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SUBCHAPTER A—OFHEO ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS

PART 1700—ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS

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AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 552; 12 U.S.C 4513, 4526.

SOURCE: 59 FR 62304, Dec. 5, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1700.1 Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight.

(a) *Scope and authority*. The Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight (referred to as OFHEO) is an independent office within the Department of Housing and Urban Development. OFHEO was created by the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992 (Act), Title XIII of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102–550, October 28, 1992; 106 Stat. 3943; 12 U.S.C. 4501, *et seq.*). OFHEO is responsible for the examination and financial regulation of the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac) (collectively, the Enterprises). OFHEO is charged with ensuring that the Enterprises are adequately capitalized and operating in a safe and sound manner. OFHEO's costs and expenses are funded by annual assessments paid by the Enterprises. OFHEO is headed by a Director, who is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate for a five-year term.

(b) *Location*. OFHEO is located at 1700 G Street NW., 4th Floor, Washington, DC 20552. OFHEO's hours of business are 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. (eastern standard time), Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays.

§ 1700.2 Organization of the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight.

(a) *Director*. The Director has exclusive authority under the Act with respect to the management of OFHEO, and is responsible for directing the development, implementation, and review of all OFHEO programs and functions. The Director appoints such personnel as may be necessary to carry out the functions of OFHEO. The Director may delegate to OFHEO officers and employees any of the functions, powers, and duties of the Director, as the Director considers appropriate. The Director may establish and fix the responsibilities of the offices within OFHEO as the Director deems necessary for the efficient functioning of OFHEO.

(b) *Deputy Director*. The Deputy Director of OFHEO is appointed by the Director in accordance with the Act. In the event of the absence, sickness, death or resignation of the Director, the Deputy Director serves as acting Director until the Director's return or the confirmation of a successor. The Deputy Director performs such functions, powers and duties as the Director determines are necessary with respect to OFHEO's management and the development and implementation of OFHEO's programs and functions.

(c) *Executive Director and Chief of Staff*. The Executive Director and Chief of Staff of OFHEO heads the Office of Executive Director. The Executive Director and Chief of Staff reports to the Director and the Deputy Director. The Executive Director and Chief of Staff is the chief administrative officer of OFHEO, serves as a legal advisor on administrative matters, and coordinates communication and cooperation on administrative issues with the Office of General Counsel.

(d) *Offices and functions*. (1) Office of Executive Director. The Office of Executive Director consists of the Office of Budget and Financial Management, the Office of Human Resources Management, the Office of Technology and Information Management, and the Office of Strategic Planning and Management. The Office of Executive Director is responsible for OFHEO-wide management and oversight of all administrative matters.

(2) *Office of Examination*. The Office of Examination plans and conducts examinations of the Enterprises, as required by the Act, prepares and issues reports of examination summarizing the financial condition and management practices of each Enterprise, and seeks preventative and corrective actions as appropriate. The Office complements its on-site examination activities with off-site financial safety and soundness monitoring.

(3) *Office of Capital Supervision*. The Office of Capital Supervision ensures the comprehensive evaluation and classification of the capital adequacy of the Enterprises, the assessment of risks that impact capital and the development of tools to measure such risks. The Office ensures the integrity of capital classifications by effectively producing results under the minimum and risk based capital models and systems and by implementing appropriate enhancements to those measures. The Office assesses new GSE activities under the capital regime and addresses changes in accounting standards. The Office supports its responsibilities as well as other OFHEO offices through research on alternative models and measurements of risk and capital adequacy.

(4) *Office of General Counsel*. The Office of General Counsel advises the Director and OFHEO staff on all legal matters concerning the functions, activities, and operations of OFHEO and of the Enterprises under the Act. The Office is responsible for interpreting the Act and other applicable law, including financial institutions regulatory issues, securities and corporate law principles, and administrative and general legal matters. This Office also coordinates the preparation of legislation and agency regulations and works with other counsels in the government.

(5) *Office of External Relations*. The Office of External Relations is responsible for coordinating and communicating on behalf of OFHEO with the Congress, for monitoring relevant legislative developments, and for analyzing and assisting the Director in developing legislative proposals. The Office also is responsible for directing and coordinating communication with the news media and the public as well as participating in planning programs for OFHEO.

