

Type: FCA Regulation

PART 612 - STANDARDS OF CONDUCT AND REFERRAL OF KNOWN OR SUSPECTED CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS

Subpart A - Standards of Conduct

§ 612.2130 Definitions.

For purposes of this part, the following terms are defined:

(a) *Agent* means any person, other than a director or employee, who currently represents a System institution in contacts with third parties or who currently provides professional services to a System institution, such as legal, accounting, appraisal, and other similar services.

(b) A *conflict of interest* or the appearance thereof exists when a person has a financial interest in a transaction, relationship, or activity that actually affects or has the appearance of affecting the person's ability to perform official duties and responsibilities in a totally impartial manner and in the best interest of the employing institution when viewed from the perspective of a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts.

(c) *Controlled entity* and *entity controlled by* mean an entity in which the individual, directly or indirectly, or acting through or in concert with one or more persons:

(1) Owns 5 percent or more of the equity;

(2) Owns, controls, or has the power to vote 5 percent or more of any class of voting securities;

or

(3) Has the power to exercise a controlling influence over the management of policies of such entity.

(d) *Employee* means any salaried officer or part-time, full-time, or temporary salaried employee.

(e) *Entity* means a corporation, company, association, firm, joint venture, partnership (general or limited), society, joint stock company, trust (business or otherwise), fund, or other organization or institution.

(f) *Family* means an individual and spouse and anyone having the following relationship to either: parents, spouse, son, daughter, sibling, stepparent, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, half sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, grandparent, grandson, granddaughter, and the spouses of the foregoing.

(g) *Financial interest* means an interest in an activity, transaction, property, or relationship with a person or an entity that involves receiving or providing something of monetary value or other present or deferred compensation.

(h) *Financially obligated with* means having a joint legally enforceable obligation with, being financially obligated on behalf of (contingently or otherwise), having an enforceable legal obligation secured by property owned by another, or owning property that secures an enforceable legal obligation of another.

(i) *Material*, when applied to a financial interest or transaction or series of transactions, means that the interest or transaction or series of transactions is of such magnitude that a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts would question the ability of the person who has the interest or is party to such transaction(s) to perform his or her official duties objectively and impartially and in the best interest of the institution and its statutory purpose.

(j) *Mineral interest* means any interest in minerals, oil, or gas, including, but not limited to, any right derived directly or indirectly from a mineral, oil, or gas lease, deed, or royalty conveyance.

(k) *OFI* means other financing institutions that have established an access relationship with a Farm Credit Bank or an agricultural credit bank under section 1.7(b)(1)(B) of the Act.

(l) *Officer* means the chief executive officer, president, chief operating officer, vice president, secretary, treasurer, general counsel, chief financial officer, and chief credit officer of each System institution, and any person not so designated who holds a similar position of authority.

(m) *Ordinary course of business*, when applied to a transaction, means:

(1) A transaction that is usual and customary between two persons who are in business together;
or

(2) A transaction with a person who is in the business of offering the goods or services that are the subject of the transaction on terms that are not preferential. Preferential means that the transaction is not on the same terms as those prevailing at the same time for comparable transactions for other persons who are not directors or employees of a System institution.

(n) *Person* means individual or entity.

(o) *Relative* means any member of the family as defined in paragraph (g) of this section.

(p) *Service corporation* means each service corporation chartered under the Act.

(q) *Standards of Conduct Official* means the official designated under § 612.2170 of these regulations.

(r) *Supervised institution* is a term which only applies within the context of a System bank or an employee of a System bank and refers to each association supervised by that bank.

(s) *Supervising institution* is a term that only applies within the context of an association or an employee of an association and refers to the bank that supervises that association.

(t) *System institution* and *institution* mean any bank, association, or service corporation in the Farm Credit System, including the Farm Credit Banks, banks for cooperatives, Agricultural Credit Banks, Federal land bank associations, agricultural credit associations, Federal land credit associations, production credit associations, the Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation, and service corporations chartered under the Act.

[59 FR 24894, May 13, 1994, as amended at 69 FR 10906, Mar. 9, 2004; 71 FR 5762, Feb. 2, 2006; 78 FR 31834, May 28, 2013]

§ 612.2135 Director and employee responsibilities and conduct--generally.

(a) Directors and employees of all System institutions shall maintain high standards of industry, honesty, integrity, impartiality, and conduct in order to ensure the proper performance of System business and continued public confidence in the System and each of its institutions. The avoidance of misconduct and conflicts of interest is indispensable to the maintenance of these standards.

(b) To achieve these high standards of conduct, directors and employees shall observe, to the best of their abilities, the letter and intent of all applicable local, state, and Federal laws and regulations and policy statements, instructions, and procedures of the Farm Credit Administration and System institutions and shall exercise diligence and good judgment in carrying out their duties, obligations, and responsibilities.

[59 FR 24894, May 13, 1994, as amended at 69 FR 10906, Mar. 9, 2004]

§ 612.2140 Directors--prohibited conduct.

