	Case 3:18-cv-05003-JD Docume	ent 43 Filed 11/13/19 Page 1 of 45
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21		ıy, LLC DISTRICT COURT ICT OF CALIFORNIA
22 23 24 25 26 27 28	NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO DISMISS BY DEFENDANT FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY LLC to be heard by the Court on December 19, 2019 before Judge James Donato in Court Room 11 on the 19 <sup>th</sup> Floor, 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, California 94102. Defendant First Standard Financial Company LLC dismiss this action against it pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 12(b)(2), (3), and (6) because it is the wrong party	

#### Case 3:18-cv-05003-JD Document 43 Filed 11/13/19 Page 2 of 45

and there is no such entity as First Standard Financial Company LLC D/B/A Standard
 Financing, as named and alleged by the Plaintiff in the complaint before this Court. The
 Defendant will rely on the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the Declaration
 of Francis G. Rushford appended as an exhibit, and argument at the above noted hearing.

Respectfully submitted by,

By: <u>/s/ Francis G. Rushford</u> Francis G. Rushford, Esq. Attorney for Defendant FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY, LLC

	Case 3:18-cv-05003-JD Docume	ent 43 Filed 11/13/19 Page 3 of 45
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Francis G. Rushford (SBN 134,896) LAW OFFICES OF FRANCIS G. RUSHFORI 8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 510 Beverly Hills, CA 92011 Phone: +1-310- 734-8373 Fax: +1-310-862-1830 rushford@rushfordlaw.com Attorneys for Defendants First Standard Financ Company, LLC	
9 10		ICT OF CALIFORNIA
11	ABANTE ROOTER AND PLUMBING INC., individually and on behalf of all others	Case No. 18-cv-05003-JD
12	similarly situated,	MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES: DECALRATION OF
13	Plaintiff,	FRANCIS G. RUSHFORD IN SUPPORT DEFENADANT FIRST STANDRAD
14	VS.	FINANCIAL COMPANY LLC'S MOTION TO DISMISS PURSUANT TO FED B CW B 12 (b)(2)(3) and (7)
15	FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL	FED.R.CIV.P. 12 (b)(2)(3) and (7)
16 17	COMPANY LLC d/b/a STANDARD FINANCING, and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, and each of them,	DATE: December 19, 2019 TIME: 10:00 AM
18	Defendants.	JUDGE JAMES DONATO COURTROOM 11, 19 <sup>th</sup> FLOOR
19	Defendants.	COURTROOM II, 19 FLOOR
20		
21		
22		
23	I STATEMENT OF THE	ISSUES TO BE DECIDED
24		order for the parties to determine the correct
25	parties and provided the plaintiff with a three m	onth window to conduct discovery, which it
26	conducted no discovery and filed an Amended	Complaint changed the caption, added the party
27	that should have been the original party as note	d in our prior Motion to Dismiss, but continues
28		

to improperly name FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY LLC as a named defendant in this action.

As has been noted to this Court and plaintiff, FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY LLC is an entity regulated by The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). As noted in the prior motion to dismiss filed with this Court, FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY LLC can only operate businesses that it is registered with FINRA to conduct, and the type of lending alleged in the Complaint is not one of its business lines.

On June 24, 2019, the Court issued the following Order:

ORDER. The entry of default is lifted. All counsel is advised to diligently prosecute their cases, or the Court may impose sanctions, including termination. If the parties cannot work out who the proper defendant is, plaintiff may conduct three months of jurisdictional discovery, closing on September 23, 2019. Plaintiff's amended complaint is due by October 7, 2019. The case is stayed in all other respects. Signed by Judge James Donato on 6/24/2019. (*This is a text-only entry generated by the court. There is no document associated with this entry.*) (jdlc1S, COURT STAFF) (Filed on 6/24/2019) (Entered: 06/24/2019)

The plaintiff conducted no discovery and filed an amended complaint alleging the same allegations, while adding FIRST STANDARD FINANCE COMPANY, LLC, which was the entity noted in the prior Motion to Dismiss was the party that was in the lending business and the only potential party. Unfortunately, the plaintiff continues to improperly keep the FINRA regulated FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY LLC in the lawsuit based on having an incorrect common address and by the mere fact of allegations of common ownership.

Further, all Plaintiff did is to include a conspiracy allegation between the named defendants and did not even bother to update the business address from New York City to Red Bank, New Jersey.

Finally, the Plaintiff changed the caption in the case without leave of Court, and it is why this Defendant has continued to use the proper caption.

The Court needs to dismiss FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY LLC from this lawsuit, dismiss all the other parties from suit and sanction plaintiff and its counsel for failure to abide by the Court's order of June 24, 2019 by conducting no discovery.

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#### **II. STATEMNET OF THE RELEVANT FACTS**

The plaintiff contends that the Court has federal question jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 as it arises out of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227 et. seq., because First Standard Financial Company, LLC doing business as Standard Financing has violated the Telephone Consumer Protection Act. After First Standard Financial Company, LLC became aware of this instant action, it attorney in New York, Timothy Feil, contacted the Plaintiff's counsel and informed them that they had sued the wrong party<sup>1</sup> and had provided a copy of the assumed name or dba filing dated June 27, 2016 for First Stand Finance Company LLC with the New York State Department of State, Division of Corporations, whereby it assumed the name, Standard Financing<sup>2</sup>. Despite the documentation providing the correct entity doing business as Standard Financing, the Plaintiff refused to dismiss First Standard Financial Company LLC. Counsel in New York, as well as current Counsel had offered that if Plaintiff had dismissed the wrong party and named the correct party doing business as Standard financing, counsel would accept service on behalf of First Standard Finance Company LLC doing business as Standard Financing<sup>3</sup>.

