Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

Page 1 of * 20		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4			File No. * SR 2025 - * 043 Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)	
Filing by Cboe	e Exchange, Inc.					
Pursuant to Rul	le 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange	e Act of 1934				
Initial *	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b	9)(2) * Section 19(b)((3)(A) * Section 19(b)(3)(B) *	
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		Rule 19b-4(f)(1) 19b-4(f)(2) 19b-4(f)(3) ✓	19b-4(f)(4) 19b-4(f)(5) 19b-4(f)(6)	
Notice of pro	pposed change pursuant to the Paymen (e)(1) *	nt, Clearing, and Settlem Section 806(e)(2) *	ent Act of 2010	10 Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Section 3C(b)(2) *		
Exhibit 2 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 *). The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 7.25.						
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 '	* Laura	Last Name *	Dickman		7	
Title *	VP, Associate General Counsel					
E-mail *	ldickman@cboe.com					
Telephone *		Fax			7	
	the requirements of the Securities Excl used this filing to be signed on its behal			ed.		
Date	06/18/2025	/18/2025 (Title *)				
Ву	Laura G. Dickman	<u> </u>	/P, Associate Genera	Il Counsel		
form. A digital	(Name *) g the signature block at right will initiate digitally signi signature is as legally binding as a physical signature is form cannot be changed.		Saura Dickman	Date: 2025.06.18 09:36:39 -05'00'		

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 clear and comprehensible					
Form 19b-4 Information * Add Remove View	manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act.					
25-043 19b-4 (CAT Timestamp Granu						
Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change * Add Remove View	The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication 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 Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws					
25-043 Exhibit 1 (CAT Timestamp Gra	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 Regidate, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO]-xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelir result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CF 240.0-3)					
Exhibit 1A - Notice of Proposed Rule Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, or Advanced Notice by Clearing Agencies * Add Remove View	The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication 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 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)					
Exhibit 2- Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications	Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G.					
Add Remove View	Exhibit Sent As Paper Document					
Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire Add Remove View	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 referred to by the proposed rule change.					
	Exhibit Sent As Paper Document					
Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies Add Remove View	The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit 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 Add Remove View 25-043 Exhibit 5 (CAT Timestamp Gra	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 of the proposed rule change					
Add Remove View	If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy 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.					

Item 1. <u>Text of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) Cboe Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "Cboe Options") proposes to amend Rule 7.25 of the Exchange's compliance rule ("CAT Compliance Rule") regarding the National Market System Plan Governing the Consolidated Audit Trail (the "CAT NMS Plan" or "Plan")¹ to be consistent with the exemptive relief granted by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") from certain provisions of the CAT NMS Plan related to timestamp granularity ("2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption").² Specifically, the Exchange proposes to update the expiration date of the exemption in Rule 7.25(a)(2) from April 8, 2025 to April 8, 2030. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

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

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Item 2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

(a) The Exchange's Chief Regulatory Officer pursuant to delegated authority approved the proposed rule change on June 13, 2025.

(b) Please refer questions and comments on the proposed rule change to Pat Sexton, Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary, (312) 786-7467, or Laura G. Dickman, (312) 786-7572, Cboe Exchange, Inc., 433 West Van Buren Street, Chicago, Illinois 60607.

Unless otherwise specified, capitalized terms used in this rule filing are defined as set forth in the CAT Compliance Rule. <u>See</u> Chapter 7, Section B of the Exchange's Rulebook.

Securities Exchange Act Rel. No. 102980 (May 2, 2025), 90 Fed. Reg. 19334 (May 7, 2025).

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

(a) <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of this proposed rule change is to amend Rule 7.25 of the CAT Compliance Rule to be consistent with the 2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption. Under the 2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption, the Commission extended the existing exemptive relief pursuant to which Industry Members that capture timestamps in increments more granular than nanoseconds must truncate the timestamps after the nanosecond level for submission to CAT, rather than rounding such timestamps up or down, from April 8, 2025 to April 8, 2030. Accordingly, the Exchange proposes to update the expiration date of the exemption in Rule 7.25(a)(2) from April 8, 2025 to April 8, 2030.

On February 3, 2020, the Participants filed with the Commission a request for exemptive relief from the requirement in Section 6.8(b) of the CAT NMS Plan for each Participant, through its CAT Compliance Rule, to require that, to the extent that its Industry Members utilize timestamps in increments finer than nanoseconds in their order handling or execution systems, such Industry Members utilize such finer increment when reporting CAT Data to the Central Repository.³ On April 8, 2020, the Participants received the requested exemptive relief.⁴ As a condition to this exemption, the Participants, through their CAT Compliance Rules, required Industry Members that capture timestamps in increments more granular than nanoseconds to truncate the timestamps after the

³ <u>See</u> Letter to Vanessa Countryman, Secretary, Commission, from Michael Simon, CAT NMS Plan Operating Committee Chair, re: Request for Exemption from Certain Provisions of the National Market System Plan Governing the Consolidated Audit Trail related to Granularity of Timestamps and Relationship Identifiers (Feb. 3, 2020).

