

Proposed Rules

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

12 CFR Part 340

RIN 3064-AE26

Restrictions on Sale of Assets by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

AGENCY: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) is proposing to amend our regulations. Part 340 implements section 11(p) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act. Under section 11(p), individuals or entities whose acts or omissions have, or may have, contributed to the failure of an insured depository institution cannot buy the assets of that failed insured depository institution from the FDIC. The proposed revisions to part 340 will help to clarify its purpose, scope and applicability, and will make it more consistent in our regulations, the parallel provision in the FDIC's Orderly Liquidation Authority regulations that implements section 210(r) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act by placing restrictions on sales of assets of a covered financial company by the FDIC. Sections of part 340 became effective on July 1, 2014.

DATES: Written comments must be received by the FDIC not later than December 23, 2014.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Agency Web site:* <http://www.fdic.gov/regulations/laws/federal/>. Follow instructions for submitting comments on the Agency Web site.

- *E-Mail:* Comments@FDIC.gov. Include "RIN 3064-AE26" in the subject line of the message.

- *Mail:* Robert E. Feldman, Executive Secretary, Attention: Comments, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20429.

- *Hand Delivery/Courier:* Guard station at the rear of the 550 17th Street

Building (located on F Street) on business days between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. (EDT).

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov/>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Public Inspection:* All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.fdic.gov/regulations/laws/federal/> including any personal information provided. Paper copies of public comments may be ordered from the Public Information Center by telephone at 703-562-2200 or 1-877-275-3342.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

James D. Sigler, Resolutions & Receiverships Specialist, 202-898-3871; Craig Rice, Senior Capital Markets Specialist, Division of Resolutions and Receiverships, 202-898-3501; Elizabeth Falloon, Supervisory Counsel, Legal Division, 703-562-6148; Shane Kiernan, Counsel, Legal Division, 703-562-2632; Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20429.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The FDIC promulgated part 340 in 2000 to implement section 11(p) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, 12 U.S.C. 1821(p) (section 11(p)). Under section 11(p), individuals or entities whose acts or omissions have, or may have, contributed to the failure of an insured depository institution (failed institution) cannot buy the assets of that failed institution from the FDIC. The FDIC expanded the purchaser eligibility restriction as permitted by statute when it promulgated part 340 by precluding such individuals or entities from purchasing the assets of any failed institution, not only the particular institution affected by the actions of those individuals or entities. As provided in section 11(p), part 340 also prohibits the sale of assets involving FDIC financing to certain persons who have defaulted on obligations of \$1 million or more, in aggregate, owed to a failed insured depository institution or the FDIC and who have made fraudulent misrepresentations in connection with any of those obligations. Compliance with part 340 is established through a self-certification process by which a prospective purchaser certifies that it is eligible to purchase an asset from the FDIC and that the FDIC's sale of an asset

to that prospective purchaser would not be restricted under section 11(p) or part 340.

In March of this year the FDIC promulgated section 380.13 to implement section 210(r) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, 12 U.S.C. 5390(r) (section 210(r)). Section 210(r) prohibits certain sales of assets held by the FDIC in the course of liquidating a covered financial company. Because section 210(r) and section 11(p) share substantially similar statutory language, part 340 served as a model for the development of section 380.13. While many aspects of part 340 were included in section 380.13, FDIC staff identified new or different concepts to include in section 380.13 that were not already in part 340. Several of these concepts, if incorporated into part 340, would improve part 340 and make it more consistent with section 380.13.

II. Proposal

The FDIC proposes to amend part 340 in a number of ways. Some of the amendments are significant, substantive changes and others are non-substantive, technical or conforming changes. This discussion in this supplemental information section addresses the substantive changes suggested by the FDIC in this proposed rulemaking.