A director of a System institution shall not:

(a) Participate, directly or indirectly, in deliberations on, or the determination of, any matter affecting, directly or indirectly, the financial interest of the director, any relative of the director, any person residing in the director's household, any business partner of the director, or any entity controlled by the director or such persons (alone or in concert), except those matters of general applicability that affect all shareholders/borrowers in a nondiscriminatory way, e.g., a determination of interest rates.

(b) Divulge or make use of, except in the performance of official duties, any fact, information, or document not generally available to the public that is acquired by virtue of serving on the board of a System institution.

(c) Use the director's position to obtain or attempt to obtain special advantage or favoritism for the director, any relative of the director, any person residing in the director's household, any business partner of the director, any entity controlled by the director or such persons (alone or in concert), any other System institution, or any person transacting business with the institution, including borrowers and loan applicants.

(d) Use the director's position or information acquired in connection with the director's position to solicit or obtain, directly or indirectly, any gift, fee, or other present or deferred compensation or for any other personal benefit on behalf of the director, any relative of the director, any person residing in the director's household, any business partner of the director, any entity controlled by the director or such persons (alone or in concert), any other System institution, or any person transacting business with the institution, including borrowers and loan applicants.

(e) Accept, directly or indirectly, any gift, fee, or other present or deferred compensation that is offered or could reasonably be viewed as being offered to influence official action or to obtain information that the director has access to by reason of serving on the board of a System institution.

(f) Knowingly acquire, directly or indirectly, except by inheritance or through public auction or open competitive bidding available to the general public, any interest in any real or personal property, including mineral interests, that was owned by the employing, supervising, or any supervised institution within the preceding 12 months and that had been acquired by any such institution as a result of foreclosure or similar action; provided, however, a director shall not acquire any such interest in real or personal property if he or she participated in the deliberations or decision to foreclose or to dispose of the property or in establishing the terms of the sale.

(g) Directly or indirectly borrow from, lend to, or become financially obligated with or on behalf of a director, employee, or agent of the employing, supervising, or a supervised institution or a borrower or loan applicant of the employing institution, unless:

(1) The transaction is with a relative or any person residing in the director's household;

(2) The transaction is undertaken in an official capacity in connection with the institution's discounting, lending, or participation relationships with OFIs and other lenders; or

(3) The Standards of Conduct Official determines, pursuant to policies and procedures adopted by the board, that the potential for conflict is insignificant because the transaction is in the ordinary course of business or is not material in amount and the director does not participate in the determination of any matter affecting the financial interests of the other party to the transaction except those matters affecting all shareholders/borrowers in a nondiscriminatory way.

(h) Violate an institution's policies and procedures governing standards of conduct.

[59 FR 24894, May 13, 1994, as amended at 69 FR 10906, Mar. 9, 2004]

§ 612.2145 Director reporting.

(a) Annually, as of the institution's fiscal yearend, and at such other times as may be required to comply with paragraph (c) of this section, each director shall file a written and signed statement with the Standards of Conduct Official that fully discloses:

(1) The names of any immediate family members as defined in § 620.1(e) of this chapter, or affiliated organizations, as defined in § 620.1(a) of this chapter, who had transactions with the institution at any time during the year;

(2) Any matter required to be disclosed by § 620.6(f) of this chapter; and

(3) Any additional information the institution may require to make the disclosures required by part 620 of this chapter.

(b) Each director shall, at such intervals as the institution's board shall determine is necessary to effectively enforce this regulation and the institution's standards-of-conduct policy adopted pursuant to § 612.2165, file a written and signed statement with the Standards of Conduct Official that contains those disclosures required by the regulations and such policy. At a minimum, these requirements shall include:

(1) The name of any relative or any person residing in the director's household, business partner, or any entity controlled by the director or such persons (alone or in concert) if the director knows or has reason to know that such individual or entity transacts business with the institution or any institution supervised by the director's institution; and

(2) The name and the nature of the business of any entity in which the director has a material financial interest or on whose board the director sits if the director knows or has reason to know that such entity transacts business with:

(i) The director's institution or any institution supervised by the director's institution; or

(ii) A borrower of the director's institution or any institution supervised by the directors institution.

(c) Any director who becomes or plans to become involved in any relationship, transaction, or activity that is required to be reported under this section or could constitute a conflict of interest shall promptly report such involvement in writing to the Standards of Conduct Official for a determination of whether the relationship, transaction, or activity is, in fact, a conflict of interest.

(d) Unless a disclosure as a director candidate under part 620 of this chapter has been made within the preceding 180 days, a newly elected or appointed director shall report matters required to be reported in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section to the Standards of Conduct Official within 30 days after the election or appointment and thereafter shall comply with the requirements of this section.

[59 FR 24894, May 13, 1994, as amended at 69 FR 10906, Mar. 9, 2004; 77 FR 60596, Oct. 3, 2012]

§ 612.2160 Institution responsibilities.