⁴ <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 88608 (April 8, 2020), 85 Fed. Reg. 20743 (April 14, 2020).

nanosecond level for submission to CAT, rather than rounding up or down in such circumstances. The exemption was to remain in effect for five years, until April 8, 2025.

In 2020, the Exchange amended paragraph (a)(2) of Rule 7.25 to reflect this exemptive relief.⁵ Specifically, the Exchange amended Rule 7.25(a)(2) to state the following.

Subject to paragraph (b), to the extent that any Industry Member's order handling or execution systems utilize time stamps in increments finer than milliseconds, such Industry Member shall record and report Industry Member Data to the Central Repository with time stamps in such finer increment up to nanoseconds; provided, that Industry Members that capture timestamps in increments more granular than nanoseconds must truncate the timestamps after the nanosecond level for submission to CAT, rather than rounding such timestamps up or down, until April 8, 2025.

The language of Rule 7.25(a)(2) has not been changed since that time.

The exemption granted in 2020, however would no longer be in effect after April 8, 2025, unless the period the exemption is in effect is extended by the Commission. Accordingly, on March 24, 2025, the Participants filed with the Commission a request to extend the existing exemptive relief for another five years, until April 8, 2030.⁶ On May 2, 2025, the Participants received the requested exemptive relief from the Commission via the 2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption. As a condition to this exemption, the Participants, through their CAT Compliance Rules, are required to require Industry Members that capture timestamps in increments more granular than nanoseconds to truncate the timestamps after the nanosecond level for submission to CAT, rather than

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 89156 (June 25, 2020), 85 FR 39625 (July 1, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-059).

⁶ <u>See</u> Letter to Vanessa Countryman, Secretary, Commission, from Brandon Becker, CAT NMS Plan Operating Committee Chair, re: Request for Exemption from Certain Provisions of the National Market System Plan Governing the Consolidated Audit Trail related to Timestamp Granularity (Mar. 24, 2025).

rounding up or down in such circumstances. The Commission granted the 2025 Timestamp

Granularity Exemption for a period of five years, until April 8, 2030.

Accordingly, the Exchange proposes to amend its CAT Compliance Rule to reflect the extended period set forth in the 2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption, replacing the reference to April 8, 2025 with April 8, 2030. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend paragraph (a)(2) of Rule 7.25 to state:

Subject to paragraph (b), to the extent that any Industry Member's order handling or execution systems utilize time stamps in increments finer than milliseconds, such Industry Member shall record and report Industry Member Data to the Central Repository with time stamps in such finer increment up to nanoseconds; provided, that Industry Members that capture timestamps in increments more granular than nanoseconds must truncate the timestamps after the nanosecond level for submission to CAT, rather than rounding such timestamps up or down, until April 8, 2030.

(b) <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.⁷ Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)⁸ requirements that the rules of an exchange 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 securities, 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. Additionally, the

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section $6(b)(5)^9$ requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the Exchange believes that this proposal is consistent with the Act because it is consistent with the exemptive relief that has been in place for five years, is consistent with the 2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption, and is designed to assist the Exchange and its Industry Members in meeting regulatory obligations pursuant to the Plan. In approving the Plan, the Commission noted that the Plan "is necessary and appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors and the maintenance of fair and orderly markets, to remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanism of a national market system, or is otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act."¹⁰ To the extent that this proposal implements the Plan, including the exemptive relief related thereto, and applies specific requirements to Industry Members, the Exchange believes that this proposal furthers the objectives of the Plan, as identified by the Commission, and is therefore consistent with the Act.

Item 4. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange notes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the exemptive relief that has been in place for five years, is consistent with the 2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption, and is designed to assist the Exchange in meeting its regulatory

^{9 &}lt;u>Id.</u>

¹⁰ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 79318 (November 15, 2016), 81 Fed. Reg. 84696, 84697 (November 23, 2016).

obligations pursuant to the Plan. The Exchange also notes that the amendment to the CAT Compliance Rule will apply equally to all Industry Members that trade NMS Securities and OTC Equity Securities. In addition, all national securities exchanges and FINRA are proposing these amendments to their CAT Compliance Rules. Therefore, this is not a competitive rule filing, and, therefore, it does not impose a burden on competition.

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

The Exchange neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change.

Item 6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

Not applicable.

