investment advisers are not required to comply with sub. (3): (a) A federal covered investment adviser without a place of business in this state if its only clients in this state are: 1. Federal covered investment advisers, investment advisers registered under this chapter, and broker-dealers registered under this chapter. 2. Institutional investors.

2m. Accredited investors as defined and listed in 17 CFR 230.501 (a) (1), (2),

3. Bona fide preexisting clients whose principal places of residence are not in

4. Other clients specified by rule adopted or order issued under this chapter.

(3), (7), or (8) under Regulation D under the Securities Act of 1933.

- (b) A federal covered investment adviser without a place of business in this state if the person has had, during the preceding 12 months, not more than 5 clients that are resident in this state in addition to those specified under par. (a).
- (c) Any other person excluded by rule adopted or order issued under this chapter.
- (3) Notice filing procedure. A person acting as a federal covered investment adviser, not excluded under sub. (2), shall file a notice, a consent to service of process complying with s. 551.611, and such records as have been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 required by rule adopted or order issued under this chapter and pay the fees specified in s. 551.614 (2).
- **(4)** Effectiveness of filing. The notice under sub. (3) becomes effective upon its filing and expires on December 31 unless any of the following occurs:
  - (a) The notice filing is renewed.
- (b) The notice filing is limited or extended for not more than 6 months and the notice filer pays a fee, adjusted proportionately by the administrator by rule or order.
  - (c) The administrator specifies a different expiration date by rule or order.
- 551.406 Registration by broker-dealer, agent, investment adviser, and investment adviser representative. (1) Application for initial registration. A person shall register as a broker-dealer, agent, investment adviser, or investment adviser representative by filing with the administrator, or an organization which the administrator by rule designates, an application and a consent to service of process complying with s. 551.611, and paying the fee specified in s. 551.614 and any reasonable fees charged by the designee of the administrator for processing the filing. The application must contain all of the following:

- (a) The information or record required for the filing of a uniform application.
- (b) Upon request by the administrator, any other financial or other information or record that the administrator determines is appropriate.
  - (2) AMENDMENT. If the information or record contained in an application filed under sub. (1) is or becomes inaccurate or incomplete in a material respect, the registrant shall promptly file a correcting amendment.
  - (3) EFFECTIVENESS OF REGISTRATION. (a) If an order is not in effect and a proceeding is not pending under s. 551.412, registration is effective 30 days from the filing of the application or at the earliest of the following times prior to the expiration of 30 days from the filing of the application, whichever is earlier, unless the registration is denied:
    - 1. The date that the administrator issues registration to the applicant.
  - 2. The date that approval of registration status is transmitted by the administrator to the applicant through the central registration depository of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.
  - 3. On January 1 for any renewal application filed during December of the preceding year with the central registration depository, unless the administrator makes a written request for additional information relevant to the application prior to January 1.
  - (b) A rule adopted or order issued under this chapter may set an earlier effective date or may defer the effective date until noon on the 45th day after the filing of any amendment completing the application.
  - (4) REGISTRATION RENEWAL. A registration is effective until midnight on December 31 of the year for which the application for registration is filed. Unless an order is in effect under s. 551.412, a registration may be automatically renewed each

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| year by filing such records as are required by rule adopted or order issued under this |
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| chapter, by paying the fee specified in s. 551.614, and by paying costs charged by the |
| designee of the administrator for processing the filings.                              |

- (5) Additional conditions or waivers. A rule adopted or order issued under this chapter may impose other conditions, not inconsistent with the National Securities Markets Improvement Act of 1996. An order issued under this chapter may waive, in whole or in part, specific requirements in connection with registration as are in the public interest and for the protection of investors.
- (6) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED. (a) In addition to the information required elsewhere under this section, an application for registration shall contain, in the case of an individual, the individual's social security number and, in the case of a person who is not an individual, the person's federal employer identification number. The administrator may not disclose any information received under this paragraph to any person except the following:
- 1. The department of revenue, for the sole purpose of requesting certifications 3.0301.

  The department of workforce development in accordance with a under s. 73.0301.
- memorandum of understanding under s. 49.857.
- (b) If an applicant for the issuance or renewal of a registration under this section is an individual who does not have a social security number, the applicant, as a condition of applying for or applying to renew the registration, shall submit a statement made or subscribed under oath or affirmation to the administrator that the applicant does not have a social security number. The form of the statement shall be prescribed by the department of workforce development.

(c) Any license issued or renewed in reliance upon a false statement submitted by an applicant under par. (a) or (b) is invalid.

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- **551.407** Succession and change in registration of broker-dealer or investment adviser. (1) Succession. A broker-dealer or investment adviser may succeed to the current registration of another broker-dealer or investment adviser or a notice filing of a federal covered investment adviser, and a federal covered investment adviser may succeed to the current registration of an investment adviser or notice filing of another federal covered investment adviser, by filing as a successor an application for registration pursuant to s. 551.401 or 551.403 or a notice pursuant to s. 551.405 for the unexpired portion of the current registration or notice filing.
- (2) Organizational Change. A broker-dealer or investment adviser that changes its form of organization or state of incorporation or organization may continue its registration by filing an amendment to its registration if the change does not involve a change in control. The amendment becomes effective when filed or on a date designated by the registrant in its filing. The new organization is a successor to the original registrant for the purposes of this chapter. If there is a change in control, the broker-dealer or investment adviser shall file a new application for registration. A predecessor registered under this chapter shall stop conducting its securities business other than winding down transactions and shall file for withdrawal of broker-dealer or investment adviser registration within 45 days after filing its amendment to effect succession.
- (3) Name Change. A broker-dealer or investment adviser that changes its name may continue its registration by filing an amendment to its registration. The amendment becomes effective when filed or on a date designated by the registrant.

