Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

OMB Number: 3235-0045
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Page 1 of	* 16		EXCHANGE CO GTON, D.C. 2054 orm 19b-4	9	File No.* S	SR - 2017 - * 52 mendments *)
Filing by Nasdaq GEMX, LLC						
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934						
Initial *	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2	Section Section	on 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		19b-4(f	f)(2) 19b-4(f)(5)	
	f proposed change pursuant	to the Payment, Clear Section 806(e)(2) *	ing, and Settlemer	at 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 *). Proposal to remove Directed Order functionality on GEMX. 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 Na	me * Angela		Last Name * Du	nn		
Title * Principal Associate General Counsel						
E-mail * Angela.Dunn@nasdaq.com						
Telepho	ne * (215) 496-5692	Fax				
Signature Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized. (Title *)						
Date 11/16/2017			Executive Vice President and General Counsel			
Ву Е	Edward S. Knight					
(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.						

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 Add Remove 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.

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1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

(a) Nasdaq GEMX, LLC ("GEMX" or "Exchange"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposal to remove Directed Order³ functionality on GEMX.

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u> is at <u>Exhibit 1</u> and the text of the amended Exchange Rule is at <u>Exhibit 5</u>.

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

2. <u>Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization</u>

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of the Exchange pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors (the "Board") on September 19, 2017. Exchange staff will advise the Board of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

Questions and comments on the proposed rule change may be directed to:

Angela Saccomandi Dunn Principal Associate General Counsel Nasdaq, Inc. 215-496-5692

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

A "Directed Order" is an order routed from an Electronic Access Member to an Exchange market maker through the Exchange's System.

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

a. <u>Purpose</u>

Last year the Exchange filed to delay the implementation of the Directed Order functionality in conjunction with a replatform to INET.⁴ INET is the proprietary core technology utilized across Nasdaq's global markets and utilized on The Nasdaq Options Market LLC ("NOM"), Nasdaq PHLX LLC ("Phlx") and Nasdaq BX, Inc. ("BX") (collectively, "Nasdaq Exchanges"). GEMX was migrated to INET technology in 2017. With the migration, GEMX delayed the implementation of the Directed Order functionality to stage the re-platform to provide maximum benefit to its Members while also ensuring a successful rollout. At that time, the Exchange noted that the Exchange will introduce the Directed Order functionality within one year from the date of this filing, otherwise the Exchange will file a rule proposal with the Commission to remove these rules. The Exchange filed the initial rule change on December 16, 2016.⁵ The Exchange has determined at this time not to offer Directed Order functionality.⁶ If the Exchange determines to offer this functionality at a later date, a rule proposal will be filed at that time.

(b) Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 80011 (February 10, 2017), 82 FR 10927 (February 16, 2017) (SR-ISEGemini-2016-17).

⁵ <u>Id.</u>

This functionality was turned off on February 21, 2017. See MIC-2017-07.

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Act,⁷ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁸ in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest because the Exchange will remove rule text related to functionality which will not be offered on GEMX. The current rule text indicates the functionality is not offered today. The Exchange believes that removing Rule 811 from the Rulebook will avoid confusion as to whether this functionality will be enabled in the future.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intra-market competition because the Exchange is not offering this functionality today and believes there is no interest among Members for this functionality.

- Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others
 No written comments were either solicited or received.
- Extension of Time Period for Commission Action
 Not applicable.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)</u>

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii)⁹ of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder¹⁰ in that it effects a change that: (i) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest because the current rule text indicates the rule is not offered today. The Exchange believes that removing Rule 811 from the Rulebook will avoid confusion as to whether this functionality will be enabled in the future. The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change imposes any significant burden on competition because the Exchange is not offering this functionality today and believes there is no interest among Members for this functionality.

Furthermore, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file a proposed rule change under that subsection at least five business days prior to the date of filing, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has provided such notice. No comments were received on SR-ISEGemini-2016-17.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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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 action is: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

- 8. <u>Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission</u>
 - Not applicable.
- 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.

11. Exhibits

- 1. Notice of proposed rule for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>.
- 5. Text of the proposed rule change.