First Standard Financial Company LLC is a registered Broker Dealer regulated by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA"). As a registered Broker Dealer, First Standard Financial Company LLC must disclose the types of businesses it conducts. And financing activities is not one of the businesses<sup>4</sup>. Standard Financing is in the financing business, which is not a business that First Standard Financial Company LLC conducts. First Standard Finance Company doing business as Standard Financing provides a wide range of financing services supposedly solicited as noted in the complaint.

While the names of the companies are quite similar and at times shared a common address, the two separate New York Limited Liability Companies are two distinct legal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Declaration of Francis G. Rushford at paragraph 2 attached as Exhibit 1 (hereafter the Declaration will be referred to as, "Decl. Rushford at para. 2".

 $<sup>||^{2}</sup>$  A true and correct copy of that document is attached as Exhibit 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Decl. Rushford at Para 3.

<sup>8 &</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Attached hereto is Exhibit 3 is the BrokerCheck Report for First Standard Financial Company LLC, which lists all the business at page 9 of that report and no financing of any sort is listed.

entities<sup>5</sup>. The only reason that counsel for First Standard Financial Company LLC can understand from a colloquy of emails between counsel for the plaintiff and New York counsel and counsel herein is that the two entities shared an address. On April 8, 2019, counsel supplied plaintiff counsel with a certified copy of the Certificate of Assumed Name from the New York Divisions of Corporation, State Records and Uniform Commercial Code<sup>6</sup>. The certified document clearly states that First Standard Finance Company LLC assumed the name of Standard Financing. Finally, the Certified Articles of Incorporation from each entity establishes them as separate and distinct entities<sup>7</sup>.

8 The response via email from Plaintiff's counsel was to request a declaration that they are sperate companies<sup>8</sup>. Counsel response was that the certification of Assumed Name 9 establishes the entity that is doing business as Standard Financing is First Standard Finance 10 Company LLC and only New York State can declare that each is a separate company, which is set forth in the exhibits attached. Counsel wished to avoid the necessity of filing its previous 12 Motion to Dismiss and not waste the Court's time. 13

The Plaintiff has merely added Standard Finance Company LLC to the Complaint without including that it does business as Standard Financing, which was the named defendant in the original complaint and caption. Then to tie the two entities together there is a species allegation of a conspiracy between the two entities.

<sup>7</sup> Attached as Exhibit 6. 28

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<sup>8</sup> Decl. Rushford at para. 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Attached hereto as Exhibit 4 are the current Certificates of Good Standing with New York 25 State, as well as certified copies of their incorporations, as certified by the New York State 26 Department of State, Division of Corporations attached as Exhibit 4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The electronic notice forward a copy of certification of Assumed Named as attached hereto as 27 Exhibit 5.

#### III. PURSUANT TO FEDERAL RULES OF CIVILE PROCEDURES RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDUE 12(b) (2), (3), and (6) FIRST STANADFINANCIAL COMPANY MUST BE DISMISSED.

A. Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(2)

As shown above, First Standard Financial Company LLC is a registered Broker Dealer that and does not provide financing services. Just because proper service was made upon First Standard Financial Company LLC, does not mean the Court has personal jurisdiction. <u>Greenspun v. Del E. Webb Corp.</u>, 634 F2d 1204, 1207 (9th Cir. 1980). The party doing business as, "Standard Financing" is First Standard Finance Company LLC and that entity is a party to this civil action and an answer has been filed simultaneously with this Motion.

Any judgment would be void and waste the Court time because First Standard Financial Company LLC does not provide such business as Standard Financing and any judgment obtained could not be acted upon because it is a void judgment. *See* In re Tuli (9th Cir. 1999) 172 F3d 707, 712. Further, plaintiff was well aware of First Standard Financial Company LLC's position that it is the wrong party, that First Standard Finance LLC is doing business as Standard Finance, and added the proper party, but refuses to dismiss the improper party. First Standard Financial Company LLC's counsel has provided these certified documents from the State of New York Department of State establish the correct entity doing business as Standard Financing. Second, Plaintiff has been previously provided with the regulated businesses of Standard Financial Company LLC for its FINRA regulated businesses.

Where the motion challenges the facts alleged, a Rule 12(b)(2) motion must be decided on the basis of competent evidence. <u>Walk Haydel & Assocs., Inc. v. Coastal Power Production</u> <u>Co.</u> (5th Cir. 2008) 517 F3d 235, 241; <u>Data Disc, Inc. v. Systems Tech. Assocs., Inc.</u> (9th Cir. 1977) 557 F2d 1280, 1289, fn. 5; <u>Dorchester Fin'l Secur., Inc. v. Banco BRJ, S.A.</u>, supra, 722 F3d at 85.

It should be noted that dismissal for lack of personal jurisdiction is not on the merits and is without prejudice to plaintiffs seeking relief in another forum (state or federal) in which the defendant is subject to personal jurisdiction. *See* FRCP 41(b); <u>Robinson v. Overseas Military</u> <u>Sales Corp.</u> (2nd Cir. 1994) 21 F3d 502, 507, fn. 4; <u>Posner v. Essex Ins. Co., Ltd.</u> (11th Cir. 1999) 178 F3d 1209, 1221; <u>Hollander v. Sandoz Pharmaceuticals Corp.</u> (11th Cir. 2002) 289 F3d 1193, 1216.

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B. <u>Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(3)</u>

The Court may consider facts outside the pleadings to determine venue <u>Liles v. Ginn-La</u> <u>West End, Ltd.</u> (11th Cir. 2011) 631 F3d 1242, 1244, fn. 5; see <u>Murphy v. Schneider Nat'l, Inc.</u> (9th Cir. 2004) 362 F3d 1133, 1137. The doing business as Standard Financing is First Standard Finance Company, LLC, a party to this action and not First Standard Financial Company, LLC. As, a result venue is not proper. C. <u>Fed R. Civ. 12(b)(6)</u> Caltex Plastics, Inc. v. Lockheed Martin Corp. (9th Cir. 2016) 824 F3d 1156, 1159; Coffin v. Safeway. Inc. (D AZ 2004) 323 F Supp 2d 997, 1000; Seismic Reservoir 2020. Inc. v.