(6) *Office of Policy Analysis and Research*. The Office of Policy Analysis and Research conducts policy analysis and research to assess the short- and long-term impact on the regulatory and supervisory functions of OFHEO of trends and developments in Enterprise activities, housing finance and financial regulation. The Office also prepares data series, reports and research papers; works with other OFHEO offices to develop policy options; and, makes recommendations to the Director on a broad range of policy issues.

(7) *Office of Compliance*. The Office of Compliance assists the Director in ensuring that the Enterprises operate in compliance with applicable laws, regulations and safety and soundness standards. The Office conducts special review and examinations on focused issues that may arise at the enterprises or that are of concern to OFHEO, often in coordination with other OFHEO offices, to assess compliance and obtain information. The Office also assists in providing information for enforcement actions and other activities as requested by the Director.

(8) *Office of Chief Accountant*. The Office of Chief Accountant advises the Director and OFHEO staff on all accounting matters related to the Enterprises. The Office develops policies regarding accounting and financial reporting and monitors accounting standards that affect the Enterprises, working with the Enterprises at a policy level on emerging issues. The Office supports and coordinates accounting resources within the agency to assure the best and most efficient use of those resources. The Office supports other offices in providing consistent accounting policy interpretation across OFHEO and works with external constituencies on accounting issues.

(e) *Additional information*. Current information on the organization of OFHEO may be obtained by mail from the Office of External Affairs, 1700 G Street NW, 4th Floor, Washington, DC 20552. Such information, as well as other OFHEO information, also may be obtained electronically by accessing

OFHEO's website located at *www.OFHEO.gov*.

[59 FR 62304, Dec. 5, 1994, as amended at 65 FR 39787, June 28, 2000; 69 FR 18809, Apr. 9, 2004; 70 FR 59629, Oct. 13, 2005]

§ 1700.3 Official logo and seal.

The section describes and displays the logo adopted by the Director as the official symbol representing the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight. It is displayed on correspondence, selected documents, and signage. The logo serves as the official seal to authenticate official documents of the Agency.

(a) *Description*. The logo is a disc consisting of two concentric circles enclosing the words ''Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight'' and the inaugural year, 1993. In the center of the disc is a stylized image of a structure consisting of a solid two-tiered pedestal base topped by a solid triangular shape, which represents the roof of the structure. Placed between the base and the top are the letters ''OFHEO.'' These letters spell out the acronym of the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight and act as a visual link between the top and bottom of the structure.

(b) *Display*. The Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight's official logo and seal appears below:

[68 FR 32629, June 2, 2003]

PART 1703—RELEASE OF INFORMATION

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AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301, 552; 12 U.S.C. 4513, 4522, 4526, 4639; E.O. 12600, 3 CFR, 1987 Comp., p. 235.

SOURCE: 63 FR 71005, Dec. 23, 1998, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 65 FR 81327, Dec. 26, 2000.

Subparts A–D [Reserved]

Subpart E—Testimony and Production of Documents in Legal Proceedings in Which OFHEO Is Not a Named Party

§ 1703.31 General purposes.

The purposes of this subpart are to maintain the confidentiality of official documents and information of OFHEO, conserve the time of employees for their official duties, maintain the impartial position of OFHEO in litigation in which OFHEO is not a named party, and enable the Director to determine when to authorize testimony and to produce documents in legal proceedings in which OFHEO is not a named party. This subpart sets forth the procedures to be followed with respect to testimony concerning official matters and production of official documents of OFHEO in legal proceedings in which OFHEO is not a named party. This subpart in no way affects the

rights and procedures governing public access to official documents pursuant to the FOIA or the Privacy Act.

§ 1703.32 Definitions.

For the purpose of this subpart:

(a) *Court* means any entity conducting a legal proceeding.

(b) *Demand* means any order, subpoena, or other legal process for testimony or documents.

(c) *Legal proceeding* means any administrative, civil, or criminal proceeding, including a discovery proceeding therein, before a court of law, administrative board or commission, hearing officer, or other body in which OFHEO is not a named party or in which OFHEO has not instituted the administrative investigation or administrative hearing.

(d) *OFHEO Counsel* means the General Counsel or his or her designee, a Department of Justice attorney, or counsel authorized by OFHEO to act on behalf of OFHEO or an employee.

§ 1703.33 General policy.

