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(b) *Audits required for safety and soundness purposes.* The OTS requires an independent audit for safety and soundness purposes:

(1) If a savings association has received a composite rating of 3, 4 or 5, as defined at § 516.3(c) of this chapter; or

(2) If, as of the beginning of its fiscal year, a savings and loan holding company controls savings association subsidiary(ies) with aggregate consolidated assets of $500 million or more.

(c) *Procedures.* (1) When the OTS requires an independent audit because such an audit is needed for safety and soundness purposes, the Director shall determine whether the audit was conducted and filed in a manner satisfactory to the OTS.

(2) The Director may waive the independent audit requirement described at paragraph (b)(1) of this section, if the Director determines that an audit would not provide further information on safety and soundness issues relevant to the examination rating.

(d) *Qualifications for independent public accountants.* The audit shall be conducted by an independent public accountant who:

(1) Is registered or licensed to practice as a public accountant, and is in good standing, under the laws of the state or other political subdivision of the United States in which the savings association's or holding company's principal office is located;

(2) Agrees in the engagement letter to provide the OTS with access to and copies of any work papers, policies, and procedures relating to the services performed;

(3) Is in compliance with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' (AICPA) Code of Professional Conduct and meets the independence requirements and interpretations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and its staff; and

(4) Has received, or is enrolled in, a peer review program that meets guidelines acceptable to the OTS.

(e) *Voluntary audits.* When a savings association, savings and loan holding company, or affiliate (as defined by 12 CFR 563.41(b)(1)) obtains an independent audit voluntarily, it shall be performed only by an independent public accountant who satisfies the requirements of paragraphs (d)(1), (d)(2), and (d)(3) of this section.

[59 FR 60304, Nov. 23, 1994, as amended at 62 FR 3780, Jan. 27, 1997]

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Subpart A—Accounts

§ 563.1 Chartering documents.

(a) *Submission for approval.* Any *de novo* savings association prior to commencing operations shall file its charter and bylaws with the OTS for approval, together with a certification that such charter and bylaws are permissible under all applicable laws, rules and regulations.

(b) *Availability of chartering documents.* Each savings association shall cause a true copy of its charter and bylaws and all amendments thereto to be available to accountholders at all times in each office of the savings association, and shall upon request deliver to any accountholders a copy of such charter and bylaws or amendments thereto.

[57 FR 14344, Apr. 20, 1992]

§ 563.4 [Reserved]

§ 563.5 Securities: Statement of non-insurance.

Every security issued by a savings association must include in its provisions a clear statement that the security is not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Subpart B—Operation and Structure

§ 563.22 Merger, consolidation, purchase or sale of assets, or assumption of liabilities.

(a) No savings association may, without application to and approval by the Office:

(1) Combine with any insured depository institution, if the acquiring or resulting institution is to be a savings association; or

(2) Assume liability to pay any deposit made in, any insured depository institution.

(b)(1) No savings association may, without notifying the Office, as provided in paragraph (h)(1) of this section:

(i) Combine with another insured depository institution where a savings association is not the resulting institution; or

(ii) In the case of a savings association that meets the conditions for expedited treatment under § 516.3(a) of this chapter, convert, directly or indirectly, to a national or state bank.

(2) No savings association that does not meet the conditions for expedited treatment under § 516.3(a) of this chapter may, directly or indirectly, convert to a national or state bank without prior application to and approval of the Office, as provided in paragraph (h)(2)(ii) of this section.

(c) No savings association may make any transfer (excluding transfers subject to paragraphs (a) or (b) of this section) without notice or application to the Office, as provided in paragraph

(h)(2) of this section. For purposes of this paragraph, the term ''transfer'' means purchases or sales of assets or liabilities in bulk not made in the ordinary course of business including, but not limited to, transfers of assets or savings account liabilities, purchases of assets, and assumptions of deposit accounts or other liabilities, and combinations with a depository institution other than an insured depository institution.