Paragraph 340.1(b) sets forth the purpose of part 340. The FDIC proposes to amend the purpose because it believes part 340 should extend the restrictions on sales of assets of a failed institution to individuals or entities who are also precluded from purchasing assets of a covered financial company from the FDIC under section 210(r) and section 380.13. This would ensure consistency among part 340 and section 380.13. Under section 380.13, individuals or entities prohibited from purchasing assets of a failed institution under part 340 are also prohibited from purchasing assets of a covered financial company under section 380.13. Likewise, individuals or entities prohibited from purchasing assets of a covered financial company under section 380.13 should be prohibited from purchasing assets of a failed institution under part 340.

The FDIC is proposing three changes to clarify part 340's scope of coverage, which is set forth in paragraph 340.1(c). First, the FDIC proposes to clarify the applicability of part 340 to sales of

assets by a subsidiary of a failed institution or by a bridge depository institution. Sales of assets of a failed institution's subsidiary or a bridge depository institution are not expressly subject to section 11(p) because such assets are not "assets of a failed institution" that are being sold "by the Corporation," and thus would fall outside the scope of the statutory restrictions on asset sales. The FDIC believes, however, that if it has the right to control the terms of a sale of assets of a failed institution's subsidiary or a bridge depository institution, or has the ability to control selection of the purchaser of those assets under an agency agreement or as shareholder, the restrictions set forth in section 11(p) and part 340 should apply. The FDIC has discretionary authority to expand the scope of coverage because section 11(p) sets the minimum requirements for restrictions on sales of assets, and the FDIC may prescribe further restrictions on its own accord. Under the FDIC's proposed revision of part 340, the restrictions on asset sales would apply to sales of assets of a failed institution's subsidiary or a bridge depository institution if the FDIC controls the terms of the sale by agreement or as shareholder.

Second, the FDIC proposes amending section 340.1 to explicitly state that part 340 does not apply to certain types of transactions involving marketable securities and other financial instruments. Under proposed paragraph (e), a sale of a security or a group or index of securities, a commodity, or any qualified financial contract that customarily is traded through a financial intermediary and where the seller cannot control selection of the purchaser and the sale is consummated through that customary practice would not be covered by part 340. For example, if the FDIC were to sell publicly-traded stocks or bonds that the failed institution held, it might engage a broker or custodian to conduct or facilitate the sale. The broker or custodian would then tender the securities to the market and accept prevailing market terms offered by another broker, a specialist, a central counterparty or a similar financial intermediary who would then sell the security to another purchaser. In this scenario, it is not possible for the FDIC to control selection of the end purchaser at the time of sale. Therefore, the transaction cannot be a sale covered by section 11(p) because the FDIC has no way to select the prospective purchaser or determine whether that purchaser would or would not be prohibited from

purchasing the asset. Moreover, a prospective purchaser of such assets will not be able to select the FDIC as the seller and therefore could not determine whether section 11(p) and part 340 apply to the transaction. The FDIC is proposing to define the term "financial intermediary," for the purposes of part 340, in section 340.2 as discussed below. The FDIC anticipates that this express limitation on the scope of part 340's coverage will provide greater certainty to market participants and FDIC staff who conduct asset sales regarding the applicability of section 11(p) and part 340.

Third, the FDIC proposes to clarify in section 340.1 that part 340 is not applicable to a judicial sale or a trustee's sale of property securing an obligation to the FDIC where the sale is not conducted or controlled by the FDIC. Although the FDIC could have a security interest in property serving as collateral and therefore the authority to initiate a foreclosure action, the selection of the purchaser and terms of the sale are not necessarily within the FDIC's control. Rather, a court or trustee would conduct the sale in accordance with applicable state law and would select the purchaser. In this situation, the sale is not a sale by the FDIC. While the plain language of part 340 does not suggest that such a sale would fall within its scope, the FDIC is proposing this change for the sake of clarity. This exception does not affect sales of collateral by the FDIC where the FDIC is in possession of the property and conducts the sale itself, however. Where the FDIC has control over the manner and terms of the sale, it will require the prospective purchaser's certification that the prospective purchaser is not prohibited from purchasing the asset.

