

not more than two additional one-year periods to come into compliance.

(5) For the purposes of paragraph (c) of this section, the definitions of the terms used in Federal Reserve Board Regulation O shall apply including the exclusion of executive officers of a bank's parent bank holding company and executive officers of any other subsidiary of that bank holding company from the definition of executive officer for the purposes of complying with the loan restrictions contained in section 22(g) of the Federal Reserve Act. For the purposes of complying with §215.5(d) of Federal Reserve Board Regulation O, the reference to "the amount specified for a category of credit in paragraph (c) of this section" shall be understood to refer to the amount specified in paragraph (c)(2) of this §337.3.

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§337.4 Securities activities of subsidiaries of insured nonmember banks: bank transactions with affiliated securities companies.

(a) *Definitions*: for the purposes of this section,

(1) *Affiliate* shall mean any company that directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, controls or is under common control with an insured nonmember bank.

(2) *Bona fide subsidiary* means a subsidiary of an insured nonmember bank that at a minimum: (i) is adequately capitalized; (ii) is physically separate and distinct in its operations from the operation of the bank;⁴ (iii) maintains separate accounting and other corporate records; (iv) observes separate formalities such as separate board of

⁴If the subsidiary conducts business in the same location in which the bank conducts business, the subsidiary must utilize physically separate offices or office space from that used by the bank. Such offices or office space must be clearly and prominently identified so as to distinguish the subsidiary from the bank. The physically separate office or office space requirement only applies in areas to which the public has access.

directors' meetings; (v) maintains separate employees who are compensated by the subsidiary;⁵ (vi) shares no common officers with the bank; (vii) a majority of its board of directors is composed of persons who are neither directors nor officers of the bank; and (viii) conducts business pursuant to independent policies and procedures designed to inform customers and prospective customers of the subsidiary that the subsidiary is a separate organization from the bank and that investments recommended, offered or sold by the subsidiary are not bank deposits, are not insured by the FDIC, and are not guaranteed by the bank nor are otherwise obligations of the bank.

(3) *Company* shall mean any corporation (other than a bank), any partnership, business trust, association, joint venture, pool syndicate, or other similar business organization.

(4) *Control* shall mean the power to directly or indirectly vote 25 per centum or more of the voting stock of a bank or company, the ability to control in any manner the election of a majority of a bank's or company's directors or trustees, or the ability to exercise a controlling influence over the management and policies of a bank or company.

(5) *Extension of credit* shall mean the making or renewal of any loan, a draw upon a line of credit, or an extending of credit in any manner whatsoever and includes, but is not limited to:

(i) A purchase, whether or not under repurchase agreement, of securities, other assets, or obligations;

(ii) An advance by means of an overdraft, cash item, or otherwise;

(iii) Issuance of a standby letter of credit (or other similar arrangement regardless of name or description);

(iv) An acquisition by discount, purchase, exchange, or otherwise of any note, draft, bill of exchange, or other evidence of indebtedness upon which a

⁵This requirement shall not be construed to prohibit the use by the subsidiary of bank employees to perform functions which do not directly involve customer contact such as accounting, data processing and record-keeping, so long as the bank and the subsidiary contract for such services on terms and conditions comparable to those agreed to by independent entities.

natural person or company may be liable as maker, drawer, endorser, guarantor, or surety;

(v) A discount of promissory notes, bills of exchange, conditional sales contracts, or similar paper, whether with or without recourse;

(vi) An increase of an existing indebtedness, but not if the additional funds are advanced by the bank for its own protection for (A) accrued interest or (B) taxes, insurance, or other expenses incidental to the existing indebtedness; or

(vii) Any other transaction as a result of which a natural person or company becomes obligated to pay money (or its equivalent) to a bank, whether the obligation arises directly or indirectly, or because of an endorsement on an obligation or otherwise, or by any means whatsoever.

(6) *Insured nonmember bank* shall mean state and federally chartered banks insured by FDIC that are not members of the Federal Reserve System. The term shall not include foreign banks with insured branches in the United States nor insured branches of foreign banks.