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EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-GEMX-2017-52)

November ___, 2017

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq GEMX, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Remove Directed Order Functionality

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), ¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, ² notice is hereby given that on November 16, 2017, Nasdaq GEMX, LLC ("GEMX" or "Exchange") 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 Exchange. 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 Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to remove Directed Order³ functionality on GEMX.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at http://nasdaqgemx.cchwallstreet.com/, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

A "Directed Order" is an order routed from an Electronic Access Member to an Exchange market maker through the Exchange's System.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange 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 Exchange 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</u> Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. <u>Purpose</u>

Last year the Exchange filed to delay the implementation of the Directed Order functionality in conjunction with a replatform to INET.⁴ INET is the proprietary core technology utilized across Nasdaq's global markets and utilized on The Nasdaq Options Market LLC ("NOM"), Nasdaq PHLX LLC ("Phlx") and Nasdaq BX, Inc. ("BX") (collectively, "Nasdaq Exchanges"). GEMX was migrated to INET technology in 2017. With the migration, GEMX delayed the implementation of the Directed Order functionality to stage the re-platform to provide maximum benefit to its Members while also ensuring a successful rollout. At that time, the Exchange noted that the Exchange will introduce the Directed Order functionality within one year from the date of this filing, otherwise the Exchange will file a rule proposal with the Commission to remove these rules. The Exchange filed the initial rule change on December 16, 2016.⁵ The

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 80011 (February 10, 2017), 82 FR 10927 (February 16, 2017) (SR-ISEGemini-2016-17).

⁵ Id.

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Exchange has determined at this time not to offer Directed Order functionality.⁶ If the Exchange determines to offer this functionality at a later date, a rule proposal will be filed at that time.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,⁷ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁸ in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest because the Exchange will remove rule text related to functionality which will not be offered on GEMX. The current rule text indicates the functionality is not offered today. The Exchange believes that removing Rule 811 from the Rulebook will avoid confusion as to whether this functionality will be enabled in the future.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any

burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the

Act. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any

burden on intra-market competition because the Exchange is not offering this

functionality today and believes there is no interest among Members for this

functionality.

This functionality was turned off on February 21, 2017. <u>See MIC-2017-07</u>.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

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)(iii) of the Act⁹ and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 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 action is: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

¹⁷ CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

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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-GEMX-2017-52 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange
 Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-GEMX-2017-52. 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 Web site (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 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing

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also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange.

All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-GEMX-2017-52 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. ¹¹

Eduardo A. Aleman Assistant Secretary

¹¹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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EXHIBIT 5

Deleted text is [bracketed]. New text is <u>underlined</u>.

Nasdaq GEMX, LLC RULES

* * * * *

Rule 811. Reserved.[Directed Orders

Directed Order functionality will not be available as of a certain date in the first quarter of 2017 to be announced in a notice. The Exchange will recommence Directed Order functionality on Nasdaq GEMX within one year from the date of the filing of SR-ISEGemini-2016-17 to be announced in a separate notice.

- (a) Definitions.
- (1) A "Directed Order" is an order routed from an Electronic Access Member to an Exchange market maker through the Exchange's System.
 - (2) A "Directed Market Maker" is a market maker that receives a Directed Order.
 - (3) The "NBBO" is defined in Rule 1900.
- (b) Exchange market makers may only receive and handle orders on an agency basis if they are Directed Orders and only in the manner prescribed in this Rule 811. A market maker can elect whether or not to accept Directed Orders on a daily basis. If a market maker elects to be a Directed Market Maker, it must accept Directed Orders from all Electronic Access Members and cannot reject a Directed Order. The identity of the Electronic Access Member that entered the Directed Order will be made available to the Directed Market Maker.
 - (c) Obligations of Directed Market Makers.
 - (1) Directed Market Makers must hold the interests of orders entrusted to them above their own interests and fulfill in a professional manner all other duties of an agent, including, but not limited to, ensuring that each such order, regardless of its size or source, receives proper representation and timely, best possible execution in accordance with the terms of the order and the rules and policies of the Exchange.
 - (2) Directed Market Makers must ensure that their acceptance and execution of Directed Orders as agent are in compliance with applicable Federal and Exchange rules and policies.
 - (3) Within one (1) second of receipt of a Directed Order, Directed Market Makers must either enter the Directed Order into the PIM pursuant to Rule 723 or release the Directed Order to the Exchange's limit order book pursuant to paragraph (e) of this Rule.