**(4)** Change of control. A change of control of a broker-dealer or investment adviser may be made in accordance with a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter.

investment adviser representative and transfer of employment or association. (1) Notice of termination. If an agent registered under this chapter terminates employment by or association with a broker-dealer or issuer, or if an investment adviser representative registered under this chapter terminates employment by or association with an investment adviser or federal covered investment adviser, or if either registrant terminates activities that require registration as an agent or investment adviser representative, the broker-dealer, issuer, investment adviser, or federal covered investment adviser shall promptly file a notice of termination. If the registrant learns that the broker-dealer, issuer, investment adviser, or federal covered investment adviser has not filed the notice, the registrant may do so.

(2) Transfer of employment or association. If an agent registered under this chapter terminates employment by or association with a broker-dealer registered under this chapter and begins employment by or association with another broker-dealer registered under this chapter; or if an investment adviser representative registered under this chapter terminates employment by or association with an investment adviser registered under this chapter or a federal covered investment adviser that has filed a notice under s. 551.405 and begins employment by or association with another investment adviser registered under this chapter or a federal covered investment adviser that has filed a notice under s. 551.405; then upon the filing by or on behalf of the registrant, within 30 days after

the termination, of an application for registration that complies with the requirement of s. 551.406 (1) and payment of the filing fee required under s. 551.614, the registration of the agent or investment adviser representative is:

- (a) Immediately effective as of the date of the completed filing, if the agent's Central Registration Depository record or successor record or the investment adviser representative's Investment Adviser Registration Depository record or successor record does not contain a new or amended disciplinary disclosure within the previous 12 months.
- (b) Temporarily effective as of the date of the completed filing, if the agent's Central Registration Depository record or successor record or the investment adviser representative's Investment Adviser Registration Depository record or successor record contains a new or amended disciplinary disclosure within the preceding 12 months.
- (3) WITHDRAWAL OF TEMPORARY REGISTRATION. The administrator may withdraw a temporary registration if there are or were grounds for discipline as specified in s. 551.412 and the administrator does so within 30 days after the filing of the application. If the administrator does not withdraw the temporary registration within the 30–day period, registration becomes automatically effective on the 31st day after filing.
- (4) POWER TO PREVENT REGISTRATION. The administrator may prevent the effectiveness of a transfer of an agent or investment adviser representative under sub. (2) (a) or (b) based on the public interest and the protection of investors.
- (5) TERMINATION OF REGISTRATION OR APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION. If the administrator determines that a registrant or applicant for registration is no longer in existence or has ceased to act as a broker-dealer, agent, investment adviser, or

investment adviser representative, or is the subject of an adjudication of incapacity or is subject to the control of a committee, conservator, or guardian, or cannot reasonably be located, a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter may require the registration be canceled or terminated or the application denied. The administrator may reinstate a canceled or terminated registration, with or without hearing, and may make the registration retroactive.

investment adviser, and investment adviser representative. Withdrawal of registration by a broker–dealer, agent, investment adviser, or investment adviser representative becomes effective 60 days after the filing of the application to withdraw or within any shorter period as provided by rule adopted or order issued under this chapter unless a revocation or suspension proceeding is pending when the application is filed. If a proceeding is pending, withdrawal becomes effective when and upon such conditions as required by rule adopted or order issued under this chapter. The administrator may institute a revocation or suspension proceeding under s. 551.412 within one year after the withdrawal became effective automatically and issue a revocation or suspension order as of the last date on which registration was effective if a proceeding is not pending.

551.411 Postregistration requirements. (1) Financial Requirements. Subject to section 15 (h) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 USC 780 (h)) or section 222 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 USC 80b–18a), a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter may establish minimum financial requirements for broker–dealers registered or required to be registered under this chapter and investment advisers registered or required to be registered under this chapter.

- (2) Financial Reports. Subject to section 15 (h) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 USC 780 (h)) or section 222 (b) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 USC 80b–18a), a broker–dealer registered or required to be registered under this chapter and an investment adviser registered or required to be registered under this chapter shall file such financial reports as are required by a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter. If the information contained in a record filed under this subsection is or becomes inaccurate or incomplete in a material respect, the registrant shall promptly file a correcting amendment.
- (3) Record Keeping. Subject to section 15 (h) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 USC 780 (h)) or section 222 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 USC 80b–18a):
- (a) A broker-dealer registered or required to be registered under this chapter and an investment adviser registered or required to be registered under this chapter shall make and maintain the accounts, correspondence, memoranda, papers, books, and other records required by rule adopted or order issued under this chapter.
- (b) Broker-dealer records required to be maintained under par. (a) may be maintained in any form of data storage acceptable under section 17 (a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 USC 78q (a)) if they are readily accessible to the administrator.
- (c) Investment adviser records required to be maintained under par. (a) may be maintained in any form of data storage required by rule adopted or order issued under this chapter.
- **(4)** AUDITS OR INSPECTIONS. The records of a broker-dealer registered or required to be registered under this chapter and of an investment adviser registered or required to be registered under this chapter are subject to such reasonable

periodic, special, or other audits or inspections by a representative of the administrator, within or without this state, as the administrator considers necessary or appropriate in the public interest and for the protection of investors. The administrator may also conduct an examination of the books, records, and affairs of an applicant for registration as a broker–dealer or investment adviser. An audit or inspection may be made at any time and without prior notice. The administrator may copy, and remove for audit or inspection copies of, all records the administrator reasonably considers necessary or appropriate to conduct the audit or inspection. The administrator may assess a reasonable charge for conducting an audit or inspection under this subsection.