Coffin v. Safeway, Inc. (D AZ 2004) 323 F.Supp.2d 997, 1000; Seismic Reservoir 2020, Inc. v. Paulsson (9th Cir. 2015) 785 F3d 330, 335—Rule 12(b)(6) dismissal can be based on dispositive legal issue, such as the wrong party has been sued because as a Registered Broker Dealer, First Standard Financial Company LLC cannot offer lending services, and as a result all claim against it must fail.

#### **IV. CONCLUSION**

For all the reason set forth above, First Standard Financial Company LLC should be dismissed from this action.

Respectfully submitted by,

By: <u>/s/ Francis G. Rushford</u> Francis G. Rushford, Esq. Attorney for Defendant FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY LLC



**EXHIBIT 1** 

#### **DECLARATION OF FRANCIS G. RUSHFORD**

I declare and State:

1. I am not a party to this action, I am admitted to practice before this Court, and I represent First Standard Financial Company LLC in this civil action.

2. Timothy Feil is an attorney admitted to practice in the state of New York, represents First Standard Financial Company LLC and Mr. Feil provided a copy of Exhibit 2 to counsel for plaintiff by email.

3. I offered via email, as had Mr. Feil, to accept service for First Finance Company LLC doing business as Standard Financing, if First Standard Financial Company LLC was dismissed from the civil action to plaintiff's counsel and plaintiff's counsel refused.

4. The BrokerCheck Report at Exhibit 3 at page 9 does not list financing of the type conducted by First Standard Finance Company LLC doing business as Standard Financing.

6. I communicated via email on more than one occasion that I would accept service for First Finance Company LLC doing business as Standard Financing, if First Standard Financial Company LLC was dismissed from the civil action to plaintiff's counsel and plaintiff's counsel refused.

7. All of the Exhibits are true and correct copies of the documents, including that that are certified.

I make this declaration under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America

T. CResser

Francis G. Rushford

March 21, 2019 at Beverly Hills, California

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1 2	
3	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
4	(Declaration)
5	(Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 5(a)(l) & 5(b))
6	STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
7 8	I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action. My business address is 8383 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 510, Beverly Hills, CA 90211. My electronic service address is
9	rushford@rushfordlaw.com.com.
10 11	On November 12, 2019 I served the below-listed documents on the interested parties in this action. The documents were served by the following method:
12 13 14	XBY ECF (ELECTRONIC CASE FILING): I e-filed the below-referenced documents utilizing the United States District Court, Northern District of California's mandated ECF (Electronic Case Filing) service. Counsel of record are required to be registered e-filers and, as such, are automatically e-served with a copy of the documents upon confirmation of e-filing. All addresses of the interested parties are listed on the attached service list.
15 16	Motion to Dismiss
17	Executed on November 12, 2019, at Beverly Hills, California 90211.
18	I declare that I am employed in the Office of a member of the Bar of this Court.
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20	Thesen
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22	Francis G. Rushford
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	Case 3:18-cv-05003-JD Document 43 Filed 11/13/19 Page 13 of 45
1	SERVICE LIST
2	
3	Todd M. Friedman (SBN 216752) Adrian R. Bacon (SBN 280332)
4	Meghan E. George (SBN 274525)
5	Thomas E. Wheeler (SBN 308789) Kelsey L. Kuberka (SBN 321619)
6	LAW OFFICES OF TODD M. FRIEDMAN, P.C. 21550 Oxnard St. Suite 780,
7	Woodland Hills, CA 91367
8	Phone: 323-306-4234 Fax: 866-633-0228
9	tfriedman@toddflaw.com abacon@toddflaw.com
10	mgeorge@toddflaw.com
11	twheeler@toddflaw.com kkuberka@toddflaw.com
12	Attorneys for Plaintiff
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Case 3:18-cv-05003-JD Document 43 Filed 11/13/19 Page 14 of 45 Exhibit 2

N. Y. S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS

ALBANY, NY 12231-0001

FILING RECEIPT

ENTITY NAME : FIRST STANDARD FINANCE COMPANY, LLC

#### DOCUMENT TYPE : ASSUMED NAME LTD LIABILITY CO

FILER:	FILED: 06/27/2016		
	CASH#: 377981		
	FILM#: 20160627020		
LIGHTNING LEGAL SERVICES, LLC			

299 HAMILTON STREET

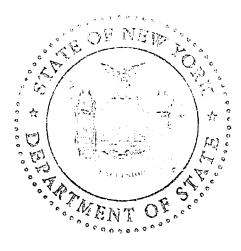
ALBANY NY 12210

PRINCIPAL LOCATION

------

**40 WALL STREET** 

NEW YORK NY 10005



COMMENT:

ASSUMED NAME -----STANDARD FINANCING

SERVICE COMPANY : LIGHTNING LEGAL SERVICES	CODE: 09 BOX: 33
FEES 70.00	PAYMENTS: 70.00
FILING : 25.00 COUNTY : .00 COPIES : 20.00 MISC : .00 HANDLE : 25.00	CASH : CHECK : 70.00 C CARD :
	REFUND :



## Exhibit 3

## BrokerCheck Report FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY LLC

CRD# 168340

Section Title	Page(s)
Report Summary	1
Firm Profile	2 - 5
Firm History	6
Firm Operations	7 - 13
Disclosure Events	14

#### About BrokerCheck®

BrokerCheck offers information on all current, and many former, registered securities brokers, and all current and former registered securities firms. FINRA strongly encourages investors to use BrokerCheck to check the background of securities brokers and brokerage firms before deciding to conduct, or continue to conduct, business with them.

#### What is included in a BrokerCheck report?

BrokerCheck reports for individual brokers include information such as employment history, professional qualifications, disciplinary actions, criminal convictions, civil judgments and arbitration awards. BrokerCheck reports for brokerage firms include information on a firm's profile, history, and operations, as well as many of the same disclosure events mentioned above.