Section 340.2 sets forth definitions for certain terms used in part 340. The FDIC is proposing to revise the definition of "associated person" to include limited liability companies of which an individual is a member (or was a member at the time of the occurrence of any event that would result in a restriction on sale as set forth in section 340.4) if the prospective purchaser of assets is an individual and, if the prospective purchaser is a limited liability company, to include the manager of the limited liability company. The FDIC is proposing to revise the definition of "failed institution" to remove reference to entities "owned and controlled" by the failed institution because the revision to paragraph 340.1(c), discussed above, explicitly states that sales of subsidiary assets are covered under part 340 if the FDIC controls the terms of the sale by

agreement or in its role as shareholder. Additionally, references to the Resolution Trust Corporation and RTC are removed in favor of generically referencing the FDIC's predecessor agencies.

The FDIC is also proposing to add a new term for use in part 340, "financial intermediary," and define that term to mean any broker, dealer, bank, underwriter, exchange, clearing agency registered with the SEC under section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, transfer agent (as defined in section 3(a)(25) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934), central counterparty or any other entity whose role is to facilitate a transaction by, as a riskless intermediary, purchasing a security or qualified financial contract from one counterparty and then selling it to another. This definition is used to identify transactions of marketable financial instruments set forth in section 340.1(c) that the FDIC believes should not be covered by section 11(p) or part 340.

Section 340.4 sets forth the conditions under which a person (whether an individual or entity) is prohibited from acquiring assets of a failed institution from the FDIC. Those conditions are: (1) The person, or its associated person, participated as an officer or director of a failed institution or of an affiliate of a failed institution, "in a material way in a transaction that caused a substantial loss to the failed institution" (as defined in paragraph (b) of section 340.4); (2) the person, or its associated person, has been removed from a failed institution by order of a primary federal regulatory agency; (3) the person, or its associated person, has engaged in a "pattern or practice of defalcation" (as defined in paragraph (c) of section 340.4) with respect to obligations owed to a failed institution; or (4) the person, or its associated person, has committed a certain criminal offense against a financial institution and is in default on an obligation owed by that person or its associated person. The FDIC proposes adding a fifth restriction: If the person is prohibited from purchasing assets of a covered financial company from the FDIC. As explained above, the FDIC believes part 340 should also restrict sales of assets of a failed institution to individuals or entities who are also prohibited from purchasing assets of a covered financial company from the FDIC under section 210(r) and section 380.13. This would ensure consistent treatment of prospective purchasers of assets from the FDIC, whether such assets are assets of a covered financial company or of a failed institution.

The FDIC is proposing to amend paragraph (a) of section 340.7, which sets forth the requirement that a prospective purchaser certify that none of the restrictions set forth in part 340 apply to the sale, by adding a sentence stating that the person must also certify that it is not using a straw purchaser or other subterfuge to allow it to purchase an asset of an insured depository institution from the FDIC or benefit from such transaction if such person would otherwise be ineligible to purchase assets from the FDIC under part 340. The FDIC's form certification (the "Purchaser Eligibility Certification," FDIC Form 7300/06) already includes a statement under which a prospective purchaser certifies that neither the identity nor form of the prospective purchaser, nor any aspect of the contemplated transaction, has been created or altered with the intent, in whole or in part, to allow an individual or entity who otherwise would be ineligible to purchase assets of a failed institution from the FDIC to benefit directly or indirectly from the sale. The FDIC believes that part 340 would be strengthened by explicitly stating this requirement in the regulatory text itself as well as in the Purchaser Eligibility Certification.

The FDIC is proposing to amend paragraph (b) of section 340.7, which excepts certain types of entities that are federal agencies or instrumentalities and states or political subdivisions of states from the self-certification requirement, by including bridge depository institutions among the list of excepted entities. The FDIC believes it is reasonable to presume a bridge depository institution will be in compliance with part 340 because such entity is subject to control or oversight by the FDIC.