(7) *Investment quality debt security* shall mean a marketable obligation in the form of a bond, note, or debenture that is rated in the top four rating categories by a nationally recognized rating service or a marketable obligation in the form of a bond, note, or debenture the investment characteristics of which are equivalent to the investment characteristics of such a top-rated obligation.

(8) *Investment quality equity security* shall mean marketable common stock that is ranked or graded in the top four categories or equivalent categories by a nationally recognized rating service, marketable preferred corporate stock that is rated in the top four rating categories by a nationally recognized rating service, or marketable preferred corporate stock that has investment characteristics that are equivalent to the investment characteristics of top rated preferred corporate stock.

(9) *Subsidiary* shall mean any company controlled by an insured nonmember bank.

(b) *Investment in securities subsidiaries.*

(1) An insured nonmember bank may

not establish or acquire a subsidiary that engages in the sale, distribution, or underwriting of stocks, bonds, debentures, notes or other securities; conducts any activities for which the subsidiary is required to register with the Securities and Exchange Commission as a broker/dealer; acts as an investment adviser to any investment company; or engages in any other securities activity unless:

(i) Except as otherwise provided by § 337.4(b)(2), the subsidiary's underwriting activities that would not be authorized to the bank under section 16 of the Glass-Steagall Act (12 U.S.C. 24 (Seventh)) as made applicable to insured nonmember banks by section 21 of the Glass-Steagall Act (12 U.S.C. 378) are limited to, and thereafter continue to be limited to, one or more of the following:

(A) Underwriting of investment quality debt securities;

(B) Underwriting of investment quality equity securities;

(C) Underwriting of investment companies not more than 25 percent of whose investments consist of investments other than investment quality debt securities and/or investment quality equity securities; or

(D) Underwriting of investment companies not more than 25 percent of whose investments consist of investments other than obligations of the United States or United States Government agencies, repurchase agreements involving such obligations, bank certificates of deposit, banker's acceptances and other bank money instruments, short-term corporate debt instruments, and other similar investments normally associated with a money market fund; and

(ii) The subsidiary is, and thereafter continues to be, a bona fide subsidiary if that subsidiary conducts securities activities not authorized to the bank under section 16 of the Glass-Steagall Act as made applicable to insured nonmember banks by section 21 of the Glass-Steagall Act.

(2) Paragraph (b)(1)(i) of this section notwithstanding, a subsidiary of an insured nonmember bank may engage in underwriting activities other than as limited thereby provided that the following conditions are met:

(i) The subsidiary is a member in good standing of the National Association of Securities Dealers (“NASD”);

(ii) The subsidiary has been in continuous operation for the five year period preceding notice to the FDIC as required by this part;

(iii) No director, officer, general partner, employee, or 10 percent shareholder of any class of voting securities of the subsidiary has been convicted within five years of the notice required by this part of any felony or misdemeanor in connection with the purchase or sale of any security involving the making of a false filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission or arising out of the conduct of the business of an underwriter, broker, dealer, municipal securities dealer, or investment adviser;

(iv) Neither the subsidiary nor any of its directors, officers, general partners, employees, or 10 percent shareholders of any class of voting securities of the subsidiary is subject to any state or federal administrative order or court order, judgment, or decree entered within five years of the notice required by this part temporarily or preliminarily enjoining or restraining such person or the subsidiary from engaging in, or continuing, any conduct or practice in connection with the purchase or sale of any security involving the making of a false filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission or arising out of the conduct of the business of an underwriter, broker, dealer, municipal securities dealer, or investment adviser;

(v) None of the subsidiary’s directors, officers, general partners, employees, or 10 percent shareholders of any class of voting securities of the subsidiary are subject to an order entered within five years of the notice required by this part of the Securities and Exchange Commission entered pursuant to section 15(b) or 15B(c) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 780, 780-4) or section 203(c) or (f) of the Investment Advisors Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b-3(c), (f)); and

(vi) All officers of the subsidiary who have supervisory responsibility for underwriting activities have at least five year experience in similar activities at NASD member securities firms.

(3) An insured nonmember bank’s direct investment in a securities subsidiary described in paragraph (b)(1) or (b)(2) of this section will not be counted toward the bank’s capital.