Please note that the information contained in a BrokerCheck report may include pending actions or allegations that may be contested, unresolved or unproven. In the end, these actions or allegations may be resolved in favor of the broker or brokerage firm, or concluded through a negotiated settlement with no admission or finding of wrongdoing.

#### • Where did this information come from?

The information contained in BrokerCheck comes from FINRA's Central Registration Depository, or CRD® and is a combination of:

- o information FINRA and/or the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) require brokers and brokerage firms to submit as part of the registration and licensing process, and
- o information that regulators report regarding disciplinary actions or allegations against firms or brokers.
- How current is this information?

Generally, active brokerage firms and brokers are required to update their professional and disciplinary information in CRD within 30 days. Under most circumstances, information reported by brokerage firms, brokers and regulators is available in BrokerCheck the next business day.

What if I want to check the background of an investment adviser firm or investment adviser representative?

To check the background of an investment adviser firm or representative, you can search for the firm or individual in BrokerCheck. If your search is successful, click on the link provided to view the available licensing and registration information in the SEC's Investment Adviser Public Disclosure (IAPD) website at https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov. In the alternative, you may search the IAPD website directly or contact your state securities regulator at http://www.finra.org/Investors/ToolsCalculators/BrokerCheck/P455414.

Are there other resources I can use to check the background of investment professionals?

FINRA recommends that you learn as much as possible about an investment professional before deciding to work with them. Your state securities regulator can help you research brokers and investment adviser representatives doing business in your state.

#### Thank you for using FINRA BrokerCheck.



## 0

Using this site/information means that you accept the FINRA BrokerCheck Terms and Conditions. A complete list of Terms and Conditions can be found at

#### brokercheck.finra.org

For additional information about the contents of this report, please refer to the User Guidance or www.finra.org/brokercheck. It provides a glossary of terms and a list of frequently asked questions, as well as additional resources. For more information about

FINRA, visit www.finra.org.

#### Case 3:18-cv-05003-JD Document 43 Filed 11/13/19 Page 17 of 45

**Report Summary for this Firm** 

## FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY LLC

#### CRD# 168340

SEC# 8-69300

#### **Main Office Location**

21 EAST FRONT STREET SUITE 100 RED BANK, NJ 07701 Regulated by FINRA Woodbridge Office

#### Mailing Address

21 EAST FRONT STREET SUITE 100 RED BANK, NJ 07701

#### **Business Telephone Number**

2123592934



**User Guidance** 

This report summary provides an overview of the brokerage firm. Additional information for this firm can be found in the detailed report.

#### **Firm Profile**

This firm is classified as a limited liability company.

This firm was formed in New York on 03/19/2013.

Its fiscal year ends in December.

#### **Firm History**

Information relating to the brokerage firm's history such as other business names and successions (e.g., mergers, acquisitions) can be found in the detailed report.

#### **Firm Operations**

#### This firm is registered with:

- the SEC
- 1 Self-Regulatory Organization
- 53 U.S. states and territories

Is this brokerage firm currently suspended with any regulator?  $\ensuremath{\,No}$ 

This firm conducts 6 types of businesses.

This firm is affiliated with financial or investment institutions.

This firm has referral or financial arrangements with other brokers or dealers.

#### **Disclosure Events**

Brokerage firms are required to disclose certain criminal matters, regulatory actions, civil judicial proceedings and financial matters in which the firm or one of its control affiliates has been involved.

Are there events disclosed about this firm? Yes

## The following types of disclosures have been reported:

Туре	Count
Regulatory Event	1

#### User Guidance

#### **Firm Profile**

This firm is classified as a limited liability company.

This firm was formed in New York on 03/19/2013.

Its fiscal year ends in December.

#### **Firm Names and Locations**

This section provides the brokerage firm's full legal name, "Doing Business As" name, business and mailing addresses, telephone number, and any alternate name by which the firm conducts business and where such name is used.

#### FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY LLC

Doing business as FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY LLC

**CRD#** 168340

SEC# 8-69300

#### **Main Office Location**

21 EAST FRONT STREET SUITE 100 RED BANK, NJ 07701

Regulated by FINRA Woodbridge Office

#### **Mailing Address**

21 EAST FRONT STREET SUITE 100 RED BANK, NJ 07701

#### **Business Telephone Number**

2123592934



#### **Firm Profile**

This section provides information relating to all direct owners and executive officers of the brokerage firm.



#### **Direct Owners and Executive Officers**

Legal Name & CRD# (if any):	CARL STANDARD AND CO. HOLDINGS LLC
Is this a domestic or foreign entity or an individual?	Domestic Entity
Position	DIRECT OWNER
Position Start Date	03/2013
Percentage of Ownership	75% or more
Does this owner direct the management or policies of the firm?	Yes
Is this a public reporting company?	
Legal Name & CRD# (if any):	BABER, JEFFREY
	1232485
Is this a domestic or foreign entity or an individual?	Individual
Position	CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER
Position Start Date	01/2018
Percentage of Ownership	Less than 5%
Does this owner direct the management or policies of the firm?	Yes
Is this a public reporting company?	Νο
Legal Name & CRD# (if any):	CAMPBELL, ROBERT
	1349154
Is this a domestic or foreign entity or an individual?	Individual
Position	FINOP

#### **Firm Profile**

Direct Owners and Exec	utive Officers (continued)
Percentage of Ownership	Less than 5%

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· · · · · · · · ·	-
Does this owner direct the management or policies of the firm?	No
Is this a public reporting company?	No
Legal Name & CRD# (if any):	FAUCI, JODI
	4189732
Is this a domestic or foreign entity or an individual?	Individual
Position	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Position Start Date	01/2019
Percentage of Ownership	Less than 5%
Does this owner direct the management or policies of the firm?	Yes
Is this a public reporting company?	No

#### www.finra.org/brokercheck

#### **Firm Profile**

This section provides information relating to any indirect owners of the brokerage firm.