(d)(1) In determining whether to confer approval for a transaction under paragraphs (a), (b)(2), or (c) of this section, the Office shall take into account the following:

(i) The capital level of any resulting savings association;

(ii) The financial and managerial resources of the constituent institutions;

(iii) The future prospects of the constituent institutions;

(iv) The convenience and needs of the communities to be served;

(v) The conformity of the transaction to applicable law, regulation, and supervisory policies;

(vi) Factors relating to the fairness of and disclosure concerning the transaction, including, but not limited to:

(A) *Equitable treatment*. The transaction should be equitable to all concerned—savings account holders, borrowers, creditors and stockholders (if any) of each savings association—giving proper recognition of and protection to their respective legal rights and interests. The transaction will be closely reviewed for fairness where the transaction does not appear to be the result of arms' length bargaining or, in the case of a stock savings association, where controlling stockholders are receiving different consideration from other stockholders. No finder's or similar fee should be paid to any officer, director, or controlling person of a savings association which is a party to the transaction.

(B) *Full disclosure*. The filing should make full disclosure of all written or oral agreements or understandings by which any person or company will receive, directly or indirectly, any money, property, service, release of pledges made, or other thing of value, whether tangible or intangible, in connection with the transaction.

(C) *Compensation to officers*. Compensation, including deferred compensation, to officers, directors and controlling persons of the disappearing savings association by the resulting institution or an affiliate thereof should not be in excess of a reasonable amount, and should be commensurate with their duties and responsibilities. The filing should fully justify the compensation to be paid to such persons. The transaction will be particularly scrutinized where any of such persons is to receive a material increase in compensation above that paid by the disappearing savings association prior to the commencement of negotiations regarding the proposed transaction. An increase in compensation in excess of the greater of 15% or $10,000 gives rise to presumptions of unreasonableness and sale of control. In the case of such an increase, evidence sufficient to rebut such presumptions should be submitted.

(D) *Advisory boards*. Advisory board members should be elected for a term not exceeding one year. No advisory board fees should be paid to salaried officers or employees of the resulting savings association. The filing should describe and justify the duties and responsibilities and any compensation paid to any advisory board of the resulting savings association that consists of officers, directors or controlling persons of the disappearing institution, particularly if the disappearing institution experienced significant supervisory problems prior to the transaction. No advisory board fees should exceed the director fees paid by the resulting savings association. Advisory board fees that are in excess of 115 percent of the director fees paid by the disappearing savings association prior to commencement of negotiations regarding the transaction give rise to presumptions of unreasonableness and sale of control unless sufficient evidence to rebut such presumptions is submitted. Rebuttal evidence is not required if:

(*1*) The advisory board fees do not exceed the fee that advisory board members of the resulting institution receive for each monthly meeting attended or $150, whichever is greater; or

(*2*) The advisory board fees do not exceed $100 per meeting attended for disappearing savings associations with assets greater than $10,000,000 or $50 per meeting attended for disappearing savings associations with assets of $10,000,000 or less, based on a schedule of 12 meetings per year.

(E) The accounting and tax treatment of the transaction; and

(F) Fees paid and professional services rendered in connection with the transaction.

(2) In conferring approval of a transaction under paragraph (a) of this section, the Office also will consider the competitive impact of the transaction, including whether:

(i) The transaction would result in a monopoly, or would be in furtherance of any monopoly or conspiracy to monopolize or to attempt to monopolize the savings association business in any part of the United States; or

(ii) The effect of the transaction on any section of the country may be substantially to lessen competition, or tend to create a monopoly, or in any other manner would be in restraint of trade, unless the Office finds that the anticompetitive effects of the proposed transaction are clearly outweighed in the public interest by the probable effect of the transaction in meeting the convenience and needs of the communities to be served.

(3) Applications and notices filed under this section shall be upon forms prescribed by the Office.

(4) Applications filed under section 5(d)(3) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1815(d)(3)) and paragraph (a) of this section shall be processed in accordance with the time frames set forth in § 516.2 of this chapter, provided that the period for review may be extended only if the Office determines that the applicant has failed to furnish all requested information or that the information submitted is substantially inaccurate, in which case the review period may be extended for up to 30 days.

(e)(1) Unless the OTS finds that it must act immediately in order to prevent the probable default of one of the savings associations involved, the applicant must publish a public notice of the application in accordance with the procedures specified in subpart B of part 516 of this chapter. In addition to initial publication, the applicant must publish on a weekly basis during the period allowed for furnishing reports under paragraph (e)(2) of this section.