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

(a) The proposed rule change is filed for immediate effectiveness pursuant to
 Section 19(b)(3)(A) of Act¹¹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)¹² thereunder.

(b) The Exchange designates that the proposed rule change 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. Additionally, the Exchange has given the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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 proposed rule change would not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest because it seeks to conform the CAT Compliance Rule to be consistent with the 2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption. Accordingly, the Exchange has designated this rule filing as non-controversial under Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹³ and paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.¹⁴

For the foregoing reasons, this rule filing qualifies as a "non-controversial" rule change under Rule 19b-4(f)(6), which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing with the Commission. At any time within 60 days of the filing of this proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission will institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved. The Exchange respectfully requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay period after which a proposed rule change under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) becomes effective.

- (c) Not applicable.
- (d) Not applicable.

¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

As discussed in detail above, the proposed amendment to the CAT Compliance

Rule is consistent with the 2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption.

Item 9. <u>Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the</u> <u>Act</u>

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

Item 11. <u>Exhibits</u>

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

Exhibit 5. Proposed rule text.

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-CBOE-2025-043]

[Insert date]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Amend Rule 7.25 of the Exchange's Compliance Rule ("CAT Compliance Rule")

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 [insert date], Cboe Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "Cboe Options") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Exchange filed the proposal as a "non-controversial" proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.⁴ 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</u> <u>Proposed Rule Change</u>

Cboe Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "Cboe Options") proposes to amend Rule 7.25 of the Exchange's compliance rule ("CAT Compliance Rule") regarding the National Market System Plan Governing the Consolidated Audit Trail (the "CAT NMS Plan" or "Plan")⁵ to be consistent with the exemptive relief granted by the Securities and Exchange

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

⁵ Unless otherwise specified, capitalized terms used in this rule filing are defined as set forth in the CAT Compliance Rule. <u>See</u> Chapter 7, Section B of the Exchange's Rulebook.

Commission (the "Commission") from certain provisions of the CAT NMS Plan related to timestamp granularity ("2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption").⁶ Specifically, the Exchange proposes to update the expiration date of the exemption in Rule 7.25(a)(2) from April 8, 2025 to April 8, 2030. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Exchange's website (<u>http://www.cboe.com/AboutCBOE/CBOELegalRegulatoryHome.aspx</u>), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

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> <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>
 - 1. <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of this proposed rule change is to amend Rule 7.25 of the CAT Compliance Rule to be consistent with the 2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption. Under the 2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption, the Commission extended the existing exemptive relief pursuant to which Industry Members that capture timestamps in increments more granular than nanoseconds must truncate the timestamps after the

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Securities Exchange Act Rel. No. 102980 (May 2, 2025), 90 Fed. Reg. 19334 (May 7, 2025).

nanosecond level for submission to CAT, rather than rounding such timestamps up or down, from April 8, 2025 to April 8, 2030. Accordingly, the Exchange proposes to update the expiration date of the exemption in Rule 7.25(a)(2) from April 8, 2025 to April 8, 2030.

On February 3, 2020, the Participants filed with the Commission a request for exemptive relief from the requirement in Section 6.8(b) of the CAT NMS Plan for each Participant, through its CAT Compliance Rule, to require that, to the extent that its Industry Members utilize timestamps in increments finer than nanoseconds in their order handling or execution systems, such Industry Members utilize such finer increment when reporting CAT Data to the Central Repository.⁷ On April 8, 2020, the Participants received the requested exemptive relief.⁸ As a condition to this exemption, the Participants, through their CAT Compliance Rules, required Industry Members that capture timestamps in increments more granular than nanoseconds to truncate the timestamps after the nanosecond level for submission to CAT, rather than rounding up or down in such circumstances. The exemption was to remain in effect for five years, until April 8, 2025.

In 2020, the Exchange amended paragraph (a)(2) of Rule 7.25 to reflect this exemptive relief.⁹ Specifically, the Exchange amended Rule 7.25(a)(2) to state the following.

Subject to paragraph (b), to the extent that any Industry Member's order handling or execution systems utilize time stamps in increments finer than milliseconds, such Industry Member shall record and report Industry

⁷ See Letter to Vanessa Countryman, Secretary, Commission, from Michael Simon, CAT NMS Plan Operating Committee Chair, re: Request for Exemption from Certain Provisions of the National Market System Plan Governing the Consolidated Audit Trail related to Granularity of Timestamps and Relationship Identifiers (Feb. 3, 2020).

⁸ <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 88608 (April 8, 2020), 85 Fed. Reg. 20743 (April 14, 2020).

⁹ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 89156 (June 25, 2020), 85 FR 39625 (July 1, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-059).