#### **Indirect Owners**

Legal Name & CRD# (if any):	BERARDI, CARMINE ANTHONY
	4879362
Is this a domestic or foreign entity or an individual?	Individual
Company through which indirect ownership is established	CARL STANDARD & CO. HOLDINGS, LLC
Relationship to Direct Owner	OWNER
Relationship Established	04/2013
Percentage of Ownership	75% or more
Does this owner direct the management or policies of the firm?	No
Is this a public reporting company?	Νο

#### **Firm History**

This section provides information relating to any successions (e.g., mergers, acquisitions) involving the firm.



User Guidance

No information reported.

#### Registrations

This section provides information about the regulators (Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), self-regulatory organizations (SROs), and U.S. states and territories) with which the brokerage firm is currently registered and licensed, the date the license became effective, and certain information about the firm's SEC registration.

This firm is currently registered with the SEC, 1 SRO and 53 U.S. states and territories.

	•	
Federal Regulator	Status	Date Effective
SEC	Approved	06/11/2014
SEC Registration Questions This firm is registered with the SEC as: A broker-dealer: Yes		

A broker-dealer and government securities broker or dealer: Yes

A government securities broker or dealer only: No

This firm has ceased activity as a government securities broker or dealer: No

Self-Regulatory Organization	Status	Date Effective
FINRA	Approved	06/11/2014



User Guidance

#### Case 3:18-cv-05003-JD Document 43 Filed 11/13/19 Page 24 of 45

**Date Effective** 

#### **Firm Operations**

New York

#### **Registrations (continued)**

Registi ations (co	minueu)			
U.S. States & Territories	Status	Date Effective	U.S. States & Territories	Status
Alabama	Approved	07/31/2014	North Carolina	Approved
Alaska	Approved	07/14/2014	North Dakota	Approved
Arizona	Approved	08/18/2014	Ohio	Approved
Arkansas	Approved	08/15/2014	Oklahoma	Approved
California	Approved	06/30/2014	Oregon	Approved
Colorado	Approved	09/24/2014	Pennsylvania	Approved
Connecticut	Approved	08/15/2014	Puerto Rico	Approved
Delaware	Approved	08/04/2014	Rhode Island	Approved
District of Columbia	Approved	08/13/2014	South Carolina	Approved
Florida	Approved	08/21/2014	South Dakota	Approved
Georgia	Approved	07/25/2014	Tennessee	Approved
Hawaii	Approved	08/19/2014	Texas	Approved
Idaho	Approved	06/27/2014	Utah	Approved
Illinois	Approved	07/28/2014	Vermont	Approved
Indiana	Approved	08/06/2014	Virgin Islands	Approved
lowa	Approved	06/27/2014	Virginia	Approved
Kansas	Approved	08/20/2014	Washington	Approved
Kentucky	Approved	06/30/2014	West Virginia	Approved
Louisiana	Approved	06/30/2014	Wisconsin	Approved
Maine	Approved	08/08/2014	Wyoming	Approved
Maryland	Approved	07/14/2014		
Massachusetts	Approved	06/26/2014		
Michigan	Approved	07/28/2014		
Minnesota	Approved	07/01/2014		
Mississippi	Approved	06/27/2014		
Missouri	Approved	08/22/2014		
Montana	Approved	07/11/2014		
Nebraska	Approved	08/05/2014		
Nevada	Approved	07/22/2014		
New Hampshire	Approved	08/25/2014		
New Jersey	Approved	08/15/2014		
New Mexico	Approved	08/01/2014		

Territories		
North Carolina	Approved	07/10/2014
North Dakota	Approved	08/05/2014
Ohio	Approved	07/22/2014
Oklahoma	Approved	06/27/2014
Oregon	Approved	07/28/2014
Pennsylvania	Approved	07/21/2014
Puerto Rico	Approved	08/21/2014
Rhode Island	Approved	06/23/2014
South Carolina	Approved	07/28/2014
South Dakota	Approved	07/02/2014
Tennessee	Approved	08/29/2014
Texas	Approved	07/30/2014
Utah	Approved	06/27/2014
Vermont	Approved	07/30/2014
Virgin Islands	Approved	09/08/2014
Virginia	Approved	07/22/2014
Washington	Approved	06/26/2014
West Virginia	Approved	08/14/2014
Wisconsin	Approved	07/24/2014
Wyoming	Approved	08/01/2014



User Guidance

Approved

06/26/2014



User Guidance

#### **Types of Business**

This section provides the types of business, including non-securities business, the brokerage firm is engaged in or expects to be engaged in.

This firm currently conducts 6 types of businesses.

#### **Types of Business**

Broker or dealer retailing corporate equity securities over-the-counter

Broker or dealer selling corporate debt securities

Mutual fund retailer

U S. government securities broker

Broker or dealer selling variable life insurance or annuities

Put and call broker or dealer or option writer



User Guidance

#### **Clearing Arrangements**

This firm does not hold or maintain funds or securities or provide clearing services for other broker-dealer(s).

#### Introducing Arrangements

This firm does refer or introduce customers to other brokers and dealers.

Name:	HILLTOP SECURITIES INC.
CRD #:	6220
Business Address:	1201 ELM STREET SUITE 3500 DALLAS, TX 75270
Effective Date:	01/20/2016
Description:	THE FIRM INTRODUCES ITS CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS ON A FULLY DISCLOSED BASIS TO HILLTOP SECURITIES, INC. (HTS). HTS IN TURN PROVIDES CLEARING, HOLDING AND ACCOUNT EXECUTION SERVICES FOR THE FIRM'S CUSTOMERS.

#### **Industry Arrangements**



User Guidance

This firm does have books or records maintained by a third party.