(5) Custody and discretionary authority bond or insurance. Subject to section 15 (h) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 USC 780 (h)) or section 222 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 USC 80b–18a), a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter may require a broker–dealer or investment adviser that has custody of or discretionary authority over funds or securities of a customer or client to obtain insurance or post a bond or other satisfactory form of security in an amount prescribed by the administrator by rule. The administrator may determine the requirements of the insurance, bond, or other satisfactory form of security. Insurance or a bond or other satisfactory form of security may not be required of a broker–dealer registered under this chapter whose net capital exceeds, or of an investment adviser registered under this chapter whose minimum financial requirements exceed, the amounts required by rule or order under this chapter. The insurance, bond, or other satisfactory form of security must permit an action by a person to enforce any liability on the insurance, bond, or other satisfactory form of security if instituted within the time limitations in s. 551.509 (10) (b).

- (6) REQUIREMENTS FOR CUSTODY. Subject to section 15 (h) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 USC 780 (h)) or section 222 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 USC 80b–18a), an agent may not have custody of funds or securities of a customer except under the supervision of a broker–dealer and an investment adviser representative may not have custody of funds or securities of a client except under the supervision of an investment adviser or a federal covered investment adviser. A rule adopted or order issued under this chapter may prohibit, limit, or impose conditions on a broker–dealer regarding custody of funds or securities of a customer and on an investment adviser regarding custody of securities or funds of a client.
- (7) Investment adviser registered or required to be registered under this chapter, a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter may require that information or other record be furnished or disseminated to clients or prospective clients in this state as necessary or appropriate in the public interest and for the protection of investors and advisory clients.
- (8) CONTINUING EDUCATION. A rule adopted or order issued under this chapter may require an individual registered under s. 551.402 or 551.404 to participate in a continuing education program approved by the administrator and administered by a self–regulatory organization or, in the absence of such a program, a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter may require continuing education for an individual registered under s. 551.404.
- **(9)** Interest rate on customer accounts. No registered broker-dealer shall be subject to s. 138.05 (1) (a) with respect to any debit balance in a customer account

if the debit balance is payable on demand and the only collateral for the balance is securities.

- 551.412 Denial, revocation, suspension, censure, withdrawal, restriction, condition, or limitation of registration. (1) DISCIPLINARY CONDITIONS APPLICANTS. If the administrator finds that the order is in the public interest and sub. (4) authorizes the action, an order issued under this chapter may deny an application, or may condition or limit registration of an applicant, to be a broker-dealer, agent, investment adviser, or investment adviser representative and, if the applicant is a broker-dealer or investment adviser, of a partner, officer, director, person having a similar status or performing similar functions, or person directly or indirectly in control of the broker-dealer or investment adviser.
- (2) DISCIPLINARY CONDITIONS REGISTRANTS. If the administrator finds that the order is in the public interest and sub. (4) authorizes the action, an order issued under this chapter may revoke, suspend, censure, condition, or limit the registration of a registrant and, if the registrant is a broker-dealer or investment adviser, of a partner, officer, director, person having a similar status or performing similar functions, or person directly or indirectly in control of the broker-dealer or investment adviser. However, the administrator may not do any of the following:
- (a) Institute a revocation or suspension proceeding under this subsection based on an order issued under a law of another state that is reported to the administrator or a designee of the administrator more than one year after the date of the order on which it is based.
- (b) Under sub. (4) (e) 1. or 2., issue an order on the basis of an order issued under the securities act of another state unless the other order was based on conduct for which sub. (4) would authorize the action had the conduct occurred in this state.

- (3) DISCIPLINARY PENALTIES REGISTRANTS. If the administrator finds that the order is in the public interest and sub. (4) (a) to (f), (h), (i), (j), (L), (m), or (o) to (r) authorizes the action, an order under this chapter may censure, impose a bar, or impose a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed a maximum of \$10,000 for a single violation or \$100,000 for more than one violation, or in such amount as agreed to by the parties, on a registrant and, if the registrant is a broker–dealer or investment adviser, a partner, officer, director, person having a similar status or performing similar functions, or person directly or indirectly in control of the broker–dealer or investment adviser.
- **(4)** Grounds for discipline. A person may be disciplined under subs. (1) to (3) if the person:
- (a) Has filed an application for registration in this state under this chapter or the predecessor act within the previous 10 years, which, as of the effective date of registration or as of any date after filing in the case of an order denying effectiveness, was incomplete in any material respect or contained a statement that, in light of the circumstances under which it was made, was false or misleading with respect to a material fact.
- (b) Willfully violated or willfully failed to comply with this chapter or the predecessor act or a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter or the predecessor act within the previous 10 years.
- (c) Has been convicted of a felony or within the previous 10 years has been convicted of a misdemeanor involving a security, a commodity future or option contract, or an aspect of a business involving securities, commodities, investments, franchises, insurance, banking, or finance.

finance.