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(i) If the Directed Market Maker is quoting at the NBBO on the opposite side of the Directed Order, the Directed Market Maker is prohibited from adjusting the price of its quote to a price that is less favorable than the price available at the NBBO or reducing the size of its quote prior to submitting the Directed Order to the PIM, unless such quote change is the result of an automated quotation system that operates independently from the existence or non-existence of a pending Directed Order. Otherwise changing a quote on the opposite side of the Directed Order except as specifically permitted herein will be a violation of Rule 400 (Just and Equitable Principles of Trade).

- (ii) If a Directed Market Maker fails to either enter a Directed Order into the PIM or release the order within one (1) second of its receipt, the Directed Order will be automatically released by the System and processed according to paragraph (e) of this Rule.
- (d) Directed Market Maker Guarantee. If the Directed Market Maker is quoting at the NBBO on the opposite side of the market from a Directed Order at the time the Directed Order is received by the Directed Market Maker, and the Directed Order is marketable, the System will automatically guarantee execution of the Directed Order against the Directed Market Maker at the price and the size of its quote (the "Guarantee"). The Directed Market Maker cannot alter the Guarantee.
- (e) Except as provided in this paragraph (e), when a Directed Order is released, the System processes the order in the same manner as any other order received by the Exchange. Directed Orders will not be automatically executed at a price that is inferior to the NBBO and, except as provided in paragraph (e)(3), will be handled pursuant to Supplementary Material .02 and .03 to Rule 1901 when the Exchange best bid or offer is inferior to the NBBO.
 - (1) A marketable Directed Order will be matched against orders and quotes according to Rule 713 except that, at any given price level, the Directed Market Maker will be last in priority.
 - (i) If, after all other interest at the NBBO is executed in full, there is any remaining unexecuted quantity of the Directed Order and the Directed Market Maker is quoting at the NBBO or a Guarantee exists, a broadcast message will be sent to all Members. After one (1) second, any additional interest at the same or better price will be executed according to Rule 713.
 - (ii) If there continues to be any remaining unexecuted quantity of the Directed Order, it will be executed against any interest at the same price from the Directed Market Maker. If a Guarantee exists at that price, an execution will occur for at least the size of the Guarantee.

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(iii) If there continues to be any remaining unexecuted quantity of the Directed Order and the Directed Order is marketable at the next price level without trading through the NBBO, the Directed Order will be allocated according to Rule 713 except that the Directed Market Maker will be last in priority. If an execution at any given price level would cause the Directed Order to be executed at a price inferior to the NBBO, the order will be handled according to Supplementary Material .02 and .03 to Rule 1901.

- (iv) Paragraph (e)(1)(iii) will be repeated until the Directed Order is (A) fully executed, (B) handled according to Supplementary Material .02 and .03 to Rule 1901, or (C) no longer marketable, in which case it will be placed on the limit order book.
- (2) If a Directed Order is not marketable at the time it is released:
- (i) If a Guarantee exists, a broadcast message will be sent to all Members. After one (1) second, the Directed Order will be executed against any contra interest at the Guarantee price or better according to Rule 713. Thereafter, the Directed Order will be executed against the Directed Market Maker for at least the size of the Guarantee. If there is any remaining unexecuted quantity of the Directed Order, it will be placed on the Exchange's limit order book.
- (ii) If no Guarantee exists, the Directed Order will be placed on the Exchange's limit order book. In this case, the Directed Market Maker may not enter a proprietary order to execute against the Directed Order during the one (1) second following the release of the Directed Order.
- (3) If, at the time a Directed Order is released by the Directed Market Maker, the Directed Order is marketable but the Exchange best bid or offer is inferior to the NBBO, and the Directed Market Maker is the Primary Market Maker in the option class for the Directed Order, then a broadcast message shall be sent to all Members displaying the Directed Order. After one (1) second, the Directed Order will be executed against any contra interest at the NBBO price or better according to Rule 713, except that the Directed Market Maker will be last in priority. Thereafter, if there is any remaining unexecuted quantity of the Directed Order, it will be handled according to Supplementary Material .02 and .03 to Rule 1901.]

* * * * *