Name:	TELEMESSAGE
Business Address:	468 GREAT ROAD STE 2
	ACTON, MA 01720
Effective Date:	04/02/2018
Description:	MOBILE MESSAGING ARCHIVING
Name:	GLOBAL RELAY COMMUNICATIONS INC.
Business Address:	220 CAMBIE STREET 2ND FLOOR VANCOUVER, CANADA V6B 2M9
Effective Date:	08/01/2013
Description:	GLOBAL RELAY STORES AND MAINTAINS BUSINESS RELATED ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS.
Name:	HILLTOP SECURITIES INC.
CRD #:	6220
Business Address:	1201 ELM STREET SUITE 2500 DALLAS, TX 75270
Effective Date:	01/20/2016
Description:	THE FIRM INTRODUCES ITS CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS ON A FULLY DISCLOSED BASIS TO HILLTOP SECURITIES, INC. (HTS), HTS IN TURN PROVIDES CLEARING, HOLDING AND ACCOUNT EXECUTION SERVICES FOR THE FIRM'S CUSTOMERS.
This firm does have accou	nts, funds, or securities maintained by a third party.
Name:	HILLTOP SECURITIES INC.
CRD #:	6220
Business Address:	1201 ELM STREET SUITE 3500 DALLAS, TX 75270

01/20/2016

## Industry Arrangements (continued)

**Description:** 

THE FIRM INTRODUCES ITS CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS ON A FULLY DISCLOSED BASIS TO HILLTOP SECURITIES, INC. (HTS), HTS IN TURN PROVIDES CLEARING, HOLDING AND ACCOUNT EXECUTION SERVICES FOR THE FIRM'S CUSTOMERS.

This firm does have customer accounts, funds, or securities maintained by a third party.Name:HILLTOP SECURITIES INC.CRD #:6220Business Address:1201 ELM STREET<br/>SUITE 1201

DALLAS, TX 75270 Effective Date: 01/20/2016 Description: THE FIRM INTRODUCES ITS CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS ON A FULLY DISCLOSED BASIS TO HILLTOP SECURITIES, INC. (HTS), HTS IN TURN PROVIDES CLEARING, HOLDING AND ACCOUNT EXECUTION SERVICES FOR THE FIRM'S CUSTOMERS.

Control Persons/Financing

This firm does not have individuals who control its management or policies through agreement.

This firm does not have individuals who wholly or partly finance the firm's business.



#### **Organization Affiliates**

This section provides information on control relationships the firm has with other firms in the securities, investment advisory, or banking business.

This firm is, directly or indirectly:

- $\cdot$  in control of
- $\cdot$  controlled by
- or under common control with

the following partnerships, corporations, or other organizations engaged in the securities or investment advisory business.

FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL ADVISORY is under common control with the firm.

CRD #:	172743
Business Address:	600 OLD COUNTRY ROAD SUITE 516 GARDEN CITY, NY 11530
Effective Date:	11/21/2016
Foreign Entity:	No
Country:	
Securities Activities:	No
Investment Advisory Activities:	Yes
Description:	BOTH COMPANIES ARE UNDER COMMON CONTROL WITH FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL BY CARL STANDARD & CO. HOLDINGS LLC.

This firm is not directly or indirectly, controlled by the following:

- · bank holding company
- national bank
- $\cdot\,$  state member bank of the Federal Reserve System
- · state non-member bank
- · savings bank or association
- credit union
- · or foreign bank



User Guidance

#### Case 3:18-cv-05003-JD Document 43 Filed 11/13/19 Page 30 of 45

#### **Disclosure Events**



User Guidance

All firms registered to sell securities or provide investment advice are required to disclose regulatory actions, criminal or civil judicial proceedings, and certain financial matters in which the firm or one of its control affiliates has been involved. For your convenience, below is a matrix of the number and status of disclosure events involving this brokerage firm or one of its control affiliates. Further information regarding these events can be found in the subsequent pages of this report.

	Pending	Final	On Appeal
Regulatory Event	0	1	0



#### **Disclosure Event Details**

What you should know about reported disclosure events:

- 1. BrokerCheck provides details for any disclosure event that was reported in CRD. It also includes summary information regarding FINRA arbitration awards in cases where the brokerage firm was named as a respondent.
- 2. Certain thresholds must be met before an event is reported to CRD, for example:
  - o A law enforcement agency must file formal charges before a brokerage firm is required to disclose a particular criminal event.
- 3. Disclosure events in BrokerCheck reports come from different sources:
  - Disclosure events for this brokerage firm were reported by the firm and/or regulators. When the firm and a regulator report information for the same event, both versions of the event will appear in the BrokerCheck report. The different versions will be separated by a solid line with the reporting source labeled.
- 4. There are different statuses and dispositions for disclosure events:
  - o A disclosure event may have a status of *pending, on appeal,* or *final.* 
    - § A "pending" event involves allegations that have not been proven or formally adjudicated.
    - § An event that is "on appeal" involves allegations that have been adjudicated but are currently being appealed.
    - § A "final" event has been concluded and its resolution is not subject to change.
  - o A final event generally has a disposition of *adjudicated*, *settled* or *otherwise resolved*.
    - § An "adjudicated" matter includes a disposition by (1) a court of law in a criminal or civil matter, or (2) an administrative panel in an action brought by a regulator that is contested by the party charged with some alleged wrongdoing.
    - § A "settled" matter generally involves an agreement by the parties to resolve the matter. Please note that firms may choose to settle customer disputes or regulatory matters for business or other reasons.
    - § A "resolved" matter usually involves no payment to the customer and no finding of wrongdoing on the part of the individual broker. Such matters generally involve customer disputes.
- 5. You may wish to contact the brokerage firm to obtain further information regarding any of the disclosure events contained in this BrokerCheck report.

#### **Regulatory - Final**

This type of disclosure event involves (1) a final, formal proceeding initiated by a regulatory authority (e.g., a state securities agency, self-regulatory organization, federal regulator such as the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, foreign financial regulatory body) for a violation of investment-related rules or regulations; or (2) a revocation or suspension of the authority of a brokerage firm or its control affiliate to act as an attorney, accountant or federal contractor.