(d) Is enjoined or restrained by a court of competent jurisdiction in an action instituted by the administrator under this chapter or the predecessor act, a state, the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the United States from engaging in or continuing an act, practice, or course of business involving an aspect of a business involving securities, commodities, investments, franchises, insurance, banking, or

- (e) Is the subject of an order, issued after notice and opportunity for hearing, by any of the following:
- 1. The securities or other financial services regulator of a state or the Securities and Exchange Commission or other federal agency denying, revoking, barring, or suspending registration as a broker–dealer, agent, investment adviser, federal covered investment adviser, or investment adviser representative.
- 2. The securities regulator of a state or the Securities and Exchange Commission against a broker–dealer, agent, investment adviser, investment adviser representative, or federal covered investment adviser.
- 3. The Securities and Exchange Commission or a self–regulatory organization suspending or expelling the registrant from membership in the self–regulatory organization.
  - 4. A court adjudicating a United States Postal Service fraud order.
- 5. The insurance regulator of a state denying, suspending, or revoking registration as an insurance agent.
- 6. A depository institution or financial services regulator suspending or barring the person from the depository institution or other financial services business.
- (f) Is the subject of an adjudication or determination, after notice and opportunity for hearing, by the Securities and Exchange Commission; the

| Commodity Futures Trading Commission; the Federal Trade Commission; a federal             |
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| depository institution regulator, or a depository institution, insurance, or other        |
| financial services regulator of a state that the person willfully violated the Securities |
| Act of 1933, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Investment Advisers Act of          |
| 1940, the Investment Company Act of 1940, or the Commodity Exchange Act, the              |
| securities or commodities law of a state, or a federal or state law under which a         |
| business involving investments, franchises, insurance, banking, or finance is             |
| regulated.  |

- (g) Is insolvent, either because the person's liabilities exceed the person's assets or because the person cannot meet the person's obligations as they mature, but the administrator may not enter an order against an applicant or registrant under this paragraph without a finding of insolvency as to the applicant or registrant.
- (h) Refuses to allow or otherwise impedes the administrator from conducting an audit or inspection under s. 551.411 (4) or refuses access to a registrant's office to conduct an audit or inspection under s. 551.411 (4).
- (i) Has failed to reasonably supervise an agent, investment adviser representative, or other individual, if the agent, investment adviser representative, or other individual was subject to the person's supervision and committed a violation of this chapter or the predecessor act or a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter or the predecessor act within the previous 10 years.
- (j) Has not paid the proper filing fee within 30 days after having been notified by the administrator of a deficiency, but the administrator shall vacate an order under this paragraph when the deficiency is corrected.
- (k) After notice and opportunity for a hearing, has been found within the previous 10 years:

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- 1. By a court of competent jurisdiction to have willfully violated the laws of a foreign jurisdiction under which the business of securities, commodities, investment, franchises, insurance, banking, or finance is regulated.
- 2. To have been the subject of an order of a securities regulator of a foreign jurisdiction denying, revoking, or suspending the right to engage in the business of securities as a broker-dealer, agent, investment adviser, investment adviser representative, or similar person.
- 3. To have been suspended or expelled from membership by or participation in a securities exchange or securities association operating under the securities laws of a foreign jurisdiction.
- (L) Is the subject of a cease and desist order issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission or issued under the securities, commodities, investment, franchise, banking, finance, or insurance laws of a state.
- (m) Has engaged in dishonest or unethical practices in the securities, commodities, investment, franchise, banking, finance, or insurance business within the previous 10 years.
- (n) Is not qualified on the basis of factors such as training, experience, and knowledge of the securities business. However, in the case of an application by an agent for a broker–dealer that is a member of a self–regulatory organization or by an individual for registration as an investment adviser representative, a denial order may not be based on this paragraph if the individual has successfully completed all examinations required by sub. (5). The administrator may require an applicant for registration under s. 551.402 or 551.404 who has not been registered in a state within the 2 years preceding the filing of an application in this state to successfully complete an examination.

| (o) Is the subject of an order of the administrator denying an application or  |
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| suspending or revoking a registration as a broker-dealer, agent, or investment |
| adviser.   |

- (p) Is selling or has sold, or is offering or has offered for sale, in the state securities through any unlicensed agent or for any broker-dealer or issuer with knowledge that the broker-dealer or issuer has not complied with this chapter.
- (q) Has made any material misrepresentation to or withheld or concealed any material fact from the administrator, or has refused to furnish information reasonably requested by the administrator.
- (r) Has not complied with the conditions or limitations of a registration issued under this chapter.
- (4g) Additional grounds for denial of application. (a) The administrator shall deny an application for the issuance or renewal of a registration if any of the following applies:
- The applicant fails to provide any information required under s. 551.406 (6)
   (a) 1. or 2.
- 2. The department of revenue certifies under s. 73.0301 that the applicant is liable for delinquent taxes. An applicant whose application for the issuance or renewal of a registration is denied under this subdivision for delinquent taxes is entitled to a notice under s. 73.0301 (2) (b) 1. b. and hearing under s. 73.0301 (5) (a), but is not entitled to any other notice, hearing, or review under this subchapter.
- 3. The applicant is an individual who fails to comply, after appropriate notice, with a subpoena or warrant issued by the department of workforce development or a county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) and related to paternity or child support proceedings or who is delinquent in making court–ordered payments of child

children and families

or family support, maintenance, birth expenses, medical expenses or other expenses related to the support of a child or former spouse, as provided in a memorandum of understanding entered under s. 49.857. An applicant whose application is denied under this subdivision for delinquent payments is entitled to a notice and hearing under s. 49.857 but is not entitled to any other notice or hearing under this subchapter.

