

Broward PAF APRIL 2024 CLE

“The Ins and Outs of FINRA Claims: Representing Investors in Securities Arbitration & Mediation” Featuring Scott Eichhorn, Esq., University of Miami School of Law Associate Professor & Director of the Investor Rights Clinic

Date: April 24, 2024 from 1:00pm – 2:00pm via Zoom

I. Introduction to FINRA Claims

- Overview of FINRA (Financial Industry Regulatory Authority)
- Purpose of FINRA claims
- Importance of resolving disputes through FINRA

II. What Does the IRC Do?

- Role of the Investor Rights Clinic (IRC)
- Representation of underserved investors by law students
- Securities arbitration claims before FINRA
- Funding and support from FINRA Investor Education Foundation and the Law School

III. Types of Customer-based FINRA Claims

- Customer Disputes:
 - Breach of fiduciary duty
 - Misrepresentation or omission of material facts
 - Unsuitability
 - Unauthorized trading

IV. Filing FINRA Claims

- Understanding the process
- Initiating a claim
- Required documentation and evidence
- Statute of limitations
- Costs and fees associated with filing

V. Arbitration Process

- Selection of arbitrators
- Discovery phase
- Pre-hearing conference
- Arbitration hearing
- Award issuance

VI. Mediation as an Alternative

- Pros and cons of mediation
- Process of mediation
- Role of the mediator
- Comparison with arbitration

VII. Case Studies and Examples

- Real-life examples of FINRA claims
- Lessons learned and best practices

Course Description:

This course provides a comprehensive exploration of the process, principles, and practical considerations surrounding FINRA (Financial Industry Regulatory Authority) claims within the financial industry. Participants will delve into the roles of FINRA, its arbitration forum, and the resolution of disputes involving investors and industry professionals. Through discussion, explanations of real life examples, and interactive sessions, participants will gain a thorough understanding of the types of FINRA claims, the arbitration process, and legal considerations involved. Additionally, the course will cover the services provided by the Investor Rights Clinic (IRC) and its role in representing underserved investors in securities arbitration claims. By the end of the course, participants will be equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate FINRA claims effectively and advocate for their rights within the financial industry.

Learning Objectives

1. Understand the role and functions of FINRA (Financial Industry Regulatory Authority) in overseeing securities arbitration claims and its significance in resolving disputes within the financial industry.
2. Gain insight into the process of filing FINRA claims, including the required documentation, statute of limitations, and associated costs, to equip participants with the knowledge and tools necessary to navigate the arbitration process effectively.
3. Understand how to effectively prepare a FINRA claim for resolution during mediation proceedings.
4. Understand the services provided by University of Miami's Investor Rights Clinic (IRC) and its role in representing underserved investors in securities arbitration claims.