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In the matter of: )  
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ACCREDITING COUNCIL )  
FOR INDEPENDENT COLLEGES )  
AND SCHOOLS )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

OS-EXEC. SEC  
2016 SEP 23 AM 9 51

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTICE OF APPEAL**

Pursuant to 12 C.F.R. § 602.37, notice is hereby given that Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (“ACICS”) appeals to the Secretary of Education, and takes exception to the decision of the Senior Department Official (“SDO”) on September 22, 2016. ACICS appeals and takes exception to the SDO’s decision, including but not limited to, all findings of non-compliance and the SDO’s decision to withdraw and terminate the Department of Education’s recognition of ACICS as a nationally recognized accreditation agency, on the grounds that the findings and conclusions are arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, not in accordance with law, and/or unsupported by reliable, probative, and substantial evidence.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 23, 2016

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*Attorneys for Accrediting Council For  
Independent Colleges and Schools*

**CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 23rd day of September, 2016, I caused a copy of the foregoing Notice of Appeal to be filed by hand-delivery with the Office of the Secretary of Education located at:

Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202

/s/ Andrew T. Hernacki  
Andrew T. Hernacki, Esq.