Finally, the FDIC is proposing to amend section 340.8, which provides that part 340 does not apply if the sale resolves or settles a person's obligation to the FDIC, to also except a sale that resolves a claim that the FDIC has asserted against a person. This is not intended to be a substantive change but to more closely track section 11(p), which excepts sales that resolve or settle either claims or obligations. This proposed change would ensure that the regulation cites both bases for exception set forth in the statute. It would also ensure consistency with the equivalent provision in paragraph (a)(2)(vi) of section 380.13.

The FDIC's proposed changes to part 340 will clarify the restrictions on sales of assets of failed institutions by the FDIC and will ensure consistency among part 340 and section 380.13,

which will allow the FDIC to more efficiently administer the two rules and will help the public better understand the two rules. Because the proposed substantive amendments and technical and conforming changes are extensive, the FDIC proposes to revise and restate the text of part 340 in full rather than prepare fragmentary amendments.

III. Request for Comments

The FDIC requests comments on any of the changes that it is proposing to make. All comments must be received by the FDIC not later than December 23, 2014.

IV. Regulatory Analysis and Procedure

A. Paperwork Reduction Act

In accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*) (PRA), the FDIC may not conduct or sponsor, and the respondent is not required to respond to, an information collection unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The FDIC has developed a purchaser eligibility certification form for use in establishing compliance with part 340 by a prospective purchaser of assets of a failed institution from the FDIC. The certification is an OMB-approved collection of information under the PRA, 3064–0135. The FDIC expects that the net PRA burden estimates of this collection will not be materially affected by this NPR. Any subsequent changes to the form will be submitted by the FDIC to OMB for review and approval.

1. Information Collection

Title of Information Collection: Purchaser Eligibility Certification.
OMB Control Number: 3064–0135.
Form Number: FDIC Form 7300/06.
Affected Public: Prospective purchasers of failed insured depository institution assets.

Frequency of Response: Event generated.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1500.

Time per Response: 30 minutes.

Total Estimated Annual Burden: 750 hours.

2. Comments are invited on:

- Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the FDIC's functions, including whether the information has practical utility;
- The accuracy of the estimates of the burden of the information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

- Ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments will become a matter of public record. Commenters may submit comments on the information collection and burden estimates at the addresses listed under the **ADDRESSES** heading above; please put note the OMB Control Number, 3064–0135, on the subject line. A copy of the comments may also be submitted to the attention of the OMB desk officer for the FDIC; by mail to U.S. Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street NW., #10235, Washington, DC 20503; by facsimile to 202–395–6974; or by email to: oir_submission@omb.eop.gov.

B. Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) requires an agency that is issuing a proposed rulemaking to prepare and make available an initial regulatory flexibility analysis of a proposed regulation. The Regulatory Flexibility Act provides, however, that an agency is not required to prepare and publish a regulatory flexibility analysis if the agency certifies that the proposed rulemaking will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The FDIC hereby certifies pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b) that the proposed rulemaking would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Under regulations issued by the Small Business Administration (13 CFR 121.201), a "small entity" includes those firms in the "Finance and Insurance" sector whose size varies from \$7.5 million or less in assets (mortgage and nonmortgage loan brokers) to \$550 million or less in assets (commercial banks, savings institutions, credit unions, and others). This proposed rulemaking imposes no new burden on prospective purchasers of assets sold by the FDIC. The requirement that a prospective purchaser complete and submit the Purchaser Eligibility Certification described above is a precondition to sale that is already required. Completion of the Purchaser Eligibility Certification does not require the use of professional skills or the preparation of special reports or records and should continue to have minimal economic impact on those individuals and entities that seek to purchase assets from the FDIC. Thus, the FDIC believes that any impact on small entities will not be substantial.

C. Plain Language

Section 722 of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999 (Pub. L. 106–102, 113 Stat. 1338, 1471) requires the Federal banking agencies to use plain language in all proposed and final rules published after January 1, 2000. The FDIC has sought to present the proposed rulemaking in a simple and straightforward manner. The FDIC invites comments on whether the proposed rulemaking is clearly stated and effectively organized, and how the FDIC might make the proposed rulemaking text easier to understand.