(c) *Affiliation with a securities company.* An insured nonmember bank is prohibited from becoming affiliated with any company that directly engages in the sale, distribution, or underwriting of stocks, bonds, debentures, notes, or other securities unless:

(1) The securities business of the affiliate is physically separate and distinct from the operation of the bank;⁶

(2) The bank and affiliate share no common officers;

(3) A majority of the board of directors of the bank is composed of persons who are neither directors nor officers of the affiliate;

(4) Any employee of the affiliate who is also an employee of the bank does not conduct any securities activities on behalf of the affiliate on the premises of the bank that involve customer contact;

(5) The affiliate conducts business pursuant to independent policies and procedures designed to inform customers and prospective customers of the affiliate that the affiliate is a separate organization from the bank and that investments recommended, offered or sold by the affiliate are not bank deposits, are not insured by the FDIC, and are not guaranteed by the bank nor are otherwise obligations of the bank.⁷

(d) *Filing of notice.* Every insured nonmember bank that intends to acquire or establish a subsidiary that—

(1) Engages in the sale, distribution, or underwriting of stocks, bonds, debentures, notes, or other securities;

⁶If the affiliate conducts business in the same location in which the bank conducts business, the affiliate must utilize physically separate offices or office space from that used by the bank. Such offices or office space must be clearly and prominently identified so as to distinguish the affiliate from the bank. The physically separate office or office space requirement only applies in areas to which the public has access.

⁷This requirement shall not be construed to prohibit the affiliate from brokering deposits to the extent and in the manner as otherwise permitted by statute and regulation.

(2) Acts as an investment adviser to any investment company;

(3) Conducts any activity for which the subsidiary is required to register with the Securities and Exchange Commission as a broker/dealer; or

(4) Engages in any other securities activity, shall notify the regional director of the FDIC region in which the bank is located of such intent.

Notice shall be in writing and must be received in the regional office at least 60 days prior to consummation of the acquisition or commencement of the operation of the subsidiary, whichever is earlier. The bank shall also notify the regional office in writing within 10 days after the consummation of the acquisition or commencement of the operation of the subsidiary, whichever is earlier. The 60-day notice requirement may be waived in FDIC's discretion where such notice is impracticable such as in the case of a purchase and assumption transaction or an emergency merger. Where the above notices pertain solely to the transfer of securities activities previously performed by the bank to the subsidiary, an additional written notice must be filed with the regional office if the subsidiary commences any securities activity covered by §337.4 (b)(1)(i) or (2) of this part. This notice must be received in the regional office within thirty days after the subsidiary commences the new activity. If the 60-day advance notice and 10-day follow-up notice pertain to the establishment or acquisition of a subsidiary that engages in underwriting activities as limited by §337.4(b)(1)(i), an additional written notice must be filed with the regional office if the subsidiary commences underwriting activities as permitted by §337.4(b)(2) of this part. This notice must be received in the regional office within thirty days after the subsidiary commences the new activity.

(e) *Restrictions.* An insured nonmember bank which has a subsidiary or affiliate that engages in the sale, distribution, or underwriting of stocks, bonds, debentures, notes, or other securities, or acts as an investment adviser to any investment company shall not:

(1) Purchase in its discretion as fiduciary, co-fiduciary, or managing agent any security currently distributed, cur-

rently underwritten, or issued by such subsidiary or affiliate or purchase as fiduciary, co-fiduciary, or managing agent any security currently issued by an investment company advised by such subsidiary or affiliate, unless (i) the purchase is expressly authorized by the trust instrument, court order, or local law, or specific authority for the purchase is obtained from all interested parties after full disclosure, (ii) the purchase, although not expressly authorized under paragraph (e)(1)(i) of this section, is otherwise consistent with the insured nonmember bank's fiduciary obligation, or (iii) the purchase is permissible under applicable federal and/or state statute or regulation;

(2) Transact business through its trust department with such subsidiary or affiliate unless the transactions are at least comparable to transactions with an unaffiliated securities company or a securities company that is not a subsidiary of the bank;