- (b) Unless s. 551.406 (6) (b) applies to the registrant, the administrator shall restrict or suspend a registration under this subchapter if the registrant is an individual who fails to provide his or her social security number. The administrator shall restrict or suspend a registration under this subchapter if the registrant is an individual who fails to comply, after appropriate notice, with a subpoena or warrant issued by the department of proceedered property or a county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) and related to paternity or child support proceedings or who is delinquent in making court-ordered payments of child or family support, maintenance, birth expenses, medical expenses or other expenses related to the support of a child or former spouse, as provided in a memorandum of understanding entered into under s. 49.857. A registrant whose registration is restricted or suspended under this paragraph is entitled to a notice and hearing under s. 49.857 but is not entitled to any other notice or hearing under this subchapter.
- (c) The administrator shall revoke a registration if the department of revenue certifies under s. 73.0301 that the registrant is liable for delinquent taxes. A registrant whose registration is revoked under this paragraph for delinquent taxes is entitled to a notice under s. 73.0301 (2) (b) 1. b. and hearing under s. 73.0301 (5) (a) but is not entitled to any other notice, hearing, or review under this subchapter.

- (4r) Enumeration of clauses not exclusive. The enumeration of the causes stated in sub. (4) shall not be exclusive and the administrator may deny an application or suspend or revoke any registrant or censure any registrant for any cause whether similar to or different from these causes when necessary or appropriate in public interest or for the protection of investors.
- (5) EXAMINATIONS. A rule adopted or order issued under this chapter may require that an examination, including an examination developed or approved by an organization of securities regulators, be successfully completed by a class of individuals or all individuals. An order issued under this chapter may waive, in whole or in part, an examination as to an individual and a rule adopted under this chapter may waive, in whole or in part, an examination as to a class of individuals if the administrator determines that the examination is not necessary or appropriate in the public interest and for the protection of investors.
- (6) Summary Process. The administrator may suspend or deny an application summarily; restrict, condition, limit, or suspend a registration; or censure, bar, or impose a civil penalty on a registrant before final determination of an administrative proceeding. Upon the issuance of an order, the administrator shall promptly notify each person subject to the order that the order has been issued, the reasons for the action, and that within 15 days after the receipt of a request in a record from the person the matter will be scheduled for a hearing. If a hearing is not requested and none is ordered by the administrator within 30 days after the date of service of the order, the order becomes final by operation of law. If a hearing is requested or ordered, the administrator, after notice of and opportunity for hearing to each person subject to the order, may modify or vacate the order or extend the order until final determination.

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| 1               | (7) PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS. An order issued may not be issued under this                   |
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| 2               | section, except under sub. (6), without all of the following:                               |
| 3               | (a) Appropriate notice to the applicant or registrant.                                      |
| 4               | (b) Opportunity for hearing.  |
| 5               | (c) Findings of fact and conclusions of law in a record in accordance with ch. 227.         |
| 6               | (8) CONTROL PERSON LIABILITY. A person that controls, directly or indirectly, a             |
| 4. <b>7</b> 4.7 | person not in compliance with this section may be disciplined by order of the               |
| 8               | administrator under subs. (1) to (3) to the same extent as the noncomplying person,         |
| 9               | unless the controlling person did not know, and in the exercise of reasonable care          |
| 10              | could not have known, of the existence of conduct that is a ground for discipline under     |
| 11              | this section.   |
| 12              | (9) LIMIT ON INVESTIGATION OR PROCEEDING. The administrator may not institute               |
| 13              | a proceeding under sub. (1), (2), or (3) based solely on material facts actually known      |
| 14              | by the administrator unless an investigation or the proceeding is instituted within         |
| 15              | one year after the administrator actually acquires knowledge of the material facts.         |
| 16              | SUBCHAPTER V  |
| 17              | FRAUD AND LIABILITIES   |
| 18              | 551.501 General fraud. It is unlawful for a person, in connection with the                  |
| 19              | offer, sale, or purchase of a security, directly or indirectly, to do any of the following: |
| 20              | (1) To employ a device, scheme, or artifice to defraud.                                     |
| 21              | (2) To make an untrue statement of a material fact or to omit to state a material           |
| 22              | fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances          |
| 23              | under which they were made, not misleading.   |
| 24              | (3) To engage in an act, practice, or course of business that operates or would             |

operate as a fraud or deceit upon another person.