(2) Unless the Office determines that action must be taken immediately in order to prevent the probable default of one of the savings associations involved, the Office shall request reports from the Attorney General, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation on the competitive factors involved in the transaction. The reports shall be furnished within thirty calendar days of the date on which they are requested, or within ten calendar days of such date if the Office advised the Attorney General and the other three banking agencies that an emergency exists requiring expeditious action. The Office shall immediately notify the Attorney General of any approval of a transaction pursuant to this section.

(3) If the Office has found that it must act immediately to prevent the probable default of one of the savings associations involved and the reports on the competitive factors have been dispensed with, the transaction may be consummated immediately upon approval by the Office and any applicable state regulatory authorities. If the Office has advised the Attorney General and the other three banking agencies of the existence of an emergency requiring expeditious action and has requested reports on the competitive factors within ten days, the transaction may not be consummated before the fifth calendar day after the date of approval by the Office. In all other cases, the transaction may not be consummated before the thirtieth calendar day after the date of approval by the Office.

(4) Commenters may submit comments on the application in accordance with the procedures set forth in subpart C of part 516 of this chapter, except that comments may be submitted at any time during the period described in paragraph (e)(2) of this section. The OTS may arrange informal or formal

meetings in accordance with the procedures set forth in subpart D of part 516 of this chapter.

(5) Notice of a proposed account transfer and the option of retaining the account in the transferring savings association shall be furnished to an affected accountholder:

(i) By a savings association transferring account liabilities to an institution the accounts of which are not insured by the Savings Association Insurance Fund, the Bank Insurance Fund, or the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund; and

(ii) By any mutual savings association transferring account liabilities to a stock form depository institution. The required notice shall allow affected accountholders at least 30 days to consider whether to retain their accounts in the transferring savings association.

(f) *Automatic approvals by the Office.* Applications filed pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section shall be deemed to be approved automatically by the Office 30 calendar days after the Office sends written notice to the applicant that the application is complete, unless:

(1) The acquiring savings association does not meet the criteria for expedited treatment under § 516.3(a)(1) of this chapter;

(2) The OTS recommends the imposition of non-standard conditions prior to approving the application;

(3) The OTS suspends the applicable processing time frames under § 516.190 of this chapter;

(4) The OTS raises objections to the transaction;

(5) The resulting savings association would be one of the 3 largest depository institutions competing in the relevant geographic area where before the transaction there were 5 or fewer depository institutions, the resulting savings association would have 25 percent or more of the total deposits held by depository institutions in the relevant geographic area, and the share of total deposits would have increased by 5 percent or more;

(6) The resulting savings association would be one of the 2 largest depository institutions competing in the relevant geographic area where before the transaction there were 6 to 11 depository institutions the resulting savings association would have 30 percent or more of the total deposits held by depositing institutions in the relevant geographic area, and the share of total deposits would have increased by 10 percent or more;

(7) The resulting savings association would be one of the 2 largest depository institutions competing in the relevant geographic area where before the transaction there were 12 or more depository institutions, the resulting savings association would have 35 percent or more of the total deposits held by the depository institutions in the relevant geographic area, and the share of total deposits would have increased by 15 percent or more;

(8) The Herfindahl-Hirschman Index (HHI) in the relevant geographic area was more than 1800 before the transaction, and the increase in the HHI used by the transaction would be 50 or more;

(9) In a transaction involving potential competition, the OTS determines that the acquiring savings association is one of three or fewer potential entrants into the relevant geographic area;

(10) The acquiring savings association has assets of $1 billion or more and proposes to acquire assets of $1 billion or more;

(11) The savings association that will be the resulting savings association in the transaction has a composite Community Reinvestment Act rating of less than satisfactory, or is otherwise seriously deficient with respect to the Office's nondiscrimination regulations and the deficiencies have not been resolved to the satisfaction of the OTS;

(12) The transaction involves any supervisory or assistance agreement with the Office, the Resolution Trust Corporation, or the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation;

(13) The transaction is part of a conversion under part 563b of this chapter;

(14) The transaction raises a significant issue of law or policy; or

(15) The transaction is opposed by any constituent institution or contested by a competing acquiror.

(g) *Definitions.* (1) The terms used in this section shall have the same meaning as set forth in § 552.13(b) of this chapter.

(2) *Insured depository institution. Insured depository institution* has the same meaning as defined in section 3(c)(2) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act.