Each institution shall:

(a) Ensure compliance with this part by its directors and employees and act promptly to preserve the integrity of and public confidence in the institution in any matter involving a conflict of interest, whether or not specifically addressed by this part or the policies and procedures adopted pursuant to § 612.2165;

(b) Take appropriate measures to ensure that all directors and employees are informed of the requirements of this regulation and policies and procedures adopted pursuant to § 612.2165;

(c) Adopt and implement policies and procedures that will preserve the integrity of and public confidence in the institution and the System pursuant to § 612.2165;

(d) Designate a Standards of Conduct Official pursuant to § 612.2170; and

(e) Maintain all standards-of-conduct policies and procedures, reports, investigations, determinations, and evidence of compliance with this part for a minimum of 6 years.

[59 FR 24894, May 13, 1994, as amended at 69 FR 10906, Mar. 9, 2004]

§ 612.2165 Policies and procedures.

(a) Each institution's board of directors shall issue, consistent with this part, policies and procedures governing standards of conduct for directors and employees.

(b) Board policies and procedures issued pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section shall reflect due consideration of the potential adverse impact of any activities permitted under the policies and shall at a minimum:

(1) Establish such requirements and prohibitions as are necessary to promote public confidence in the institution and the System, preserve the integrity and independence of the supervisory process, and prevent the improper use of official property, position, or information. In developing such requirements and prohibitions, the institution shall address such issues as the hiring of relatives, political activity, devotion of time to duty, the exchange of gifts and favors among directors and employees of the employing, supervising, and supervised institution, and the circumstances under which gifts may be accepted by directors and employees from outside sources, in light of the foregoing objectives;

(2) Outline authorities and responsibilities of the Standards of Conduct Official;

(3) Establish criteria for business relationships and transactions not specifically prohibited by this part between employees or directors and borrowers, loan applicants, directors, or employees of the employing, supervised, or supervising institutions, or persons transacting business with such institutions, including OFIs or other lenders having an access or participation relationship;

(4) Establish criteria under which employees may accept outside employment or compensation;

(5) Establish conditions under which employees may receive loans from System institutions;

(6) Establish conditions under which employees may acquire an interest in real or personal property that was mortgaged to a System institution at any time within the preceding 12 months;

(7) Establish conditions under which employees may purchase any real or personal property of a System institution acquired by such institution for its operations. Farm Credit institutions must use open competitive bidding whenever they sell surplus property above a stated value (as established by the board) to their employees;

(8) Provide for a reasonable period of time for directors and employees to terminate transactions, relationships, or activities that are subject to prohibitions that arise at the time of adoption or amendment of the policies.

(9) Require new directors and new employees involved at the time of election or hiring in transactions, relationships, and activities prohibited by these regulations or internal policies to terminate such transactions within the same time period established for existing directors or employees pursuant to paragraph (b)(8) of this section, beginning with the commencement of official duties, or such shorter time period as the institution may establish.

(10) Establish procedures providing for a director's or employee's recusal from official action on any matter in which he or she is prohibited from participating under these regulations or the institution's policies.

(11) Establish documentation requirements demonstrating compliance with standards-of-conduct decisions and board policy;

(12) Establish reporting requirements, consistent with this part, to enable the institution to comply with §§ [620.5](#) and [620.6](#) of this chapter, monitor conflicts of interest, and monitor recusal compliance;

(13) Establish appeal procedures available to any employee to whom any required approval has been denied;

(14) Prohibit directors and employees from purchasing or retiring any stock in advance of the release of material non-public information concerning the institution to other stockholders; and

(15) Establish when directors and employees may purchase and retire their preferred stock in the institution.

§ 612.2170 Standards of Conduct Official.

- (a) Each institution's board shall designate a Standards of Conduct Official who shall:
- (1) Advise directors, director candidates, and employees concerning the provisions of this part;
 - (2) Receive reports required by this part;
 - (3) Make such determinations as are required by this part;
 - (4) Maintain records of actions taken to resolve and/or make determinations upon each case reported relative to provisions of this part;
 - (5) Make appropriate investigations, as directed by the institution's board; and
 - (6) Report promptly, pursuant to part 617 of this chapter, to the institution's board and the Office of General Counsel, Farm Credit Administration, all cases where:
 - (i) A preliminary investigation indicates that a Federal criminal statute may have been violated;
 - (ii) An investigation results in the removal of a director or discharge of an employee; or
 - (iii) A violation may have an adverse impact on continued public confidence in the System or any of its institutions.
- (b) The Standards of Conduct Official shall investigate or cause to be investigated all cases involving:
- (1) Possible violations of criminal statutes;
 - (2) Possible violations of §§ 612.2140 and 612.2150, and applicable policies and procedures approved under § 612.2165;
 - (3) Complaints received against the directors and employees of such institution; and
 - (4) Possible violations of other provisions of this part or when the activities or suspected activities are of a sensitive nature and could affect continued public confidence in the Farm Credit System.
- (c) An association board may comply with this section by contracting with the Farm Credit Bank or agricultural credit bank in its district to provide a Standards of Conduct Official.

[59 FR 24894, May 13, 1994, as amended at 69 FR 10906, Mar. 9, 2004]

§ 612.2270 Purchase of System obligations.

- (a) Employees and directors of System institutions, other than the Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation, may only purchase joint, consolidated, or Systemwide obligations that are:
- (1) Part of an offering available to the general public; and
 - (2) Purchased through a dealer or dealer bank affiliated with a member of the selling group designated by the Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation or purchased in the secondary market.
- (b) No director or employee of the Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation may purchase or otherwise acquire, directly or indirectly, except by inheritance, any joint, consolidated, or Systemwide obligation.