Text of the Proposed Rule

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

12 CFR Chapter III

List of Subjects in 12 CFR Part 340

Asset disposition, Banks, Banking.

Authority and Issuance

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation proposes to amend part 340 of title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations as follows:

PART 340—RESTRICTIONS ON SALE OF ASSETS BY THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

■ 1. Revise the title to read PART 340—RESTRICTIONS ON SALE OF ASSETS OF A FAILED INSTITUTION BY THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

■ 2. The authority citation for part 340 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 12 U.S.C. 1819 (Tenth), 1821(p).

■ 3. Revise part 340 to read as follows:

- Sec.
- 340.1 What is the statutory authority for the regulation, what are its purpose and scope, and can the FDIC have other policies on related topics?
- 340.2 Definitions.
- 340.3 What are the restrictions on the sale of assets by the FDIC if the buyer wants to finance the purchase with a loan from the FDIC?
- 340.4 What are the restrictions on the sale of assets by the FDIC regardless of the method of financing?
- 340.5 Can the FDIC deny a loan to a buyer who is not disqualified from purchasing assets using seller-financing under this regulation?
- 340.6 What is the effect of this part on transactions that were entered into before its effective date?
- 340.7 When is a certification required, and who does not have to provide a certification?
- 340.8 Does this part apply in the case of a workout, resolution, or settlement of obligations?

§ 340.1 What is the statutory authority for the regulation, what are its purpose and scope, and can the FDIC have other policies on related topics?

(a) Authority. The statutory authority for adopting this part is section 11(p) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (FDI Act), 12 U.S.C. 1821(p). Section 11(p) was added to the FDI Act by section 20 of the Resolution Trust Corporation Completion Act (Pub. L. 103–204, 107 Stat. 2369 (1993)).

(b) Purpose. The purpose of this part is to prohibit individuals or entities that improperly profited or engaged in wrongdoing at the expense of a failed institution or covered financial company, or seriously mismanaged a failed institution, from buying assets of a failed institution from the FDIC.

(c) Scope.

(1) The restrictions of this part generally apply to sales of assets of failed institutions owned or controlled by the FDIC in any capacity.

(2) The restrictions in this section apply to the sale of assets of a subsidiary of a failed institution or a bridge depository institution if the FDIC controls the terms of the sale by agreement or in its role as shareholder.

(3) Unless we determine otherwise, this part does not apply to the sale of securities in connection with the investment of corporate and receivership funds pursuant to the Investment Policy for Liquidation Funds managed by the FDIC as it is in effect from time to time.

(4) In the case of a sale of securities backed by a pool of assets that may include assets of failed institutions by a trust or other entity, this part applies only to the sale of assets by the FDIC to an underwriter in an initial offering, and not to any other purchaser of the securities.

(5) The restrictions of this part do not apply to a sale of a security or a group or index of securities, a commodity, or any qualified financial contract that customarily is traded through a financial intermediary, as defined in section 340.2, where the seller cannot control selection of the purchaser and the sale is consummated through that customary practice.

(6) The restrictions of this part do not apply to a judicial sale or a trustee's sale of property that secures an obligation to the FDIC where the sale is not conducted or controlled by the FDIC.

(d) The FDIC retains the authority to establish other policies restricting asset sales. Neither 12 U.S.C. 1821(p) nor this part in any way limits the authority of the FDIC to establish policies prohibiting the sale of assets to prospective purchasers who have

injured any failed institution, or to other prospective purchasers, such as certain employees or contractors of the FDIC, or individuals who are not in compliance with the terms of any debt or duty owed to the FDIC. Any such policies may be independent of, in conjunction with, or in addition to the restrictions set forth in this part.

§ 340.2 Definitions.

