

Cautionary Notice to Sellers Regarding Securities Transactions

Certified Acquisition Associates LLC operates in association with Aria Capital Advisors, LLC (Aria). Dan Maloney is a registered representative and Managing Director of Aria. He is FINRA licensed in corporate securities (Series 62) and investment banking (Series 79) in addition to being a Florida Licensed Real Estate Broker.

Aria is a member of FINRA (the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority) and is a Registered Broker-Dealer. Aria, an investment banking firm, focuses on Merger and Acquisition engagements generally structured as securities transactions. It also focuses on capital raising transactions. (See www.AriaCapital.com).

If the sale of a business is structured as a securities transaction (as differentiated from an asset sale transaction), the deal may be subject to rescission if it is not transacted through a broker-dealer. The term “security” is broadly defined. Stock transactions, seller notes, earn outs, and contingent payments can all fall within the definitional purview of security transactions. Please note: To function as a business broker, an agent must be licensed in real estate. Most business brokers are not licensed in securities or affiliated with a Broker-Dealer.

Sellers are advised to inquire into whether their intermediary maintains an active securities license. Don't risk having your transaction unwind. With its association with Aria, CAA can give you the peace of mind that the sale of your business, whether it be structured as an asset sale or a securities transaction, will be properly handled.