(3) With regard to paragraph (f) of this section, the term *relevant geographic area* is used as a substitute for *relevant geographic market*, which means the area within which the competitive effects of a merger or other combination may be evaluated. The relevant geographic area shall be delineated as a county or similar political subdivision, an area smaller than a county, or an aggregation of counties within which the merging or combining insured depository institutions compete. In addition, the Office may consider commuting patterns, newspaper and other advertising activities, or other factors as the Office deems relevant.

(h) *Special requirements and procedures for transactions under paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section*—(1) *Certain transactions with no surviving savings association.* The Office must be notified of any transaction under paragraph (b)(1) of this section. Such notification must be submitted to the OTS at least 30 days prior to the effective date of the transaction, but not later than the date on which an application relating to the proposed transaction is filed with the primary regulator of the resulting institution; the Office may, upon request or on its own initiative, shorten the 30-day prior notification requirement. Notifications under this paragraph must demonstrate compliance with applicable stockholder or accountholder approval requirements. Where the savings association submitting the notification maintains a liquidation account established pursuant to part 563b of this chapter, the notification must state that the resulting institution will assume such liquidation account.

The notification may be in the form of either a letter describing the material features of the transaction or a copy of a filing made with another Federal or state regulatory agency seeking approval from that agency for the transaction under the Bank Merger Act or other applicable statute. If the action contemplated by the notification is not completed within one year after the Office's receipt of the notification, a new notification must be submitted to the Office.

(2) *Other transfer transactions*—(i) *Expedited treatment.* A notice in conformity with § 516.3(a)(2) of this chapter may be submitted to the Office for any transaction under paragraph (c) of this section, provided all constituent savings associations meet the conditions for expedited treatment under § 516.3(a) of this chapter. Notices submitted under this paragraph shall be deemed approved automatically by the Office 30 calendar days after receipt, unless the Office advises the applicant in writing prior to the expiration of such period that the proposed transaction may not be consummated without the Office's approval of an application under paragraphs (h)(2)(ii) or (h)(2)(iii) of this section.

(ii) *Standard treatment.* An application in conformity with § 516.3(b)(2) of this chapter and paragraph (d) of this section must be submitted to and approved by the Office by each savings association participating in a transaction under paragraph (b)(2) or (c) of this section, where any constituent savings association does not meet the conditions for expedited treatment under § 516.3(a) of this chapter, except as provided in paragraph (h)(2)(iii) of this section. Applications under this paragraph shall be processed in accordance with the time frames set forth in § 516.2 of this chapter.

(iii) *Standard treatment for transactions under section 5(d)(3) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act.* An application in conformity with § 516.3(b)(2) of this chapter and paragraph (d) of this section must be submitted to and approved by the Office by each savings association which will survive any transaction under both § 5(d)(3) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1815(d)(3)) and paragraph (c) of this section, where any constituent savings association does not meet the conditions for expedited treatment under § 516.3(a) of this chapter. Applications under this paragraph shall be processed in accordance with the time frames set forth in § 516.2 of this chapter, provided that the period for review

may be extended only if the Office determines that the applicant has failed to furnish all requested information or that the information submitted is substantially inaccurate, in which case the review period may be extended for up to 30 days.

[54 FR 49552, Nov. 30, 1989, as amended at 55 FR 13514, Apr. 11, 1990; 57 FR 14344, Apr. 20, 1992; 59 FR 44624, Aug. 30, 1994; 59 FR 66159, Dec. 23, 1994; 62 FR 64146, Dec. 4, 1997]

§ 563.27 Advertising.

No savings association shall use advertising (which includes print or broadcast media, displays or signs, stationery, and all other promotional materials), or make any representation which is inaccurate in any particular or which in any way misrepresents its services, contracts, investments, or financial condition.

[54 FR 49552, Nov. 30, 1989, as amended at 58 FR 4313, Jan. 14, 1993]

§ 563.33 Directors, officers, and employees.

(a) *Directors*—(1) *Requirements*. The composition of the board of directors of a savings association must be in accordance with the following requirements:

(i) A majority of the directors must not be salaried officers or employees of the savings association or of any subsidiary or (except in the case of a savings association having 80% or more of any class of voting shares owned by a holding company) any holding company affiliate thereof.

(ii) Not more than two of the directors may be members of the same immediate family.

(iii) Not more than one director may be an attorney with a particular law firm.