It is the policy of OFHEO that in any legal proceeding in which OFHEO is not a named party, no employee shall, in response to a demand, produce any documents contained in the files of OFHEO, or disclose any information relating to, or based upon, documents contained in the files of OFHEO, or disclose or produce any documents acquired as part of the performance of that employee's official duties or because of that employee's official status. Under appropriate circumstances, the Director may grant exceptions in writing to this policy when the Director determines that the testimony of employees or disclosure of official documents would be in the best interest of OFHEO or in the public interest. Prior to any authorized testimony or release of official documents, the requesting party shall obtain a protective order from the court before which the action is pending to preserve the confidentiality of the testimony or documents subsequently produced. The protective order shall be in a form satisfactory to OFHEO.

§ 1703.34 Request for testimony or production of documents.

(a) No employee shall give testimony concerning official matters or produce any official documents in any legal proceeding to which OFHEO is not a named party without the prior written authorization of the Director.

(b) If testimony by an employee concerning official matters or the production of official documents is desired, the requesting party, or his or her attorney, shall submit a letter to the Director setting forth the title of the case, the forum, the requesting party's interest in the case, a summary of the issues in the litigation, the reasons for the request, and a showing that the desired testimony, documents, or information are not reasonably available from any other source. If an appearance or testimony is requested, the letter shall also set forth the intended use of the testimony, a general summary of the scope of the testimony requested, and a showing that no document could be provided and used in lieu of the testimony or other appearance requested.

(c) The General Counsel is authorized to consult with the requesting party or his or her attorney to refine and limit the request so that compliance is less burdensome, or obtain information necessary to make the determination described in § 1703.33 of this subpart. Failure of the requesting party, or his or her attorney, to cooperate in good faith with the General Counsel to enable the Director to make an informed determination under this subpart may serve as the basis for a determination not to comply with the request.

[63 FR 71005, Dec. 23, 1998. Redesignated and amended at 65 FR 81327, Dec. 26, 2000]

§ 1703.35 Scope of permissible testimony.

(a) The scope of permissible testimony by an employee is limited to that set forth in the written authorization granted that employee by the Director.

(b) Employees are not authorized to give opinion testimony, except as authorized by the Director. OFHEO, as the regulatory agency charged with the responsibility of examining, supervising, and regulating the financial safety and soundness and capital adequacy of the Enterprises under the

Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992, 12 U.S.C. 4501 *et seq.*, relies on the ability of its employees to gather full and complete information in order to carry out its statutory responsibilities. The use of employees to give opinion testimony would hamper OFHEO's ability to carry out its statutory responsibilities and would cause a serious administrative burden on OFHEO's staff.

§ 1703.36 Manner in which testimony is given.

(a) Authorized testimony of employees ordinarily will be made available only through depositions or written interrogatories.

(b) Where, in response to a request, the Director determines that circumstances warrant authorizing testimony by an employee, the requesting party shall cause a subpoena to be served on the employee in accordance with applicable Federal or State rules of procedure, with a copy of the subpoena sent by registered or certified mail to the General Counsel.

(c) Normally, authorized depositions will be taken at OFHEO's office, at a time arranged with the employee that is reasonably fixed to avoid substantial interference with the performance of the employee's duties.

(d) Upon completion of the deposition of an employee, a copy of the transcript of the testimony shall be furnished, at the expense of the party requesting the deposition, to the General Counsel for OFHEO's files.

§ 1703.37 Manner in which documents will be produced.

(a) An employee's authorization to produce official documents is limited to the authority granted that employee by the Director.

(b) Certified or authenticated copies of official OFHEO documents authorized by the Director to be released under this subpart will be provided upon request.

§ 1703.38 Fees.

Unless waived or reduced, the following fees shall be charged for documents produced by OFHEO in connection with requests subject to this subpart:

(a) *Searches for documents.* OFHEO will charge for the actual search time of the employee performing the work, billed in 15-minute segments, as described in § 1703.22(b)(1)(i).

(b) *Copying of documents.* The standard copying charge for documents in paper copy is $.15 per page. When responsive information is provided in a format other than paper copy, such as in the form of computer tapes and disks, OFHEO will assess the direct costs of the tape, disk, or whatever medium is used to produce the information, as well as any related reproduction costs. Normally, only one copy will be provided. Additional copies will be provided only upon a showing of demonstrated need.

