$\label{lem:red} \textit{Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks}.$

OMB APPROVAL

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Page 1 of * 14		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION File No.* SR - 2019 - * 01 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4 Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)					
Filing by Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934							
Initial * ✓	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)	(2) * Section	on 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *	
1 1101	ktension of Time Period r Commission Action *	Date Expires *		19b-4(f	19b-4(f)(5)		
Notice of proposed change pursuant Section 806(e)(1) *		to the Payment, Clear Section 806(e)(2) *	ing, and Settlem	ent Act of 2010	Security-Based Swap to the Securities Exch Section 3C(b)(2)	-	
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document							
Description Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). Proposed Rule Change to Extend the Effective Date of Previously-Approved Amendments to Rule G-21 and New Rule G-40							
Contact Information Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action.							
First Name	* Lanny		Last Name * S	Schwartz			
Title *	Chief Regulatory Officer						
E-mail *							
Telephone		Fax					
Signature							
Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized. (Title *)							
Date 01/	28/2019		Corporate Secr	etary			
By Roi	nald W. Smith						
(Name *) NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed. rsmith@msrb.org, rsmith@msrb.org							

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a Form 19b-4 Information * clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal Remove is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change * in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Add Remove View Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication **Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule** in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies * guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change, security-based swap submission, or advance notice being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Transcripts, Other Communications documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Remove View Add Exhibit Sent As Paper Document П Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is Remove Add View referred to by the proposed rule change. Exhibit Sent As Paper Document The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and **Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies** deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit Add Remove View the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working. **Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text** The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be considered part Add Remove View of the proposed rule change. If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy Partial Amendment proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial

amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.

1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), 1 and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, 2 the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposed rule change to extend the February 7, 2019, effective date of previously-approved amendments to Rule G-21, on advertising by brokers, dealers or municipal securities dealers, and new Rule G-40, on advertising by municipal advisors ("proposed rule change"). The MSRB has designated the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness. The new effective date of the amendments to Rule G-21 and new Rule G-40 will be announced in an MSRB Notice to be published on the MSRB's website no later than 60 days following publication of the proposed rule change in the Federal Register. The effective date to be announced will be not later than 180 days following publication of the MSRB Notice.

- (a) Not applicable.
- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by the MSRB at its December 21, 2018, meeting. Questions concerning this filing may be directed to Lanny A. Schwartz, Chief Regulatory Officer, or Pamela K. Ellis, Associate General Counsel, at 202-838-1500.

3. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

(a) Purpose

The MSRB proposes to extend the effective date of amendments to Rule G-21 and new Rule G-40 (collectively "advertising rules"). On May 7, 2018, the Commission approved the amendments with an effective date of February 7, 2019.⁴

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

See Release No. 34-83177 (May 7, 2018); 83 FR 21794 (May 10, 2018) (File No. SR-MSRB-2018-01). The SEC also approved a technical amendment to Rule G-42, on duties of non-solicitor municipal advisors. The compliance date for this amendment to Rule G-42 would remain February 7, 2019.

⁴ *Id.*

The amendments to Rule G-21 (i) provide more specific content standards for advertisements by brokers, dealers or municipal securities dealers (collectively, dealers), (ii) revise the rule's general standards for advertisements, and (iii) reconcile analogous provisions relating to the definition of "form letter" in Rule G-21 with the definition of correspondence in FINRA Rule 2210, on communications. The amendments also include a technical amendment in paragraph (e) to streamline the rule.

New Rule G-40 includes general provisions, addresses professional advertisements by municipal advisors, and requires principal approval, in writing, for advertisements by municipal advisors before their first use. The general provisions (i) define key terms, including the term "advertisement," (ii) provide content standards, such as the requirement that an advertisement be based on the principles of fair dealing and good faith and be fair and balanced, and (iii) provide general standards for advertisements, namely that a municipal advisor shall not publish or disseminate an advertisement that the municipal advisor knows or has reason to know contains any untrue statement of material fact or is otherwise false or misleading.

In setting an effective date of February 7, 2019, the MSRB was seeking to provide dealers and municipal advisors sufficient time to establish and implement effective processes and procedures to comply with the advertising rules. Consistent with that intent, the MSRB planned to provide guidance relating to: a municipal advisor's use of case studies and municipal advisory client lists; Rule G-40's content standards; and the use of social media. The MSRB is seeking to extend the effective date of the amendment to Rule G-21 and new Rule G-40 because additional time is needed to finalize its initial guidance and any related rule changes concerning the use of social media under MSRB advertising rules and, subsequently, allow dealers and municipal advisors to establish and implement effective policies and procedures for compliance with the advertising rules.