Many of the terms used in this part are defined in the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, 12 U.S.C. 1811, *et seq.* Additionally, for the purposes of this part, the following terms are defined:

(a) Associated person of an individual or entity means:

(1) With respect to an individual:

(i) The individual's spouse or dependent child or any member of his or her immediate household;

(ii) A partnership of which the individual is or was a general or limited partner;

(iii) A limited liability company of which the individual is or was a member; or

(iv) A corporation of which the individual is or was an officer or director.

(2) With respect to a partnership, a managing or general partner of the partnership or with respect to a limited liability company, a manager; or

(3) With respect to any entity, an individual or entity who, acting individually or in concert with one or more individuals or entities, owns or controls 25 percent or more of the entity.

(b) Default means any failure to comply with the terms of an obligation to such an extent that:

(1) A judgment has been rendered in favor of the FDIC or a failed institution; or

(2) In the case of a secured obligation, the property securing such obligation is foreclosed on.

(c) FDIC means the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

(d) Failed institution means any insured depository institution (as defined in 12 U.S.C. 1813(c)) that has been under the conservatorship or receivership of the FDIC or any of its predecessors.

(e) Financial intermediary means any broker, dealer, bank, underwriter, exchange, clearing agency registered with the SEC under section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, transfer agent (as defined in section 3(a)(25) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934), central counterparty or any other entity whose role is to facilitate a transaction by, as a riskless intermediary, purchasing a security or

qualified financial contract from one counterparty and then selling it to another.

(f) Obligation means any debt or duty to pay money owed to the FDIC or a failed institution, including any guarantee of any such debt or duty.

(g) Person means an individual, or an entity with a legally independent existence, including: A trustee; the beneficiary of at least a 25 percent share of the proceeds of a trust; a partnership; a corporation; an association; or other organization or society.

(h) Substantial loss means:

(1) An obligation that is delinquent for ninety (90) or more days and on which there remains an outstanding balance of more than \$50,000;

(2) An unpaid final judgment in excess of \$50,000 regardless of whether it becomes forgiven in whole or in part in a bankruptcy proceeding;

(3) A deficiency balance following a foreclosure of collateral in excess of \$50,000, regardless of whether it becomes discharged in whole or in part in a bankruptcy proceeding;

(4) Any loss in excess of \$50,000 evidenced by an IRS Form 1099-C (Information Reporting for Cancellation of Debt).

§ 340.3 What are the restrictions on the sale of assets by the FDIC if the buyer wants to finance the purchase with a loan from the FDIC?

A person may not borrow money or accept credit from the FDIC in connection with the purchase of any assets of a failed institution from the FDIC if:

(a) There has been a default with respect to one or more obligations totaling in excess of \$1,000,000 owed by that person or its associated person; and

(b) The person or its associated person made any fraudulent misrepresentations in connection with any such obligation(s).

§ 340.4 What are the restrictions on the sale of assets by the FDIC regardless of the method of financing?

(a) A person may not acquire any assets of a failed institution from the FDIC if the person or its associated person:

(1) Has participated, as an officer or director of a failed institution or of an affiliate of a failed institution, in a material way in one or more transaction(s) that caused a substantial loss to that failed institution;

(2) Has been removed from, or prohibited from participating in the affairs of, a failed institution pursuant to any final enforcement action by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Board of Governors of the

Federal Reserve System, the FDIC, or any of their predecessors or successors;

(3) Has demonstrated a pattern or practice of defalcation regarding obligations to any failed institution;

(4) Has been convicted of committing or conspiring to commit any offense under 18 U.S.C. 215, 656, 657, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1008, 1014, 1032, 1341, 1343 or 1344 affecting any failed institution and there has been a default with respect to one or more obligations owed by that person or its associated person; or

(5) Would be prohibited from purchasing the assets of a covered financial company from the FDIC under 12 U.S.C. 5390(r) or its implementing regulation at 12 CFR part 380.13.

