

Statement of Elad Roisman
Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
July 24, 2018

Chairman Crapo, Ranking Member Brown, and Members of the Committee, I am honored to appear before you today as the President's nominee to serve as a Commissioner of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. My professional experience as a securities lawyer at a global law firm, a chief counsel at NYSE Euronext, counsel to an SEC commissioner, and now chief counsel on this committee have afforded me a broad spectrum of experiences that would enable me to effectively serve the public and carry out the SEC's mission should I be confirmed.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to introduce members of my family that are here with me today. My wife, Helaina Roisman, a social worker at George Washington University Hospital and, without question, my far better half. My parents, Hanna and Yossi Roisman, who taught me at an early age the importance of integrity and having the courage to do the right thing. My brother, Shalev Roisman, who showed me the importance of trying to understand the other side of every issue. My father and mother in law, Larry and Laurie Bernstein, and my brother in law, Jacob Bernstein, who have all been incredibly supportive over the years. Lastly, my daughters, Talia and Yael, are too young to come today, but remind me daily of what is most important in this life.

As the child of two immigrants who moved to this country determined to pursue a better life for themselves and their children, I have a strong appreciation for the stability and security that our form of government and financial markets provide. My parents did not have much when they came here. But, what they did have was confidence – confidence in America, and confidence in a financial system that would enable them to save and invest so that they could raise their family and help provide for their children's education. When I think about what gave them such confidence in a system that they barely knew, one thing stands out – public trust. While they may not have understood or appreciated the complex system of oversight and regulation that govern the conduct of market participants in our financial markets, they believed and expected that our markets were regulated in a fair and orderly manner with requisite investor protection, transparency and accountability.

While serving as a chief counsel at NYSE Euronext, I saw firsthand the excitement and pride of entrepreneurs and innovators when they rung the opening bell as their companies went public, enabling them to grow their companies, invest in communities, and allow investors to share in their success. My belief in the importance of fair markets and the role they play in our country is what motivated me to move from New York to Washington, DC and join the SEC. I wanted to utilize my insights and experiences from the private sector and passion for the securities markets to help further the SEC's important mission. As counsel to an SEC commissioner, I worked with the SEC's expert staff and witnessed their dedication and determination to protect investors and enforce the law. And, as a chief counsel on this committee, I have developed the utmost respect for this institution and the critical role of congressional oversight. I believe my personal and professional experiences have prepared me well for the role for which I am being considered. I fully recognize and appreciate the critical

role the SEC serves in the lives of investors so that families like mine can save for their children's education, pay for unexpected expenses, and retire with confidence.

The U.S. capital markets are the envy of the world and the importance of the SEC's role in this cannot be overstated. Throughout its history, the dedicated commissioners and staff of the SEC have worked to preserve confidence as our markets grew and evolved. To continue this, the SEC must examine and re-examine its rules, regulations and guidelines to ensure that they are still working as intended to accomplish the SEC's mission. This is most recently manifested in areas such as data protection and cybersecurity, as well as the emergence of new investments and technologies such as initial coin offerings and blockchain. It is essential that the SEC approach these new challenges in a fair and transparent manner, provide clarity and certainty to the markets and investors, and enforce the laws and regulations that hold market participants accountable.

If confirmed, it would be an incredible privilege to rejoin the ranks of the SEC's dedicated public servants and further its mission. Thank you.