Accordingly, the MSRB submits this proposed rule change to extend the effective date of the amendments to Rule G-21 and new Rule G-40.

(b) Statutory Basis

The MSRB believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15B(b)(2)(C) of the Act, 6 which provides that the MSRB's rules shall:

be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in

See Letter from Pamela K. Ellis, Associate General Counsel, MSRB, dated April 30, 2018, available at http://msrb.org/~/media/Files/SEC-Filings/2018/MSRB-2018-01%20MSRB%20Letter%20to%20SEC.ashx?

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 780-4(b)(2)(C).

municipal securities and municipal financial products, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market in municipal securities and municipal financial products, and, in general, to protect investors, municipal entities, obligated persons, and the public interest.

The proposed rule change does not alter any rule language but extends the effective date of the amendments to Rule G-21 and new Rule G-40, which were previously approved by the Commission. The MSRB believes that by extending the effective date until after the guidance concerning the use of social media under MSRB advertising rules is finalized, dealers and municipal advisors will be afforded the time necessary to develop effective compliance procedures. Therefore, the proposed rule change will promote effective compliance with MSRB advertising rules and help prevent fraudulent and manipulative practices, promote just and equitable principles of trade, and protect investors, municipal entities, obligated persons and the public interest.

4. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

Section 15B(b)(2)(C) of the Act⁷ requires that MSRB rules be designed not to impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The MSRB does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the Act. The proposed rule change will not alter any rule language and will, instead, only extend the effective date of the amendments to Rule G-21 and new Rule G-40.

Additionally, Section 15B(b)(2)(L)(iv) of the Act, requires that MSRB rules not impose a regulatory burden on small municipal advisors that is not necessary or appropriate in the public interest and for the protection of investors, municipal entities, and obligated persons, provided that there is robust protection of investors against fraud. The MSRB believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15B(b)(2)(L)(iv) of the Act in that, while the proposed rule change would affect all municipal advisors, including small municipal advisors, any regulatory burden that results is necessary and appropriate in order to promote regulatory consistency of advertising standards.

5. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others

Written comments were neither solicited nor received on the proposed rule change.

⁷ *Id*.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78<u>o</u>-4(b)(2)(L)(iv).

6. Extension of Time Period of Commission Action

Not applicable.

7. Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) or Section 19(b)(7)(D)

The proposed rule change is effective upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder. ¹⁰ The proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; or (iii) become operative for 30 days after filing or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. In addition, the MSRB provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and any text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, as specified in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) under the Act. ¹¹

The MSRB requests that the Commission designate the proposed rule change as operative upon filing as it seeks to extend the effective date of the amendments to Rule G-21 and new Rule G-40 and is not proposing any textual changes to the rules. Moreover, in light of a 30-day operative period that would conclude after the initial effective date of February 7, 2019, doing so would provide regulatory certainty to dealers and municipal advisors that the initial effective date is extended.

8. Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission

Not applicable.

9. Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act Not applicable.

10. Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act

Not applicable.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

11. Exhibits

Exhibit 1 Completed Notice of Proposed Rule Change for Publication in the Federal Register

SECURITIES AND	EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-	; File No. SR-MSRB-2019-01)

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Extend the Effective Date of Previously-Approved Amendments to Rule G-21 and New Rule G-40

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the MSRB. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed</u> Rule Change

The MSRB filed with the Commission a proposed rule change to extend the February 7, 2019, effective date of previously-approved amendments to Rule G-21, on advertising by brokers, dealers or municipal securities dealers, and new Rule G-40, on advertising by municipal advisors ("proposed rule change"). The MSRB has designated the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness. The new effective date of the amendments to Rule G-21 and new Rule G-40 will be announced in an MSRB Notice to be published on the MSRB's website no later than 60 days following publication of the proposed rule change in the Federal Register. The

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

See Release No. 34-83177 (May 7, 2018); 83 FR 21794 (May 10, 2018) (File No. SR-MSRB-2018-01). The SEC also approved a technical amendment to Rule G-42, on duties of non-solicitor municipal advisors. The compliance date for this amendment to Rule G-42 would remain February 7, 2019.

effective date to be announced will be not later than 180 days following publication of the MSRB Notice.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the MSRB's website at www.msrb.org/Rules-and-Interpretations/SEC-Filings/2019-Filings.aspx, at the MSRB's principal office, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