[59 FR 24894, May 13, 1994, as amended at 69 FR 10906, Mar. 9, 2004]

Type: FCA Regulation

PART 620 - DISCLOSURE TO SHAREHOLDERS

Subpart A - General

§ 620.1 Definitions.

For the purpose of this part, the following definitions shall apply:

(a) *Affiliated organization* means any organization, other than a Farm Credit organization, of which a director, senior officer or nominee for director of the reporting institution is a partner, director, officer, or majority shareholder.

(b) *Association* means any of the associations as described in § 619.9050 of this chapter.

(c) *Bank* means any of the Farm Credit banks as described in § 619.9140 of this chapter.

(d) *Direct lender association* means any association that is a direct lender as described in § 619.9135 of this chapter.

(e) *Immediate family* means spouse, parents, siblings, children, mothers- and fathers-in-law, brothers- and sisters-in-law, and sons- and daughters-in-law.

(f) *Institution* means any bank or association chartered by the Act.

(g) *Loan* means any extension of credit or lease that is recorded as an asset of a reporting institution, whether made directly or purchased from another lender. The term "loan" includes, but is not limited to, loans originated through direct negotiations between the reporting institution and a borrower; purchased loans or interests in loans, including participation interests, retained subordinated participation interests in loans sold, interests in pools of subordinated participation interests that are held in lieu of retaining a subordinated participation interest in loans sold; contracts of sale; notes receivable; and other similar obligations and lease financings.

(h) *Material*. The term *material*, when used to qualify a requirement to furnish information as to any subject, limits the information required to those matters to which there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable person would attach importance in making shareholder decisions or determining the financial condition of the institution.

(i) *Normal risk of collectibility* means the ordinary risk inherent in the lending operation. Loans that are deemed to have more than a normal risk of collectibility include, but are not limited to, any adversely classified loans.

(j) *Permanent capital* shall have the same meaning as set forth in § 615.5201 of this chapter.

(k) *Protected borrower capital* means eligible borrower stock as defined in § 615.5260 of this chapter.

(l) *Related association* means an association within the reporting bank's chartered territory that generates loans for the bank or whose operations the bank funds.

(m) *Related bank* means a reporting association's funding bank or the bank for which it generates loans.

(n) *Related organization* means any Farm Credit institution that is a shareholder of the reporting institution or in which the reporting institution has an ownership interest.

(o) *Report* refers to the annual report, quarterly report, notice, or information statement, regardless of form, required by this part unless otherwise specified.

(p) *Signed*, when referring to paper form, means a manual signature, and, when referring to electronic form, means marked in a manner that authenticates each signer's identity.

(q) *Significant event* means any event that is likely to have a material impact on the reporting institution's financial condition, results of operations, cost of funds, or reliability of sources of funds. The term "significant event" includes, but is not limited to, actual or probable noncompliance with the regulatory minimum permanent capital standards or capital adequacy requirements, stock impairment, the imposition of or entering into enforcement actions, execution of financial assistance agreements with other institutions, collateral deficiencies that impact a bank's ability to obtain loan funds, or defaults on debt obligations.

[51 FR 8656, Mar. 13, 1986, as amended at 51 FR 42086, Nov. 21, 1986; 53 FR 3337, Feb. 5, 1988; 56 FR 29421, June 27, 1991; 56 FR 42649, Aug. 28, 1991; 58 FR 48791, Sept. 20, 1993; 59 FR 37406, July 22, 1994; 62 FR 15092, Mar. 31, 1997; 63 FR 39229, July 22, 1998; 67 FR 16633, Apr. 8, 2002; 70 FR 35357, June 17, 2005; 71 FR 5764, Feb. 2, 2006; 75 FR 18744, Apr. 12, 2010]

§ 620.3 Accuracy of reports and assessment of internal control over financial reporting.

(a) *Prohibition against incomplete, inaccurate, or misleading disclosures.* No institution and no employee, officer, director, or nominee for director of the institution shall make any disclosure to shareholders or the general public concerning any matter required to be disclosed by this part that is incomplete, inaccurate, or misleading. When any such person makes disclosure that, in the judgment of the Farm Credit Administration, is incomplete, inaccurate, or misleading, whether or not such disclosure is made in disclosure statements required by this part, such institution or person shall make such additional or corrective disclosure as is necessary to provide shareholders and the general public with a full and fair disclosure.

(b) *Signatures.* The name and position title of each person signing the report must be printed beneath his or her signature. If any person required to sign the report has not signed the report, the name and position title of the individual and the reason(s) such individual is unable or refuses to sign must be disclosed in the report. All reports must be dated and signed on behalf of the institution by:

- (1) The chief executive officer (CEO);
- (2) The chief financial officer (CFO), or if the institution has no CFO, the officer responsible for preparing financial reports; and
- (3) A board member formally designated by action of the board to certify reports on behalf of individual board members.