(b) For purposes of paragraph (a) of this section, a person has participated “in a material way in a transaction that caused a substantial loss to a failed institution” if, in connection with a substantial loss to a failed institution, the person has been found in a final determination by a court or administrative tribunal, or is alleged in a judicial or administrative action brought by the FDIC or by any component of the government of the United States or of any state:

(1) To have violated any law, regulation, or order issued by a federal or state banking agency, or breached or defaulted on a written agreement with a federal or state banking agency, or breached a written agreement with a failed institution;

(2) To have engaged in an unsafe or unsound practice in conducting the affairs of a failed institution; or

(3) To have breached a fiduciary duty owed to a failed institution.

(c) For purposes of paragraph (a) of this section, a person or its associated person has demonstrated a “pattern or practice of defalcation” regarding obligations to a failed institution if the person or associated person has:

(1) Engaged in more than one transaction that created an obligation on the part of such person or its associated person with intent to cause a loss to any insured depository institution or with reckless disregard for whether such transactions would cause a loss to any such insured depository institution; and

(2) The transactions, in the aggregate, caused a substantial loss to one or more failed institution(s).

§ 340.5 Can the FDIC deny a loan to a buyer who is not disqualified from purchasing assets using seller-financing under this regulation?

The FDIC still has the right to make an independent determination, based upon all relevant facts of a person’s

financial condition and history, of that person’s eligibility to receive any loan or extension of credit from the FDIC, even if the person is not in any way disqualified from purchasing assets from the FDIC under the restrictions set forth in this part.

§ 340.6 What is the effect of this part on transactions that were entered into before its effective date?

This part does not affect the enforceability of a contract of sale and/or agreement for seller financing in effect prior to July 1, 2000.

§ 340.7 When is a certification required, and who does not have to provide a certification?

(a) Before any person may purchase any asset from the FDIC that person must certify, under penalty of perjury, that none of the restrictions contained in this part applies to the purchase. The person must also certify that neither the identity nor form of the person, nor any aspect of the contemplated transaction, has been created or altered with the intent, in whole or in part, to allow an individual or entity who otherwise would be ineligible to purchase assets from the FDIC to benefit directly or indirectly from the proposed transaction. The FDIC may establish the form of the certification and may change the form from time to time.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this section, and unless the Director of the FDIC’s Division of Resolutions and Receiverships, or designee, in his or her discretion so requires, a certification need not be provided by:

(1) A state or political subdivision of a state;

(2) A federal agency or instrumentality such as the Government National Mortgage Association;

(3) A federally-regulated, government-sponsored enterprise such as the Federal National Mortgage Association or Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation; or

(4) A bridge depository institution.

§ 340.8 Does this part apply in the case of a workout, resolution, or settlement of obligations?

The restrictions of §§ 340.3 and 340.4 do not apply if the sale or transfer of an asset resolves or settles, or is part of the resolution or settlement of, one or more obligations or claims that have been, or could have been, asserted by the FDIC against the person with whom the FDIC is settling, regardless of the amount of such obligations or claims.

Dated at Washington, DC, this 21st day of October, 2014.

By Order of the Board of Directors, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Robert E. Feldman,

Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2014-25337 Filed 10-23-14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6714-01-P

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

12 CFR Part 380

RIN 3064-AE25

Record Retention Requirements

AGENCY: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (“FDIC”) is proposing a rule with request for comments that would implement section 210(a)(16)(D) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd-Frank Act). This statutory provision requires the promulgation of a regulation establishing schedules for the retention by the FDIC of the records of a covered financial company (i.e., a financial company for which the FDIC has been appointed receiver pursuant to title II of the Dodd-Frank Act) as well as the records generated by the FDIC in the exercise of its title II orderly liquidation authority (title II) with respect to such covered financial company.

DATES: Written comments on the proposed rule must be received by the FDIC no later than December 23, 2014.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Agency Web site:* <http://www.fdic.gov/regulations/laws/federal>. Follow instructions for Submitting comments on the Agency Web site.
- *E-Mail:* Comments@FDIC.gov. Include “RIN 3064-AE25 ” in the subject line of the message.
- *Mail:* Robert E. Feldman, Executive Secretary, Attention: Comments, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20429
- *Hand Delivery/Courier:* Guard station at the rear of the 550 17th Street Building (located on F Street) on business days between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. (EST).