(c) *Certification or authentication of documents.* OFHEO will charge $3.00 for each certification or authentication of documents.

(d) *Computer searches.* Services of personnel in the nature of a computer search shall be charged at rates prescribed in paragraph (a) of this section. A charge shall be made for the computer time involved, based upon the prevailing level of costs to OFHEO and upon the particular types of computer and associated equipment and the amount of time that such equipment is utilized. A charge shall also be made for any substantial amount of special supplies or documents used to contain, present, or make available the output of computers, based upon prevailing levels of costs to OFHEO and upon the type and amount of such supplies or documents that are used.

(e) *Other costs.* When other services and documents not specifically identified in this section are requested and provided, their actual cost to OFHEO shall be charged.

(f) *Payments of fees.* A bill will be forwarded to the requesting party upon completion of the production. Payment shall be made by check or money order payable to the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight.

[63 FR 71005, Dec. 23, 1998, as amended at 65 FR 55175, Sept. 13, 2000. Redesignated and amended at 65 FR 81327, Dec. 26, 2000]

§ 1703.39 Responses to demands served on employees.

(a) *Advice by employee served.* Any employee who is served with a demand in a legal proceeding requiring his or her personal attendance as a witness or requiring the production of documents or information in any proceeding, shall immediately notify the General Counsel of such service, of the testimony and documents described in the demand, and of all relevant facts which may be of assistance to the General Counsel in determining whether the individual in question should be authorized to testify or the documents requested should be made available.

(b) When authorization to testify or to produce documents has not been granted by the Director, OFHEO Counsel shall provide the party issuing the demand or the court with a copy of the regulations contained in this subpart and shall inform the party issuing the demand or the court that the employee upon whom the demand has been made is prohibited from testifying or producing documents without the prior approval of the Director.

(c) *Appearance by employee served.* Unless OFHEO has authorized disclosure of the information requested, any employee who has OFHEO information that may not be disclosed and who is required to respond to a subpoena or other legal process, shall attend at the time and place required and respectfully decline to disclose or to give any testimony with respect to the information, basing such refusal upon the provisions of this subpart. If the court nevertheless orders the disclosure of the information or the giving of testimony irrespective of instructions from the Director not to produce the documents or disclose the information sought, the employee upon whom the demand has been made shall continue to decline respectfully to disclose the information and shall report promptly the facts to OFHEO for such action as OFHEO may deem appropriate.

(d) A determination under this subpart to comply or not to comply with any demand shall not constitute an assertion or waiver of privilege, lack of relevance, technical deficiencies, or any other ground for noncompliance. OFHEO reserves the right to oppose any demand on any legal ground independent of its determination under this subpart.

§ 1703.40 Responses to demands served on nonemployees.

(a) OFHEO reports of examinations, or any documents related thereto, are the property of OFHEO and are not to be disclosed to any person without the Director's prior written consent.

(b) If any person who has possession of an OFHEO report of examination, or any documents related thereto, is served with a demand in a legal proceeding directing that person to produce such OFHEO documents or to testify with respect thereto, such person shall immediately notify the General Counsel of such service, of the testimony and described documents in the demand, and of all relevant facts. Such person shall also object to the production of such documents or information contained therein on the basis that the documents are the property of OFHEO and cannot be released without OFHEO's consent and that their production must be sought from OFHEO following the procedures set forth in § 1703.33, paragraphs (b) and (c) of § 1703.34, and paragraph (b) of § 1703.37 of this subpart.

[63 FR 71005, Dec. 23, 1998. Redesignated and amended at 65 FR 81328, Dec. 26, 2000]

Subpart F—Rules and Procedures for Service Upon OFHEO

§ 1703.51 Service of process.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by OFHEO regulations, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, or order of a court with jurisdiction over OFHEO, any legal process upon OFHEO, including a legal process served on OFHEO demanding access to its records under the FOIA, shall be duly issued and served upon the General Counsel and any OFHEO personnel named in the caption of the documents.

(b) Service of process upon the General Counsel may be effected by personally delivering a copy of the documents to the General Counsel or by sending a copy of the documents to the General Counsel by registered or certified mail,

postage prepaid, to the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, 1700 G Street, NW., Fourth Floor, Washington, DC 20552.

SUBCHAPTER B [RESERVED]