(c) *Certification of financial accuracy.* The report must be certified as financially accurate by the signatories to the report. If any signatory is unable to, or refuses to, certify the report, the institution must disclose the individual's name and position title and the reason(s) such individual is unable or refuses to certify the report. At a minimum, the certification must include a statement that:

- (1) The signatories have reviewed the report,
- (2) The report has been prepared in accordance with all applicable statutory or regulatory requirements, and
- (3) The information is true, accurate, and complete to the best of signatories' knowledge and belief.

(d) *Management assessment of internal control over financial reporting.* Annual reports of those institutions with over \$1 billion in total assets (as of the end of the prior fiscal year) must include a report by management assessing the effectiveness of the institution's internal control over financial reporting. The assessment must be conducted during the reporting period and be reported to the institution's board of directors. Quarterly and annual reports for those institutions with over \$1 billion in total assets (as of the end of the prior fiscal year) must disclose any material change(s) in the internal control over financial reporting occurring during the reporting period.

[71 FR 76119, Dec. 20, 2006, as amended at 74 FR 28599, June 17, 2009]

§ 620.6 Disclosures in the annual report to shareholders relating to directors and senior officers.

(a) *General.*

(1) List the names of all directors and senior officers of the institution, indicating the position title and term of office of each director, and the position, title, and date each senior officer commenced employment in his or her current position.

(2) Briefly describe the business experience during the past 5 years of each director and senior officer, including each person's principal occupation and employment during the past 5 years.

(3) For each director and senior officer, list any other business interest where the director or senior officer serves on the board of directors or as a senior officer. Name the position held and state the principal business in which the business is engaged.

(b) ***Compensation of directors.*** Describe the arrangements under which directors of the institution are compensated for all services as a director (including total cash compensation and noncash compensation). Noncash compensation with an annual aggregate value of less than \$5,000 does not have to be reported. State the total cash and reportable noncash compensation paid to all directors as a group during the last fiscal year. For the purposes of this paragraph, disclosure of compensation paid to and days served by directors applies to any director who served in that capacity at any time during the reporting period. If applicable, describe any exceptional circumstances justifying the additional director compensation as authorized by § 611.400(c) of this chapter. For each director, state:

(1) The number of days served at board meetings;

(2) The total number of days served in other official activities, including any board committee(s);

(3) Any additional compensation paid for service on a board committee, naming the committee;

and

(4) The total cash and noncash compensation paid to each director during the last fiscal year.

Reportable compensation includes cash and the value of noncash items provided by a third party to a director for services rendered by the director on behalf of the reporting Farm Credit institution. Noncash compensation with an annual aggregate value of less than \$5,000 does not have to be reported.

(c) ***Compensation of senior officers.*** Disclose the information on senior officer compensation and compensation plans as required by this paragraph. The institution must disclose the total amount of compensation paid to senior officers in substantially the same manner as the tabular form specified in the Summary Compensation Table (Compensation Table), located in paragraph (c)(3) of this section.

(1) For each of the last 3 completed fiscal years, report the total amount of compensation paid and the amount of each component of compensation paid to the institution's chief executive officer (CEO), naming the individual. If more than one person served in the capacity of CEO during any given fiscal year, individual compensation disclosures must be provided for each CEO.

(2) For each of the last 3 completed fiscal years, report the aggregate amount of compensation paid, and the components of compensation paid, to all senior officers as a group, stating the number of officers in the group without naming them.

(i) If applicable, when any employee who is not a senior officer has annual compensation at a level that is among the five highest paid by the institution during the reporting period, include the highly compensated employee(s) in the aggregate number and amount of compensation reported in the Compensation Table. However, exclude any such employee from the Compensation Table if the employee would be considered highly compensated solely because of payments related to or change(s) in value of the employee's qualified pension plan provided that the plan was available to all similarly situated employees on the same basis at the time the employee joined the plan.

(ii) The report containing the aggregate compensation disclosure must include a statement that disclosure of information on the total compensation paid during the last fiscal year to any senior officer, or to any other employee included in the aggregate, is available and will be disclosed to shareholders of the institution and shareholders of related associations (if applicable) upon request. This statement must be located directly beneath the Compensation Table.

(3) The institution must complete the Compensation Table, or something substantially similar, according to the following instructions:

Summary Compensation Table

Annual						
Name of individual or number in group (a)	Year (b)	Salary (c)	Bonus (d)	Deferred / perquisite (e)	Other (f)	Total (g)
CEO	20X X	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Aggregate No. of Senior Officers (& other highly compensated employees, if applicable)	20X X					
(X)	20X					
(X)	X					
(X)	20X X 20X X					

(i) Amounts shown as “Salary” (column (c)) and “Bonus” (column (d)) must reflect the dollar value of salary and bonus earned by the senior officer during the fiscal year. Amounts contributed during the fiscal year by the senior officer pursuant to a plan established under section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code, or similar plan, must be included in the salary column or bonus column, as appropriate. If the amount of salary or bonus earned during the fiscal year is not calculable by the time the report is prepared, the reporting institution must provide its best estimate of the compensation amount(s) and disclose that fact in a footnote to the table.

