

a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act. Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than January 12, 1998.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond (A. Linwood Gill III, Assistant Vice President) 701 East Byrd Street, Richmond, Virginia 23261-4528:

1. Shore Financial Corporation, Onley, Virginia; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Shore Bank, Onley, Virginia.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (Randall C. Sumner, Vice President) 411 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2034:

1. First United Bancshares, Inc., El Dorado, Arkansas; to merge with Citizens National Bancshares of Hope, Inc., Hope, Arkansas, and thereby indirectly acquire Citizens National Bank of Hope, Hope, Arkansas, and Peoples Bank and Loan Company, Lewisville, Arkansas.

C. Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City (D. Michael Manies, Assistant Vice President) 925 Grand Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri 64198-0001:

1. FNB Financial Services, Inc. ESOP, Durant, Oklahoma; to acquire .3 percent of the voting shares of FNB Financial Services, Inc., Durant, Oklahoma, and thereby indirectly acquire The First National Bank in Durant, Durant, Oklahoma.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, December 15, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

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FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Notice of Proposals to Engage in Permissible Nonbanking Activities or to Acquire Companies that are Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities

The companies listed in this notice have given notice under section 4 of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. 1843) (BHC Act) and Regulation Y, (12 CFR Part 225) to engage *de novo*, or to acquire or control voting securities or assets of a company that engages either directly or through a subsidiary or other

company, in a nonbanking activity that is listed in § 225.28 of Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.28) or that the Board has determined by Order to be closely related to banking and permissible for bank holding companies. Unless otherwise noted, these activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Each notice is available for inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notice also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the question whether the proposal complies with the standards of section 4 of the BHC Act.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding the applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than January 2, 1998.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City (D. Michael Manies, Assistant Vice President) 925 Grand Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri 64198-0001:

1. Gold Banc Corporation, Inc., Leawood, Kansas; to acquire Midwest Capital Management, Inc., Kansas City, Missouri, and thereby indirectly engage in financial and investment advisory activities, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(6) of the Board's Regulation Y; agency transactional services for customer investments including securities brokerage, riskless principal transactions and private placement services, pursuant to §§ 225.28(b)(7)(i), (ii), and (iii) of the Board's Regulation Y; investment transactions as principal, including underwriting and dealing in government obligations and money market instruments, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(8)(i) of the Board's Regulation Y; investing and trading activities, i.e. engaging as principal in financial futures, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(8)(ii)(B) of the Board's Regulation Y; providing management consulting advice, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(9)(A) of the Board's Regulation Y.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, December 15, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97-33086 Filed 12-17-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

Findings of Scientific Misconduct

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Office of Research Integrity (ORI) has made a final finding of scientific misconduct in the following case:

S. Ashraf Imam, Ph.D., University of Southern California: Based on an investigation report forwarded to the Office of Research Integrity (ORI) by the University of Southern California (USC) as well as information obtained by ORI during its oversight review, ORI found that Dr. Imam, an Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology, USC, engaged in scientific misconduct by including plagiarized material in a grant application submitted to the National Cancer Institute (NCI), National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Specifically, Dr. Imam's NIH grant application contained extensive paraphrasing of the text of another researcher's independent grant application to a state agency. Dr. Imam had been given that application by a colleague in confidence. The colleague was a reviewer on the state grant application and requested that Dr. Imam evaluate it and return the application to him.

The other researcher's application was subsequently funded. Dr. Imam paraphrased or copied into his NIH application all of the other researcher's specific aims, the background on proposed methods, the experimental design and research plan, and most of the references; only the preliminary results sections of Dr. Imam's application were different.

Dr. Imam has accepted the ORI finding and has entered into a Voluntary Exclusion Agreement with ORI in which he has agreed, for the three (3) year period beginning December 8, 1997, to exclude himself voluntarily from:

(1) any contracting or subcontracting with any agency of the United States Government and from eligibility for, or involvement in, nonprocurement transactions (e.g., grants and cooperative agreements) of the United States Government as defined in 45 CFR Part 76 (Debarment Regulations); and

(2) serving in any advisory capacity to the Public Health Service (PHS), including but not limited to service on any PHS advisory committee, board, and/or peer review committee, or as a consultant.

No scientific publications were required to be corrected as part of this Agreement.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Acting Director, Division of Research Investigations, Office of Research