(3) Extend credit or make any loan directly or indirectly to any company the stocks, bonds, debentures, notes or other securities of which are currently underwritten or distributed by such subsidiary or affiliate of the bank unless the company's stocks, bonds, debentures, notes or other securities that are underwritten or distributed (i) qualify as investment quality debt securities, or (ii) qualify as investment quality equity securities;⁸

(4) Extend credit or make any loan directly or indirectly to any investment company whose shares are currently underwritten or distributed by such subsidiary or affiliate of the bank;

(5) Extend credit or make any loan where the purpose of the extension of credit or loan is to acquire (i) any stock, bond, debenture, note, or other

⁸This restriction shall not be construed to prohibit the bank from honoring a loan commitment or revolving loan agreement or funding a line of credit where the loan commitment, revolving loan agreement, or line of credit was entered into prior in time to the underwriting or distribution. This restriction does not apply to any extension of credit to a non-U.S. company whose securities are underwritten or distributed outside the United States by a non-U.S. affiliate of an insured nonmember bank.

security currently underwritten or distributed by such subsidiary or affiliate; (ii) any security currently issued by an investment company advised by such subsidiary or affiliate; or (iii) any stock, bond, debenture, note, or other security issued by such subsidiary or affiliate, except that a bank may extend credit or make a loan to employees of the subsidiary or affiliate for the purpose of acquiring securities of such subsidiary or affiliate through an employee stock bonus or stock purchase plan adopted by the board of directors or board trustees of the subsidiary or affiliate;⁹

(6) Make any loan or extension of credit to a subsidiary or affiliate of the bank that (i) distributes or underwrites stocks, bonds, debentures, notes, or other securities, or (ii) advises any investment company, if such loans or extensions of credit would be in excess of the limit as to amount, and not in accordance with the restrictions imposed on “covered transactions” by section 23A of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 371c) and that are not within any exemptions established thereby;

(7) Make any loan or extension of credit to any investment company for which the bank’s subsidiary or affiliate acts as an investment adviser if the loan or extension of credit would be in excess of the limit as to amount, and not in accordance with the restrictions imposed on “covered transactions” by section 23A of the Federal Reserve Act and that are not within any exemptions established thereby; and

(8) Directly or indirectly condition any loan or extension of credit to any company on the requirement that the company contract with, or agree to contract with, the bank’s subsidiary or affiliate to underwrite or distribute the company’s securities or directly or indirectly condition any loan or extension of credit to any person on the requirement that that person purchase any security currently underwritten or distributed by the bank’s subsidiary or affiliate.¹⁰

⁹In complying with §337.4(e)(5) of this part, the bank shall be entitled to rely in good faith on the customer’s statement as to the purpose of the extension of credit or loan.

¹⁰An insured nonmember bank in complying with the requirements of §§337.4 (e)(1),

(f) Nothing in this section prohibits an insured nonmember bank from establishing or acquiring a subsidiary that sells, distributes, or underwrites stocks, bonds, debentures, notes, or other securities or engages in any other securities activity if those activities would be permitted to an insured nonmember bank by sections 16 and 21 of the Glass-Steagall Act (12 U.S.C. 24 (Seventh) and 378).

(g) Nothing in this section authorizes an insured nonmember bank to directly engage in any securities activity not authorized to it under sections 16 and 21 of the Glass-Steagall Act (12 U.S.C. 24 (Seventh) and 378).

(h) *Disclosure*—(1) *Applicability*. Any subsidiary of an insured nonmember bank required by §337.4(b)(1)(ii) to be a bona fide subsidiary, and any affiliate of an insured nonmember bank whose affiliation with such a bank is governed by §337.4(c), which:

(i) Shares the same or a similar name or logo with the insured nonmember bank,

(ii) Conducts business in the same location in which the insured nonmember bank conducts business,

(iii) Advertises or promotes particular securities or solicits purchasers for particular securities in advertisements, promotions, solicitations or other similar communications in which the insured nonmember bank also advertises or promotes its services, or

(iv) Places or causes to be placed in communications from the insured nonmember bank to the bank’s customers advertisements, promotions or solicitations concerning particular securities, must comply with the disclosure requirements of paragraphs (h)(2) and (3) of this section in order for the subsidiary to meet the definition of a bona fide subsidiary and in order for the affiliation to be permissible.