(ii) Amounts shown as “deferred/perquisites” (column (e)) must reflect the dollar value of other annual compensation not properly categorized as salary or bonus, including but not limited to:

(A) Deferred compensation earned during the fiscal year, whether or not paid in cash; or

(B) Perquisites and other personal benefits, including the value of noncash items, unless the annual aggregate value of such perquisites is less than \$5,000. Reportable perquisites include cash and

the value of noncash items provided by a third party to a senior officer for services rendered by the officer on behalf of the reporting institution.

(iii) Compensation amounts reported under the category “Other” (column (f)) must reflect the dollar value of all other compensation not properly reportable in any other column. Items reported in this column must be specifically identified and described in a footnote to the table. “Other” compensation includes, but is not limited to:

(A) The amount paid to the senior officer pursuant to a plan or arrangement in connection with the resignation, retirement, or termination of such officer’s employment with the institution.

(B) The amount of contributions by the institution on behalf of the senior officer to a vested or unvested defined contribution plan unless the plan is made available to all employees on the same basis.

(C) The dollar value of any tax reimbursement provided by the institution.

(D) Any changes in the value of pension benefits.

(iv) Amounts displayed under “Total” (column (g)) shall reflect the sum total of amounts reported in columns (c), (d), (e), and (f).

(4) If the institution provides a defined benefit plan or a supplemental executive retirement plan (SERP) to its senior officers, the institution must complete the following Pension Benefits Table, or something substantially similar, for each plan according to the following instructions:

Pension Benefits Table

As of most recent fiscal year-end			
Name of individual	Years of credited service	Present value of accumulated benefits	Payments made during reporting period
CEO		\$	\$
Senior Officers as a Group (& other highly compensated employees, if applicable)			

(i) Report the credited years of service for the CEO and the average credited years of service for the senior officer group under the plan.

(ii) Report the present value of accumulated benefits for the CEO and the senior officer group under the plan.

(iii) Report payments made during the reporting period under the plan for the CEO and the senior officer group.

(5) Provide a description of all compensation, retirement, incentive, and performance plans (plans) pursuant to which cash or noncash compensation was paid or distributed during the last fiscal year, or is proposed to be paid or distributed in the future for performance during the last fiscal year, to those individuals included in the Compensation Table. Provide the information individually for the chief executive officer and as a group for the senior officers. Information provided for the senior officer group includes any highly compensated employees whose compensation is reported in the Compensation Table. The description of each plan must include, but not be limited to:

(i) A summary of how each plan operates and who is covered by the plan. The summary must include the criteria used to determine amounts payable, including any performance formula or measure, as well as the time period over which the measurement of compensation will be determined, payment schedules, and any material amendments to the plan during the last fiscal year.

(ii) The overall risk and reward structure of the plan as it relates to senior officers' compensation. The description must include, at a minimum, how each plan is compatible with and promotes the institution's goals and business strategy and the mission as a Government-sponsored enterprise.

(iii) A discussion of the relationship between the CEO and senior officers' compensation to the reporting institution's overall performance. The disclosure must also discuss the relationship between the CEO's and senior officers' compensation to their performance.

(6) Associations may disclose the information required by paragraph (c) of this section in the Annual Meeting Information Statement (AMIS) pursuant to subpart E of this part. Associations exercising this option must include a reference in the annual report stating that the senior officer compensation information is included in the AMIS and that the AMIS is available for public inspection at the reporting association offices pursuant to § 620.2(b).

(d) *Travel, subsistence, and other related expenses.*

(1) Briefly describe your policy addressing reimbursements for travel, subsistence, and other related expenses as it applies to directors and senior officers. The report shall include a statement that a copy of the policy is available to shareholders of the institution and shareholders of related associations (if applicable) upon request.

(2) For each of the last 3 fiscal years, state the aggregate amount of reimbursement for travel, subsistence, and other related expenses for all directors as a group.

(e) *Transactions with senior officers and directors.*

(1) State the institution's policies, if any, on loans to and transactions with officers and directors of the institution.

(2) *Transactions other than loans.* For each person who served as a senior officer or director on January 1 of the year following the fiscal year of which the report is filed, or at any time during the fiscal year just ended, describe briefly any transaction or series of transactions other than loans that occurred at any time since the last annual meeting between the institution and such person, any member of the immediate family of such person, or any organization with which such person is affiliated.

(i) For transactions relating to the purchase or retirement of preferred stock issued by the institution, state the name of each senior officer or director that held preferred stock issued by the institution during the reporting period, the current amount of preferred stock held by the senior officer or director, the average dividend rate on the preferred stock currently held, and the amount of purchases and retirements by the individual during the reporting period.

(ii) For all other transactions, state the name of the senior officer or director who entered into the transaction or whose immediate family member or affiliated organization entered into the transaction, the nature of the person's interest in the transaction, and the terms of the transaction. No information need be given where the purchase price, fees, or charges involved were determined by competitive bidding or where the amount involved in the transaction (including the total of all periodic payments) does not exceed \$5,000, or the interest of the person arises solely as a result of his or her status as a stockholder of the institution and the benefit received is not a special or extra benefit not available to all stockholders.