• *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Public Inspection: All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.fdic.gov/regulations/laws/federal> including any personal information provided. Comments may be inspected and photocopied in the

FDIC Public Information Center, 3501 North Fairfax Drive, Room E-I002, Arlington, VA 22226, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. (EST) on business days. Paper copies of public comments may be ordered from the Public Information Center by telephone at (877) 275-3342 or (703) 562-2200.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Legal Division: Elizabeth Falloon, (703) 562-6148; Jerilyn Rogin, (703) 562-2409. Division of Resolutions and Receiverships: Teresa J. Franks, (202) 898-7007; Manuel Ramilo, (202) 898-3781. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20429.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Title II of the Dodd-Frank Act provides for the appointment of the FDIC as receiver for a financial company to conduct an orderly liquidation of the company if, among other things, resolution of the company under bankruptcy (or other applicable insolvency regime) would have serious adverse effects on U.S. financial stability. Once appointed, Title II confers upon the FDIC as receiver for the company (the “covered financial company”) certain powers and authorities to effectuate an orderly liquidation of the covered financial company in a manner that is consistent with the statutory objectives. For example, upon appointment of the FDIC as receiver for a covered financial company, the FDIC succeeds to all rights, titles, powers and privileges of the covered financial company including title to the books and records of the covered financial company.¹

In addition, the FDIC necessarily will generate its own records in exercising the authorities conferred upon it by Title II. Section 210(a)(16)(D) of the Dodd-Frank Act (12 U.S.C. 5390(a)(16)(D), hereafter “section 210(a)(16)(D)”) sets forth the outlines of the FDIC’s responsibilities regarding the retention of both of these categories of records—the records of a financial company in existence at the time the FDIC is appointed receiver, as well as those generated by the FDIC in connection with its appointment as receiver and the exercise of its orderly liquidation authority as receiver. Section 210(a)(16)(D) provides guidance as to types of records that must be retained, and requires the FDIC to prescribe such regulations and establish such retention schedules as are necessary. Specifically, section

210(a)(16)(D)(i) requires that the FDIC prescribe the regulations and establish schedules for retention of these records with due regard for the avoidance of duplicative record retention and for the evidentiary needs of the FDIC as receiver and for the public. Once such regulations and retention schedules are prescribed, section 210(a)(16)(D)(ii) prohibits the destruction of records to the extent that they must be retained in accordance with the promulgated regulations and retention schedules. The proposed rule provides separate rules and retention schedules for inherited records of the covered financial company and for the records generated or maintained by the FDIC in connection with its receivership function. “Generated or maintained” refers in this context to records the FDIC creates, as well as records the FDIC receives and retains in connection with its Title II responsibilities.

Section 210(a)(16)(D)(iii), entitled “Records Defined,” describes the forms of documentary material to be addressed in the regulations and schedules, specifying that any document, book, paper, map, photograph, microfiche, microfilm, computer or electronically-created record is included. In addition, that section specifies that the records inherited from the failed company are those that were generated or maintained by the covered financial company in the course of and necessary to its transaction of business. The proposed rule clarifies the definition of “records” by including factors to be considered in determining whether documentary material was generated by the company in the course of and necessary to its transaction of business, as well as by providing examples such as general ledger and financial reports and qualified financial contracts.

In addressing records generated by the FDIC, the proposed rule uses the same broadly inclusive description of documentary material provided in the statute and includes those records that the FDIC created or received in exercising the authorities of title II as required by section 210(a)(16)(D). This definition is also clarified in the proposed rule by including factors to be considered in determining whether documentary material was generated or maintained by the FDIC in the exercise of its title II authorities as well as by providing examples such as documentary material relating to the appointment of the FDIC as receiver and documentary material relating to the administration, determination and payment of claims against the FDIC as receiver.

¹ 12 U.S.C. 5390(a)(1)(A).