Disclosure 1 of 1	
Reporting Source:	Regulator
Current Status:	Final



Allegations:	FIRST STANDARD FAILED TO PROMPTLY PROVIDE OR DELIVER DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO WRITTEN REQUESTS FROM STAFF.
Initiated By:	ARKANSAS
Date Initiated:	11/21/2017
Docket/Case Number:	S-17-0044-17-OR01
URL for Regulatory Action:	HTTP://WWW.SECURITIES.ARKANSAS.GOV/! USERFILES/ORDERS/2017/CONSENT%20ORDER%20-%2011.21.17.PDF
Principal Product Type:	No Product
Other Product Type(s):	
Principal Sanction(s)/Relief Sought:	Civil and Administrative Penalt(ies) /Fine(s)
Other Sanction(s)/Relief Sought:	
Resolution:	Consent
Resolution Date:	11/21/2017
Does the order constitute a final order based on violations of any laws or regulations that prohibit fraudulent, manipulative, or deceptive conduct?	No
Sanctions Ordered:	Monetary/Fine \$10,000.00
Other Sanctions Ordered:	
Sanction Details:	\$10,000.00 FINE PAID.
Regulator Statement	FIRST STANDARD FAILED TO PROMPTLY PROVIDE OR DELIVER DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO WRITTEN REQUESTS FROM STAFF.
Reporting Source:	Firm
Current Status:	Final
Allegations:	FIRM FAILED TO PROMPTLY PROVIDE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BY THE STATES STAFF ON TWO OCCASIONS. THE FIRM DID NOT GET SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FROM THE RR'S AND THE RR'S WERE WITHDRAWN FROM THE STATE.
Initiated By:	ARKANSAS SECURITIES COMMISSIONER
©2019 FINRA. All rights reserved. Rep	ort about FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY LLC





Date Initiated:	11/01/2017
Docket/Case Number:	ORDER S-17-0044-17-OR01
Principal Product Type:	Other
Other Product Type(s):	DOCUMENT REQUEST DELAY
Principal Sanction(s)/Relief Sought:	Civil and Administrative Penalt(ies) /Fine(s)
Other Sanction(s)/Relief Sought:	NONE
Resolution:	Settled
Resolution Date:	11/21/2017
Sanctions Ordered:	Monetary/Fine \$10,000.00
Other Sanctions Ordered:	NONE
Sanction Details:	10,000.00 FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY, LLC 11-13-2017 WIRED TO STATE
Firm Statement	FORMER PERSONAL FAILED TO RESPOND IN A TIMLEY FASHION TO STATE INQUIRIES ON RR'S THAT WANTED TO BE REGISTERED IN ARKANSAS. PERSONAL CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE AND RR'S ARE ASKED PROMPTLY UPON RECEIVING AN INQUIREY IF THEY WOULD LIKE TO GO FORWARD OR WITHDRAW.

#### Case 3:18-cv-05003-JD Document 43 Filed 11/13/19 Page 34 of 45 End of Report





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## Exhibit 4

## State of New York Department of State } ss:

I hereby certify, that FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY LLC a NEW YORK Limited Liability Company filed Articles of Organization pursuant to the Limited Liability Company Law on 04/26/2013, and that the Limited Liability Company is existing so far as shown by the records of the Department.

The Biennial Statement is past due.

I further certify, that no other documents have been filed by such Limited Liability Company.



\*\*\*

Witness my hand and the official seal of the Department of State at the City of Albany, this 09th day of April two thousand and nineteen.

White the thing Clark

Whitney Clark Deputy Secretary of State

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## State of New York Department of State } ss:

I hereby certify, that FIRST STANDARD FINANCE COMPANY, LLC a NEW YORK Limited Liability Company filed Articles of Organization pursuant to the Limited Liability Company Law on 05/16/2016, and that the Limited Liability Company is existing so far as shown by the records of the Department. I further certify the following:

A Biennial Statement was filed 10/23/2018.

Certificate of Change was filed on 11/02/2018.

I further certify, that no other documents have been filed by such Limited Liability Company.



\*\*\*

Witness my hand and the official seal of the Department of State at the City of Albany, this 08th day of April two thousand and nineteen.

Whitney Clark

Whitney Clark Deputy Secretary of State

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	-Document 43 Fil	<del>ed 11/13/19</del>	Page 37 of a	45
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NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. State Records and Uniform Commerce	•		Divisio Uniform	New York State epartment of State in of Corporations, State Records and Commercial Code One Commerce Plaza 9 Weshington Avenue- Albany, NY 12231 www.dos.ny.gov
Certificate of Assumed Name				······································
1. REAL NAME OF ENTITY:	ant to General Business La	w §130)		
FIRST STANDARD FINANCE COMPANY	, LLC			
18. FICTITIOUS NAME, IF ANY, OF FOREIGN EN	And a second	•		
2. THE ENTITY WAS FORMED OR AUTHORIZE	D UNDER THE FOLLOWIN	IG NEW YORK LA	W (Check one):	
Business Corporation Law       Imited Liability Company Law       Religious Corporations Law         Education Law       Not-for-Profit Corporation Law       Revised Limited Partnership Act				
Other (specify law):				
3. ASSUMED NAME OF ENTITY:				
STANDARD FINANCING				
4. PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IN NEW YO THIS BOX AND PROVIDE OUT-OF- STATE 40 WALL STREET NEW YORK, NY	ADDRESS: ( 10005		STREET). IF N	
5. COUNTY(IES) IN WHICH ENTITY DOES OR IN	TENDS TO DO BUSINES	S:		
Alegality       Colycga       Columbia         Bronx       Chautauqua       Columbia         Broome       Chemung       Cortland         Oneida       Orteans       Queens         Onondaga       Oswego       Rensselaer		Hamilton HerkImer Jefferson Kings Sullivan Tigga Togga	Lewis Livingston Madison Monroe Warren Washington Wayne	Montgomery Nassau Naw York Niagara Wyoming Yates
	Schoharie Suffolk		Westcheste	r
6. ADDRESS OF EACH LOCATION, INCLUDING CARRIES ON, CONDUCTS OR TRANSACTS I must be a number and street, city, state and zip 5.) If none, check this box : No New York Sta 40 WALL STREET NEW YORK, NY 100	code. The address(es) mu te Business Location.	F ANY, OF EACH STATE. (Use page st be within the co	PLACE WHERE e 2 If needed. Th unty(ies) indicate	THE ENTITY e address(es) d in paragraph
Print or Type CARMINE BERARDI Name of Signer:	Signatur	e:	<u>le</u>	
Capacity of Signer (Check one); Authorized Per	rson [] Officer of the Corpo Limited Liability Company	eration 🖾 General Manager of th	Partner of the Lin ne Limited Liabili	nited Partnership ly Company Page 1 of 2