(3) *Loans to senior officers and directors.*

(i) To the extent applicable, state that the institution (or in the case of an association that does not carry loans to its senior officers and directors on its books, its related bank) has had loans outstanding during the last full fiscal year to date to its senior officers and directors, their immediate family members, and any organizations with which such senior officers or directors are affiliated that:

(A) Were made in the ordinary course of business; and

(B) were made on the same terms, including interest rate, amortization schedule, and collateral, as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with other persons.

(ii) To the extent applicable, state that no loan to a senior officer or director, or to any organization affiliated with such person, or to any immediate family member who resides in the same household as such person or in whose loan or business operation such person has a material financial or legal interest, involved more than the normal risk of collectability; provided that no such statement need be made with respect to any director or senior officer who has resigned before the time for filing the

applicable report with the Farm Credit Administration (but in no case later than the actual filing), or whose term of office will expire or terminate no later than the date of the meeting of stockholders to which the report relates.

(iii) If the conditions stated in paragraphs (e)(3)(i) and (ii) of this section do not apply to the loans of the persons or organizations specified therein, with respect to such loans state:

(A) The name of the officer or director to whom the loan was made or to whose relative or affiliated organization the loan was made.

(B) The largest aggregate amount of each indebtedness outstanding at any time during the last fiscal year.

(C) The nature of the loan(s);

(D) The amount outstanding as of the latest practicable date.

(E) The reasons the loan does not comply with the criteria contained in paragraphs (e)(3)(i) and (e)(3)(ii) of this section.

(F) If the loan does not comply with paragraph (e)(3)(i)(B) of this section, the rate of interest payable on the loan and the repayment terms.

(G) If the loan does not comply with paragraph (e)(3)(ii) of this section, the amount past due, if any, and the reason the loan is deemed to involve more than a normal risk of collectability.

(f) *Involvement in certain legal proceedings.* Describe any of the following events that occurred during the past 5 years and that are material to an evaluation of the ability or integrity of any person who served as director or senior officer on January 1 of the year following the fiscal year for which the report is filed or at any time during the fiscal year just ended:

(1) A petition under the Federal bankruptcy laws or any State insolvency law was filed by or against, or a receiver, fiscal agent, or similar officer was appointed by a court for the business or property of such person, or any partnership in which such person was a general partner at or within 2 years before the time of such filing, or any corporation or business association of which such person was a senior officer at or within 2 years before the time of such filing;

(2) Such person was convicted in a criminal proceeding or is a named party in a pending criminal proceeding (excluding traffic violations and other misdemeanors);

(3) Such person was the subject of any order, judgment, or decree, not subsequently reversed, suspended, or vacated, by any court of competent jurisdiction, permanently or temporarily enjoining or otherwise limiting such person from engaging in any type of business practice.

[77 FR 60597, Oct. 3, 2012; as amended at 79 FR 17856, Mar. 31, 2014; 80 FR 10326, Feb. 26, 2015]

Type: Statute

PART B – FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION ORGANIZATION

Date Created: 12/17/2012

Date Modified: 7/10/2014

12 U.S.C. 2252

SEC. 5.17. ENUMERATED POWERS.

(a) The Farm Credit Administration shall have the following powers, functions, and responsibilities in connection with the institutions of the Farm Credit System and the administration of this Act:

(1) Modify the boundaries of farm credit districts, with due regard for the farm credit needs of the country, as approved by the Board, with the concurrence of the district banks involved.

(2) Where necessary or appropriate to carry out the policy and objectives of this Act, issue and approve amendments to Federal charters of institutions of the System; approve change in names of banks operating under this Act; approve the merger of districts when agreed to by the district bank boards involved and by a majority vote of the voting stockholders and contributors to the guaranty funds of each bank for each of such districts, voting in the same manner as is provided in section [7.0](#) of this Act; approve mergers and any related activities as provided for in title VII; and approve the consolidation or division of the territories of institutions when agreed to by a majority vote of the voting stockholders or contributors to the guaranty fund of each of the institutions involved; and approve consolidations of boards of directors when agreed to by a majority vote of the voting stockholders or contributors to the guaranty fund of each of the institutions involved. In issuing charters and certificates of territory for district-wide mergers of associations where stockholders of one or more associations did not approve the merger, the charter of the new or merged association shall not include the territory of the disagreeing association or associations; charters issued during calendar year 1985 for district-wide new or merged associations which included the territory of a disagreeing association shall be revoked and reissued to exclude such territory, unless subsequently agreed to by the board of directors of such association or associations. The Farm Credit Administration Board shall ensure that disapproving associations (A) shall not be charged any assessment under this Act at a rate higher than that charged other like associations in the district, and (B) shall be provided with financial services and assistance on the same basis as other like associations in the district (including, but not limited to, access to credit and rates of interest on loans and discounts) by a district Farm Credit bank to the association and its member-borrowers. The Farm Credit Administration Board, after consultation with the respective boards of directors of the affected banks, may require two or more

banks operating under the same or different titles to merge if the Board determines that one of such banks has failed to meet its outstanding obligations.