- 551.502 Prohibited conduct in providing investment advice. (1) Fraud In Providing Investment advice. It is unlawful for a person that advises others for compensation, either directly or indirectly or through publications or writings, as to the value of securities or the advisability of investing in, purchasing, or selling securities or that, for compensation and as part of a regular business, issues or promulgates analyses or reports relating to securities, to do any of the following:
  - (a) To employ a device, scheme, or artifice to defraud another person.
- (b) To engage in an act, practice, or course of business that operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon another person.
- (2) RULES DEFINING FRAUD. A rule adopted under this chapter may define an act, practice, or course of business of an investment adviser or an investment adviser representative, other than a supervised person, as defined in section 202 (a) (25) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 USC 80b–2 (a) (25)), of a federal covered investment adviser, as fraudulent, deceptive, or manipulative, and prescribe means reasonably designed to prevent investment advisers and investment adviser representatives, other than supervised persons, as defined in section 202 (a) (25) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 USC 80b–2 (a) (25)), of a federal covered investment adviser, from engaging in acts, practices, and courses of business defined as fraudulent, deceptive, or manipulative.
- (3) Rules specifying contents of advisory contract. A rule adopted under this chapter may specify the contents of an investment advisory contract entered into, extended, or renewed by an investment adviser.
- **551.503 Evidentiary burden. (1)** CIVIL. In a civil action or administrative proceeding under this chapter, a person claiming an exemption, exception, preemption, or exclusion has the burden to prove the applicability of the claim.

- **(2)** Criminal. In a criminal proceeding under this chapter, a person claiming an exemption, exception, preemption, or exclusion has the burden of going forward with evidence of the claim.
- 551.504 Filing of sales and advertising literature. (1) FILING REQUIREMENT. Except as otherwise provided in sub. (2), a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter may require the filing of a prospectus, pamphlet, circular, form letter, advertisement, sales literature, or other advertising record relating to a security or investment advice, addressed or intended for distribution to prospective investors, including clients or prospective clients of a person registered or required to be registered as an investment adviser under this chapter.
- (2) EXCLUDED COMMUNICATIONS. This section does not apply to sales and advertising literature specified in sub. (1) which relates to a federal covered security, a federal covered investment adviser, or a security or transaction exempted by s. 551.201, 551.202, or 551.203 except as required pursuant to s. 551.201 (7).
- **551.505 Misleading filings.** It is unlawful for a person to make or cause to be made, in a record that is used in an action or proceeding or filed under this chapter, a statement that, at the time and in the light of the circumstances under which it is made, is false or misleading in a material respect, or, in connection with the statement, to omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statement made, in the light of the circumstances under which it was made, not false or misleading.
- 551.506 Misrepresentations concerning registration or exemption. The filing of an application for registration, a registration statement, a notice filing under this chapter, the registration of a person, the notice filing by a person, or the registration of a security under this chapter does not constitute a finding by the administrator that a record filed under this chapter is true, complete, and not

misleading. The filing or registration or the availability of an exemption, exception, preemption, or exclusion for a security or a transaction does not mean that the administrator has passed upon the merits or qualifications of, or recommended or given approval to, a person, security, or transaction. It is unlawful to make, or cause to be made, to a purchaser, customer, client, or prospective customer or client a representation inconsistent with this section.

551.507 Qualified immunity. A broker-dealer, agent, investment adviser, federal covered investment adviser, or investment adviser representative is not liable to another broker-dealer, agent, investment adviser, federal covered investment adviser, or investment adviser representative for defamation relating to a statement that is contained in a record required by the administrator, or designee of the administrator, the Securities and Exchange Commission, or a self-regulatory organization, unless the person knew, or should have known at the time that the statement was made, that it was false in a material respect or the person acted in reckless disregard of the statement's truth or falsity.

551.508 Criminal penalties. (1) Criminal penalties. A person that willfully violates this chapter, or a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter, except s. 551.504 or the notice filing requirements of s. 551.302 or 551.405, or that willfully violates s. 551.505 knowing the statement made to be false or misleading in a material respect, upon conviction, shall be guilty of a Class H felony. An individual convicted of violating a rule or order under this chapter may be fined, but may not be imprisoned, if the individual did not have knowledge of the rule or order. Each of the acts specified shall constitute a separate offense and a prosecution or conviction for any one of such offenses shall not bar prosecution or conviction for any other offense.

| (2)      | CR   | IMINA  | L REFERENCE     | NOT REQU  | ЛRED.  | The  | e attorney | y g | eneral or t | he dist | trict |
|----------|------|--------|-----------------|-----------|--------|------|------------|-----|-------------|---------|-------|
| attorney | of   | the    | appropriate     | county,   | with   | or   | without    | a   | reference   | from    | the   |
| administ | rato | or, ma | ay institute cr | riminal p | roceed | ling | s under tl | nis | chapter.    |         |       |

- (3) No LIMITATION ON OTHER CRIMINAL ENFORCEMENT. This chapter does not limit the power of this state to punish a person for conduct that constitutes a crime under other laws of this state.
- **551.509 Civil liability. (1)** SECURITIES LITIGATION UNIFORM STANDARDS ACT. Enforcement of civil liability under this section is subject to the Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act of 1998.
- (2) Liability of Seller to Purchaser. A person is liable to the purchaser if the person sells a security in violation of s. 551.301 or 551.501 and, as to s. 551.501 (2), the purchaser did not know the untruth or omission and the seller cannot sustain the burden of proof that the seller did not know and, in the exercise of reasonable care, could not have known of the untruth or omission. An action under this subsection is governed by the following:
- (a) The purchaser may maintain an action to recover the consideration paid for the security, less the amount of any income received on the security, and interest at the legal rate under s. 138.04 from the date of the purchase, costs, and reasonable attorney fees determined by the court, upon the tender of the security, or for actual damages as provided in par. (c).
- (b) The tender referred to in par. (a) may be made any time before entry of judgment. Tender requires only notice in a record of ownership of the security and willingness to exchange the security for the amount specified. A purchaser that no longer owns the security may recover actual damages as provided in par. (c).