DOS-1338-f (Rev. 1/16)

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## New Pork State Department of Financial Services

I, Peter C. Dean, General Counsel for Banking, New York State Department of Financial Services, hereby approve, pursuant to the New York General Business Law Section 130(2)(c), as amended, the use of the word or a derivative of the word "finance" in STANDARD FINANCING, the assumed name of FIRST STANDARD FINANCE COMPANY, LLC

APPROVAL GRANTED HEREIN DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A LICENSE TO ENGAGE IN ANY

PARTICULAR ACTIVITY OR INDICATE A DETERMINATION THAT NO SUCH LICENSE IS NECESSARY.

IT DOES NOT ITSELF OPERATE TO RESERVE THE NAME WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the Department this 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 2016.

Péter C. Dean General Counsel for Banking

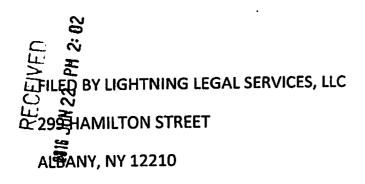


### CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME

OF

### FIRST STANDARD FINANCE COMPANY, LLC

## PURSUANT TO SECTION 130 OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS LAW



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New York State Department of State Division of Corporations, State Records and Uniform Commercial Code One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Avenue Albany, NY 12231 www.dos.ny.gov 138

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(This form must be printed or typed in black ink)

#### ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION OF

First Standard Finance Company, LLC

(Insert name of Limited Liability Company)

Under Section 203 of the Limited Liability Company Law

FIRST: The name of the limited liability company is: First Standard Finance Company, LLC

SECOND: The county within this state in which the office of the limited liability company is to be located is: New York

THIRD: The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the limited liability company upon whom process against it may be served. The address within or without this state to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the limited liability company served upon him or her is:

Carl Standard & Co., LLC

40 Wall Street, 28th Floor

New York, NY 10005

anizer

K. GUNNER

(print or type name of organizer)

DOS-1336 (Rev. 04/14)

## New Pork State Department of Financial Services

I, Peter C. Dean, General Counsel for Banking, New York State Department of Financial Services, hereby approve, pursuant to the New York Limited Liability Company Law Section 204 (f), as amended, the use of the word or a derivative of the word "finance" in the name of

FIRST STANDARD FINANCE COMPANY, LLC

THE APPROVAL GRANTED HEREIN DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A LICENSE TO ENGAGE IN ANY PARTICULAR ACTIVITY OR INDICATE A DETERMINATION THAT NO SUCH LICENSE IS NECESSARY. IT DOES NOT ITSELF OPERATE TO RESERVE THE NAME WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the Department this 19<sup>th</sup> day of April 2016.



Peter C. Dean General Counsel for Banking

# Case 3:18-cv-05003-JD Document 43 Filed 11/13/19 Page 42 of 45

		138
	ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION OF	
_	First Standard Finance Company, LLC	
	(Insert name of Limited Liability Company)	
	Under Section 203 of the Limited Liability Company Law	STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Filed by:	LIGHTNING LEGAL SERVICES, ILC	TAXS
·	(Name)	
	299 HAMILTON STREET	
	(Mailing address)	
	ALBANY, NY 12210	
	(City, State and ZIP code)	

NOTE: This form was prepared by the New York State Department of State for filing articles of organization for a domestic limited liability company. It does not contain all optional provisions under the law. You are not required to use this form. You may draft your own form or use forms available at legal stationery stores. The Department of State recommends that legal documents be prepared under the guidance of an attorney. The certificate must be submitted with a \$200 filing fee made payable to the Department of State.

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DOS-1336 (Rev. 04/14)

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**YNA9MOD JAIDNANIB GRAGNATZ TZRIB** FIRST: The name of the limited liability company is.

GECOND: The courty within this state in which the office of the limited liability company is to

Under Section 203 of the Limited Libbility Company Law

(Andury Annal Content Content) FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY LLC

> **JO** ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION

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FIRST STANDARD FINANCIAL COMPANY LLC apon him or her ler

40 WALL STREET 28TH FLOOR

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DANIEL NORENSBERG

(אקאו פר לקוף שאוא הו' סרקישלווטי)

(21% .V3A) 2221-300

#### (TMP) MIGGIEF SIMOLCHOS

#### ALLOGAL LOUPS -----

# Ach Pork State

I. Gene C. Brooks, First Assistant Counsel for Banking, New York State Department of Financial Services, hereby approve, pursuant to the New York Limited Liability Company Law Section 204 (1), as amended, the use of the word or a derivative of the word "finance" in the name of

#### FIRST STANDARD HNANCLAL COMPANY LLC

THE APPROVAL GRANTED HEREIN DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A LICENSE TO ENGAGE IN ANY PARTICULAR ACTIVITY OR INDICATE A DETERMINATION THAT NO SUCH LICENSE IS NECESSARY. IT DOES NOT ITSELF OPERATE TO RESERVE THE NAME WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

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Gene C. Brooks Hist Assistant Counsel



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