In its filing with the Commission, the MSRB included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The MSRB has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. <u>Purpose</u>

The MSRB proposes to extend the effective date of amendments to Rule G-21 and new Rule G-40 (collectively "advertising rules"). On May 7, 2018, the Commission approved the amendments with an effective date of February 7, 2019.⁴

The amendments to Rule G-21 (i) provide more specific content standards for advertisements by brokers, dealers or municipal securities dealers (collectively, dealers), (ii) revise the rule's general standards for advertisements, and (iii) reconcile analogous provisions relating to the definition of "form letter" in Rule G-21 with the definition of correspondence in FINRA Rule 2210, on communications. The amendments also include a technical amendment in

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Id.

paragraph (e) to streamline the rule.

New Rule G-40 includes general provisions, addresses professional advertisements by municipal advisors, and requires principal approval, in writing, for advertisements by municipal advisors before their first use. The general provisions (i) define key terms, including the term "advertisement," (ii) provide content standards, such as the requirement that an advertisement be based on the principles of fair dealing and good faith and be fair and balanced, and (iii) provide general standards for advertisements, namely that a municipal advisor shall not publish or disseminate an advertisement that the municipal advisor knows or has reason to know contains any untrue statement of material fact or is otherwise false or misleading.

In setting an effective date of February 7, 2019, the MSRB was seeking to provide dealers and municipal advisors sufficient time to establish and implement effective processes and procedures to comply with the advertising rules. Consistent with that intent, the MSRB planned to provide guidance relating to: a municipal advisor's use of case studies and municipal advisory client lists; Rule G-40's content standards; and the use of social media. The MSRB is seeking to extend the effective date of the amendment to Rule G-21 and new Rule G-40 because additional time is needed to finalize its initial guidance and any related rule changes concerning the use of social media under MSRB advertising rules and, subsequently, allow dealers and municipal advisors to establish and implement effective policies and procedures for compliance with the advertising rules.

Accordingly, the MSRB submits this proposed rule change to extend the effective date of the amendments to Rule G-21 and new Rule G-40.

See Letter from Pamela K. Ellis, Associate General Counsel, MSRB, dated April 30, 2018, available at http://msrb.org/~/media/Files/SEC-Filings/2018/MSRB-2018-01%20MSRB%20Letter%20to%20SEC.ashx?

2. Statutory Basis

The MSRB believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15B(b)(2)(C) of the Act,⁶ which provides that the MSRB's rules shall:

be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in municipal securities and municipal financial products, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market in municipal securities and municipal financial products, and, in general, to protect investors, municipal entities, obligated persons, and the public interest.

The proposed rule change does not alter any rule language but extends the effective date of the amendments to Rule G-21 and new Rule G-40, which were previously approved by the Commission. The MSRB believes that by extending the effective date until after the guidance concerning the use of social media under MSRB advertising rules is finalized, dealers and municipal advisors will be afforded the time necessary to develop effective compliance procedures. Therefore, the proposed rule change will promote effective compliance with MSRB advertising rules and help prevent fraudulent and manipulative practices, promote just and equitable principles of trade, and protect investors, municipal entities, obligated persons and the public interest.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

Section 15B(b)(2)(C) of the Act⁷ requires that MSRB rules be designed not to impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The MSRB does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the Act. The proposed rule change

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⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78<u>o</u>-4(b)(2)(C).

⁷ <u>Id</u>.

will not alter any rule language and will, instead, only extend the effective date of the amendments to Rule G-21 and new Rule G-40.

Additionally, Section 15B(b)(2)(L)(iv) of the Act, requires that MSRB rules not impose a regulatory burden on small municipal advisors that is not necessary or appropriate in the public interest and for the protection of investors, municipal entities, and obligated persons, provided that there is robust protection of investors against fraud. The MSRB believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15B(b)(2)(L)(iv) of the Act in that, while the proposed rule change would affect all municipal advisors, including small municipal advisors, any regulatory burden that results is necessary and appropriate in order to promote regulatory consistency of advertising standards.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

Written comments were neither solicited nor received on the proposed rule change.

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹⁰

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78<u>o</u>-4(b)(2)(L)(iv).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-MSRB-2019-01 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-MSRB-2019-01. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet website (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 am and 3:00 pm.

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Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the MSRB. All comments received will be posted without change. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-MSRB-2019-01 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, pursuant to delegated authority. 11

Secretary

^{11 17} CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).