| (c) Actual damages in an action arising under this subsection are the amount           |
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| that would be recoverable upon a tender less the value of the security when the        |
| purchaser disposed of it, and interest at the legal rate under s. 138.04 from the date |
| of the purchase, costs, and reasonable attorney fees determined by the court.          |

- (3) LIABILITY OF PURCHASER TO SELLER. A person is liable to the seller if the person buys a security in violation of s. 551.501 and, as to s. 551.501 (2), the seller did not know the untruth or omission and the purchaser cannot sustain the burden of proof that the purchaser did not know and, in the exercise of reasonable care, could not have known of the untruth or omission. An action under this subsection is governed by the following:
- (a) The seller may maintain an action to recover the security, and any income received on the security, costs, and reasonable attorney fees determined by the court, upon the tender of the purchase price, or for actual damages as provided in par. (c).
- (b) The tender referred to in par. (a) may be made any time before entry of judgment. Tender requires only notice in a record of the present ability to pay the amount tendered and willingness to take delivery of the security for the amount specified. If the purchaser no longer owns the security, the seller may recover actual damages as provided in par. (c).
- (c) Actual damages in an action arising under this subsection are the difference between the price at which the security was sold and the value the security would have had at the time of the sale in the absence of the purchaser's conduct causing liability, and interest at the legal rate under s. 138.04 from the date of the sale of the security, costs, and reasonable attorney fees determined by the court.
- (4) Liability of unregistered broker-dealer and agent. A person acting as a broker-dealer or agent that sells or buys a security in violation of s. 551.401 (1),

551.402 (1), or 551.506 is liable to the customer. The customer, if a purchaser, may

maintain an action for recovery of actual damages as specified in sub. (2) (a) to (c), or, if a seller, for a remedy as specified in sub. (3) (a) to (c).

- (5) Liability of unregistered investment adviser and investment adviser REPRESENTATIVE. A person acting as an investment adviser or investment adviser representative that provides investment advice for compensation in violation of s. 551.403 (1), 551.404 (1), or 551.506 is liable to the client. The client may maintain an action to recover the consideration paid for the advice, interest at the legal rate under s. 138.04 from the date of payment, costs, and reasonable attorney fees determined by the court.
- (6) Liability for investment advice. A person that receives directly or indirectly any consideration for providing investment advice to another person and that employs a device, scheme, or artifice to defraud the other person or engages in an act, practice, or course of business that operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit on the other person is liable to the other person. An action under this subsection is governed by the following:
- (a) The person defrauded may maintain an action to recover the consideration paid for the advice and the amount of any actual damages caused by the fraudulent conduct, interest at the legal rate under s. 138.04 from the date of the fraudulent conduct, costs, and reasonable attorney fees determined by the court, less the amount of any income received as a result of the fraudulent conduct.
- (b) This subsection does not apply to a broker-dealer or its agents if the investment advice provided is solely incidental to transacting business as a broker-dealer and no special compensation is received for the investment advice.

- (7) JOINT AND SEVERAL LIABILITY. The following persons are liable jointly and severally with and to the same extent as persons liable under subs. (2) to (6):
- (a) A person that directly or indirectly controls a person liable under subs. (2) to (6), unless the controlling person sustains the burden of proof that the person did not know, and in the exercise of reasonable care could not have known, of the existence of conduct by reason of which the liability is alleged to exist.
- (b) An individual who is a managing partner, executive officer, or director of a person liable under subs. (2) to (6), including an individual having a similar status or performing similar functions, unless the individual sustains the burden of proof that the individual did not know, and in the exercise of reasonable care could not have known, of the existence of conduct by reason of which the liability is alleged to exist.
- (c) An individual who is an employee of or associated with a person liable under subs. (2) to (6) and who materially aids the conduct giving rise to the liability, unless the individual sustains the burden of proof that the individual did not know, and in the exercise of reasonable care could not have known, of the existence of conduct by reason of which the liability is alleged to exist.
- (d) A person that is a broker-dealer, agent, investment adviser, or investment adviser representative that materially aids the conduct giving rise to the liability under subs. (2) to (6), unless the person sustains the burden of proof that the person did not know, and in the exercise of reasonable care could not have known, of the existence of conduct by reason of which liability is alleged to exist.
- **(8)** RIGHT OF CONTRIBUTION. A person liable under this section has a right of contribution as in cases of contract against any other person liable under this section for the same conduct.

| (9) Survival of cause of action. A cause of action under this section survives |
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| the death of an individual who might have been a plaintiff or defendant.       |
| (10) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS. A person may not obtain relief:                   |