Member Data to the Central Repository with time stamps in such finer increment up to nanoseconds; provided, that Industry Members that capture timestamps in increments more granular than nanoseconds must truncate the timestamps after the nanosecond level for submission to CAT, rather than rounding such timestamps up or down, until April 8, 2025.

The language of Rule 7.25(a)(2) has not been changed since that time.

The exemption granted in 2020, however would no longer be in effect after April 8, 2025, unless the period the exemption is in effect is extended by the Commission. Accordingly, on March 24, 2025, the Participants filed with the Commission a request to extend the existing exemptive relief for another five years, until April 8, 2030.¹⁰ On May 2, 2025, the Participants received the requested exemptive relief from the Commission via the 2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption. As a condition to this exemption, the Participants, through their CAT Compliance Rules, are required to require Industry Members that capture timestamps in increments more granular than nanoseconds to truncate the timestamps after the nanosecond level for submission to CAT, rather than rounding up or down in such circumstances. The Commission granted the 2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption of five years, until April 8, 2030.

Accordingly, the Exchange proposes to amend its CAT Compliance Rule to reflect the extended period set forth in the 2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption, replacing the reference to April 8, 2025 with April 8, 2030. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend paragraph (a)(2) of Rule 7.25 to state:

Subject to paragraph (b), to the extent that any Industry Member's order handling or execution systems utilize time stamps in increments finer than milliseconds, such Industry Member shall record and report Industry Member Data to the Central Repository with time stamps in such finer

¹⁰ See Letter to Vanessa Countryman, Secretary, Commission, from Brandon Becker, CAT NMS Plan Operating Committee Chair, re: Request for Exemption from Certain Provisions of the National Market System Plan Governing the Consolidated Audit Trail related to Timestamp Granularity (Mar. 24, 2025).

increment up to nanoseconds; provided, that Industry Members that capture timestamps in increments more granular than nanoseconds must truncate the timestamps after the nanosecond level for submission to CAT, rather than rounding such timestamps up or down, until April 8, 2030.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.¹¹ Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section $6(b)(5)^{12}$ requirements that the rules of an exchange 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 securities, 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. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section $6(b)(5)^{13}$ requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the Exchange believes that this proposal is consistent with the Act because it is consistent with the exemptive relief that has been in place for five years, is consistent with the 2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption, and is designed to assist the Exchange and its Industry Members in meeting regulatory obligations pursuant to the Plan.

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

¹³ <u>Id.</u>

In approving the Plan, the Commission noted that the Plan "is necessary and appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors and the maintenance of fair and orderly markets, to remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanism of a national market system, or is otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act."¹⁴ To the extent that this proposal implements the Plan, including the exemptive relief related thereto, and applies specific requirements to Industry Members, the Exchange believes that this proposal furthers the objectives of the Plan, as identified by the Commission, and is therefore consistent with the Act.

B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange notes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the exemptive relief that has been in place for five years, is consistent with the 2025 Timestamp Granularity Exemption, and is designed to assist the Exchange in meeting its regulatory obligations pursuant to the Plan. The Exchange also notes that the amendment to the CAT Compliance Rule will apply equally to all Industry Members that trade NMS Securities and OTC Equity Securities. In addition, all national securities exchanges and FINRA are proposing these amendments to their CAT Compliance Rules. Therefore, this is not a competitive rule filing, and, therefore, it does not impose a burden on competition.

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See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 79318 (November 15, 2016), 81 Fed. Reg. 84696, 84697 (November 23, 2016).

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

The Exchange neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change.

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not:

- A. significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest;
- B. impose any significant burden on competition; and

C. 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 Act¹⁵ and Rule $19b-4(f)(6)^{16}$ thereunder. 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 necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission will institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

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:

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁶ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

Electronic Comments:

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an email to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include file number SR-CBOE-2025-043 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-CBOE-2025-043. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all the Commission's website comments on internet (https://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 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-CBOE-2025-043 and should be submitted on or before [INSERT DATE 21 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁷

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

Secretary

¹⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

EXHIBIT 5

(additions are <u>underlined</u>; deletions are [bracketed])

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Rules of Cboe Exchange, Inc.

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Rule 7.25. Time Stamps

(a) Millisecond Time Stamps.

(1) No change.

(2) Subject to paragraph (b), to the extent that any Industry Member's order handling or execution systems utilize time stamps in increments finer than milliseconds, such Industry Member shall record and report Industry Member Data to the Central Repository with time stamps in such finer increment up to nanoseconds; provided, that Industry Members that capture timestamps in increments more granular than nanoseconds must truncate the timestamps after the nanosecond level for submission to CAT, rather than rounding such timestamps up or down, until April 8, 20[25]30.

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