(3) Make annual reports directly to Congress on the condition of the System and its institutions, based on the examinations carried out under section 5.19 of this Act, and on the manner and extent to which the purposes and objectives of this Act are being carried out and, from time to time, recommend directly legislative changes. The annual reports shall include a summary and analysis of the reports submitted to the Farm Credit Administration by the Farm Credit Banks under section 4.19(b) relating to programs for serving young, beginning, and small farmers and ranchers.

(4) Approve the issuance of obligations of the System under subsections (c) and (d) of section 4.2 of this Act for the purpose of funding the authorized operations of the institutions of the System, and prescribe collateral therefor.

(5) Grant approvals provided for under this Act either on a case-by-case basis or through regulations that confer approval on actions of Farm Credit System institutions.

(6) Establish standards for the System institutions with respect to loan security requirements and regulate the borrowing, repayment, and transfer of funds and equities between institutions of the System.

(7) Conduct loan and collateral security review.

(8) Regulate the preparation by System institutions and the dissemination to stockholders and investors of information on the financial condition and operations of such institutions, except that the requirements of the Farm Credit Administration governing the dissemination to stockholders of quarterly reports of System institutions may not be more burdensome or costly than the requirements applicable to national banks, and the Farm Credit Administration may not require any System institution to disclose in any report to stockholders information concerning the condition or classification of a loan—

(A) to a director of the institution—

(i) who has resigned before the time for filing the applicable report with the Farm Credit Administration; or

(ii) whose term of office will expire no later than the date of the meeting of stockholders to which the report relates; or

(B) to a member of the immediate family of a director of the institution unless—

(i) the family member resides in the same household as the director; or

(ii) the director has a material financial or legal interest in the loan or business operation of the family member.

(9) Prescribe rules and regulations necessary or appropriate for carrying out this Act.

(10) Exercise the powers conferred on it under part C of this title for the purpose of ensuring the safety and soundness of System institutions.

(11) Exercise such incidental powers as may be necessary or appropriate to fulfill its duties and carry out the purposes of this Act.

(12) Require surety bonds or other provisions for protection of the assets of the institutions of the System against losses occasioned by employees.

Type: Statute

SAFETY AND SOUNDNESS ACT OF 1992

Date Created: 12/18/2012

Date Modified: 1/8/2015

TITLE V—MISCELLANEOUS

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SEC. 514. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST REPORTING BY DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, AND EMPLOYEES OF FARM CREDIT SYSTEM INSTITUTIONS.

(a) FINDINGS. Congress finds that—

(1) the disclosure of the compensation paid to, loans made to, and transactions made with a Farm Credit System institution by, directors and senior officers of the institution provides the stockholders of the institutions with information necessary to better manage the institutions, provides the Farm Credit Administration with information necessary to efficiently and effectively regulate the institutions, and enhances the financial integrity of the Farm Credit System by making the information available to potential investors;

(2) the reporting of potential conflicts of interest by directors, officers, and employees of institutions of the Farm Credit System benefits the stockholders of the institutions, helps to ensure the financial viability of the institutions, provides information valuable to the Farm Credit Administration in periodic examinations of the institutions, and therefore enhances the safety and soundness of the Farm Credit System; and

(3) the directors, officers, or employees of some Farm Credit System institutions may not be subject to the regulations of the Farm Credit Administration requiring the disclosure of the financial information and the reporting of the potential conflicts of interest.

(b) PURPOSE. It is the purpose of this section to ensure that the information reported by the directors, officers, and employees of Farm Credit System institutions under regulations of the Farm Credit Administration requiring the disclosure of financial information and the reporting of potential conflicts of interest—

(1) provides the stockholders of all Farm Credit System institutions with information to assist the stockholders in making informed decisions regarding the operation of the institutions;

(2) provides investors and potential investors with information necessary to assist them in making investment decisions regarding Farm Credit System obligations or institutions; and

(3) provides the Farm Credit Administration with information necessary to allow the Farm Credit Administration to effectively and

efficiently examine and regulate all Farm Credit System institutions and thus enhance the safety and soundness of the Farm Credit System.

(c) REVIEW. Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Farm Credit Administration shall complete a review of the current regulations of the Farm Credit Administration regarding the disclosure of financial information and the reporting of potential conflicts of interest by the directors, officers, and employees of Farm Credit System institutions. Consistent with the purpose of this section as provided in subsection (b), the review shall address whether the regulations—

(1) are adequate to fulfill the purpose of this section and such other purposes as the Farm Credit Administration determines to be consistent with the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2001 et seq.), and other applicable law, and to be otherwise necessary or appropriate;

(2) currently require the disclosure of financial information and the reporting of potential conflicts of interest by the directors, officers, and employees of all Farm Credit System institutions; and

(3) currently require the disclosure or reporting of the information by all of the appropriate directors, officers, or employees of Farm Credit System institutions.

(d) IMPLEMENTATION. Not later than 360 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Farm Credit Administration shall amend its current financial disclosure and conflict of interest regulations as the Administration determines necessary to carry out the purpose of this section and to address any deficiencies in the regulations that the Farm Credit Administration determines necessary pursuant to the review conducted under subsection (c).