Any insured nonmember bank that established or acquired a securities subsidiary or become affiliated with a securities company prior to December 28, 1984 and which as of December 14, 1987,

(e)(3), and (e)(4) of this part concerning “current” underwritings and distributions may rely upon the affiliate’s or subsidiary’s statement that the underwriting or distribution of any particular security has terminated.

conducted business in the same location as its securities subsidiary or affiliate or shared the same or a similar name or logo with its securities subsidiary or affiliate has until not later than June 1, 1988 to comply with paragraphs (h)(2) and (3) of this section.

(2) *Content of Disclosure.* Sections 337.4(a)(2)(viii) and 337.4(c)(5) notwithstanding, any subsidiary and/or affiliate of an insured nonmember bank described in paragraph (h)(1) of this section must disclose to its customers and prospective customers that securities recommended, offered or sold by or through the subsidiary and/or affiliate are not FDIC insured deposits (unless otherwise indicated), that such securities are not guaranteed by, nor are they obligations of, the bank, and that the subsidiary and/or affiliate and the bank are separate organizations. The following or a similar statement will satisfy the disclosure requirement:

[name of affiliate/subsidiary] is not a bank and securities offered by it are not backed or guaranteed by any bank nor are they insured by the FDIC.

(3) *Timing and Placement of Disclosure.* In order for any subsidiary or affiliate of an insured nonmember bank described in paragraph (h)(1) of this section, to comply with paragraph (h)(2) of this section, the subsidiary/affiliate must make disclosure to its customers prominently, in writing, in opening account documents and periodically (at least semiannually) in customer statements. Disclosure may be made in confirmations in lieu of customer statements. In the case of joint advertisements, promotions, or solicitations and advertisements, promotions, or solicitations placed in bank communications, the advertisement, promotion, or solicitation must carry the requisite disclosure. Disclosure may be in a form and manner consistent with the advertising or other media utilized. Television or radio advertisements which do not exceed 30 seconds in length need not contain disclosure. Disclosure in television advertisements may either be spoken or displayed. All disclosures must be prominent and clearly legible. Disclosure in opening account documents and periodic disclosure in customer statements or confirmations is only required for one year after the

bank and its subsidiary/affiliate cease to jointly advertise, promote or solicit and for one year after advertisements, promotions, or solicitations are placed in bank communications with bank customers provided, however, that at least two semiannual disclosures must have been made during that one year period.

(4) It is considered an unsafe and unsound banking practice for an insured nonmember bank to:

(i) Share the same or a similar name or logo with a securities subsidiary that is required to be a bona fide subsidiary or an affiliate that is subject to the provisions contained in § 337.4(c);

(ii) Conduct business in the same location as any such subsidiary or affiliate;

(iii) Jointly advertise or promote its services in an advertisement, promotion, or solicitation concerning particular securities made by such a subsidiary or affiliate; or

(iv) Permit such a subsidiary or affiliate to place advertisements, promotions, or solicitations concerning particular securities in communications sent by the bank to the bank's customers, unless the disclosure requirements of paragraphs (h)(2) and (3) of this section, are met.

Failure to comply with paragraphs (h)(2) and (3) of this section, will subject the insured nonmember bank to appropriate administrative action including, but not necessarily limited to, an order to cease and desist use of the same or a similar name or logo as the subsidiary/affiliate, the conduct of business in the same location as the subsidiary/affiliate, the making of joint advertisements, or the placement of the subsidiary's/affiliate's promotions, advertisements, or solicitations in the bank's communications with its customers.

[49 FR 46723, Nov. 28, 1984, as amended at 51 FR 880, Jan. 9, 1986; 51 FR 45756, Dec. 22, 1986; 52 FR 47387, Dec. 14, 1987; 53 FR 597, Jan. 8, 1988; 53 FR 2223, Jan. 29, 1988]

§ 337.5 Exemption.

Check guaranty card programs, customer-sponsored credit card programs, and similar arrangements in which a bank undertakes to guarantee the obligations of individuals who are its retail