- (a) Under sub. (2) for violation of s. 551.301, or under sub. (4) or (5), unless the action is instituted within one year after the violation occurred.
- (b) Under sub. (2), other than for violation of s. 551.301, or under sub. (3) or (6), unless the action is instituted within the earlier of 2 years after discovery of the facts constituting the violation or 5 years after the violation.
- (11) NO ENFORCEMENT OF VIOLATIVE CONTRACT. A person that has made, or has engaged in the performance of, a contract in violation of this chapter or a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter, or that has acquired a purported right under the contract with knowledge of conduct by reason of which its making or performance was in violation of this chapter, may not base an action on the contract.
- (12) NO CONTRACTUAL WAIVER. A condition, stipulation, or provision binding a person purchasing or selling a security or receiving investment advice to waive compliance with this chapter or a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter is void.
- (13) Survival of other rights or remedies. The rights and remedies provided by this chapter are in addition to any other rights or remedies that may exist, but this chapter does not create a cause of action not specified in this section or s. 551.411 (5).
- **551.511 Rescission offers.** A purchaser, seller, or recipient of investment advice may not maintain an action under s. 551.509 if all of the following apply:
- (1) The purchaser, seller, or recipient of investment advice receives in a record, before the action is instituted, an offer stating the respect in which liability under s. 551.509 may have arisen and fairly advising the purchaser, seller, or recipient of

investment advice of that person's rights in connection with the offer, and any financial or other information necessary to correct all material misrepresentations or omissions in the information that was required by this chapter to be furnished to that person at the time of the purchase, sale, or investment advice, and any of the following:

- (a) If the basis for relief under this section may have been a violation of s. 551.509 (2), an offer to repurchase the security for cash, payable on delivery of the security, equal to the consideration paid, and interest at the legal rate under s. 138.04 from the date of the purchase, less the amount of any income received on the security, or, if the purchaser no longer owns the security, an offer to pay the purchaser upon acceptance of the offer damages in an amount that would be recoverable upon a tender, less the value of the security when the purchaser disposed of it, and interest at the legal rate under s. 138.04 from the date of the purchase in cash equal to the damages computed in the manner provided in this subsection.
- (b) If the basis for relief under this section may have been a violation of s. 551.509 (3), an offer to tender the security, on payment by the seller of an amount equal to the purchase price paid, less income received on the security by the purchaser and interest at the legal rate under s. 138.04 from the date of the sale, or, if the purchaser no longer owns the security, an offer to pay the seller upon acceptance of the offer, in cash, damages in the amount of the difference between the price at which the security was purchased and the value the security would have had at the time of the purchase in the absence of the purchaser's conduct that may have caused liability and interest at the legal rate under s. 138.04 from the date of the sale.

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- (c) If the basis for relief under this section may have been a violation of s. 551.509 (4), and if the customer is a purchaser, an offer to pay as specified in par. (a), or, if the customer is a seller, an offer to tender or to pay as specified in par. (b).
- (d) If the basis for relief under this section may have been a violation of s. 551.509 (5), an offer to reimburse in cash the consideration paid for the advice and interest at the legal rate under s. 138.04 from the date of payment.
- (e) If the basis for relief under this section may have been a violation of s. 551.509 (6), an offer to reimburse in cash the consideration paid for the advice, the amount of any actual damages that may have been caused by the conduct, and interest at the legal rate under s. 138.04 from the date of the violation causing the loss.
- (2) The offer under sub. (1) states that it must be accepted by the purchaser, seller, or recipient of investment advice within 30 days after the date of its receipt by the purchaser, seller, or recipient of investment advice or any shorter period, of not less than 3 days, that the administrator, by order, specifies.
- **(3)** The offeror has the present ability to pay the amount offered or to tender the security under sub. (1).
- **(4)** The offer under sub. (1) is delivered to the purchaser, seller, or recipient of investment advice, or sent in a manner that ensures receipt by the purchaser, seller, or recipient of investment advice.
- (5) The purchaser, seller, or recipient of investment advice that accepts the offer under sub. (1) in a record within the period specified under sub. (2) is paid in accordance with the terms of the offer.

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| 1  | SUBCHAPTER VI   |
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| 2  | ADMINISTRATION AND JUDICIAL   |
| 3  | REVIEW  |
| 4  | 551.601 Administration. (1) Administration. The administrator shall                     |
| 5  | administer this chapter.  |
| 6  | (2) Unlawful use of records or information. It is unlawful for the                      |
| 7  | administrator or an officer, employee, or designee of the administrator to use for      |
| 8  | personal benefit or the benefit of others records or other information obtained by or   |
| 9  | filed with the administrator that are not public under s. 551.607 (2). This chapter     |
| 10 | does not authorize the administrator or an officer, employee, or designee of the        |
| 11 | administrator to disclose the record or information, except in accordance with s.       |
| 12 | 551.602, 551.607 (3), or 551.608.   |
| 13 | (3) No privilege or exemption created or diminished. This chapter does not              |
| 14 | create or diminish a privilege or exemption that exists at common law, by statute or    |
| 15 | rule, or otherwise.   |
| 16 | (4) INVESTOR EDUCATION. The administrator may develop and implement                     |
| 17 | investor education initiatives to inform the public about investing in securities, with |
| 18 | particular emphasis on the prevention and detection of securities fraud. In             |
| 19 | developing and implementing these initiatives, the administrator may collaborate        |
| 20 | with public and nonprofit organizations with an interest in investor education. The     |
| 21 | administrator may accept a grant or donation from a person that is not affiliated with  |
| 22 | the securities industry or from a nonprofit organization, regardless of whether the     |
| 23 | organization is affiliated with the securities industry, to develop and implement       |

investor education initiatives. This subsection does not authorize the administrator