(2) *Prospective application*. In the case of an association whose board of directors does not conform with any requirement set forth in paragraph (a)(1) of this section as of October 5, 1983, this paragraph (a) shall not prohibit the uninterrupted service, including reelection and re-appointment, of any person serving on the board of directors at that date.

(b) [Reserved]

[54 FR 49552, Nov. 30, 1989, as amended at 58 FR 4313, Jan. 14, 1993]

§ 563.36 Tying restriction exception.

(a) *Safe harbor for combined-balance discounts*. A savings and loan holding company or any savings association or any affiliate of either may vary the consideration for any product or package of products based on a customer's maintaining a combined minimum balance in certain products specified by the company varying the consideration (eligible products), if:

(1) That company (if it is a savings association) or a savings association affiliate of that company (if it is not a savings association) offers deposits, and all such deposits are eligible products; and

(2) Balances in deposits count at least as much as non-deposit products toward the minimum balance.

(b) *Limitations on exception*. This exception shall terminate upon a finding by the OTS that the arrangement is resulting in anti-competitive practices. The eligibility of a savings and loan holding company or savings association or affiliate of either to operate under this exception shall terminate upon a finding by the OTS that its exercise of this authority is resulting in anti-competitive practices.

[61 FR 60184, Nov. 27, 1996]

§ 563.39 Employment contracts.

(a) *General*. A savings association may enter into an employment contract with its officers and other employees only in accordance with the requirements of this section. All employment contracts shall be in writing and shall be approved specifically by an association's board of directors. An association shall not enter into an employment contract with any of its officers or other employees if such contract would constitute an unsafe or unsound practice. The making of such an employment contract would be an unsafe or unsound practice if such contract could lead to material financial loss or damage to the association or could interfere materially with the exercise

by the members of its board of directors of their duty or discretion provided by law, charter, bylaw or regulation as to the employment or termination of employment of an officer or employee of the association. This may occur, depending upon the circumstances of the case, where an employment contract provides for an excessive term.

(b) *Required provisions*. Each employment contract shall provide that:

(1) The association's board of directors may terminate the officer or employee's employment at any time, but any termination by the association's board of directors other than termination for cause, shall not prejudice the officer or employee's right to compensation or other benefits under the contract. The officer or employee shall have no right to receive compensation or other benefits for any period after termination for cause. Termination for cause shall include termination because of the officer or employee's personal dishonesty, incompetence, willful misconduct, breach of fiduciary duty involving personal profit, intentional failure to perform stated duties, willful violation of any law, rule, or regulation (other than traffic violations or similar offenses) or final cease-and-desist order, or material breach of any provision of the contract.

(2) If the officer or employee is suspended and/or temporarily prohibited from participating in the conduct of the association's affairs by a notice served under section 8 (e)(3) or (g)(1) of Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1818 (e)(3) and (g)(1)) the association's obligations under the contract shall be suspended as of the date of service unless stayed by appropriate proceedings. If the charges in the notice are dismissed, the association may in its discretion (i) pay the officer or employee all or part of the compensation withheld while its contract obligations were suspended, and (ii) reinstate (in whole or in part) any of its obligations which were suspended.

(3) If the officer or employee is removed and/or permanently prohibited from participating in the conduct of the association's affairs by an order issued under section 8 (e)(4) or (g)(1) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1818 (e)(4) or (g)(1)), all obligations of the association under the contract shall terminate as of the effective date of the order, but vested rights of the contracting parties shall not be affected.

(4) If the savings association is in default (as defined in section 3(x)(1) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act), all obligations under the contract shall terminate as of the date of default, but this paragraph (b)(4) shall not affect any vested rights of the contracting parties: *Provided*, that this paragraph (b)(4) need not be included in an employment contract if prior written approval is secured from the Director or his or her designee.

(5) All obligations under the contract shall be terminated, except to the extent determined that continuation of the contract is necessary of the continued operation of the association

(i) By the Director or his or her designee, at the time the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or Resolution Trust Corporation enters into an agreement to provide assistance to or on behalf of the association under the authority contained in 13(c) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act; or

(ii) By the Director or his or her designee, at the time the Director or his or her designee approves a supervisory merger to resolve problems related to operation of the association or when the association is determined by the Director to be in an unsafe or unsound condition.

Any rights of the parties that have already vested, however, shall not be affected by such action.

§ 563.41 Loans and other transactions with affiliates and subsidiaries.

(a) *Restrictions on transactions with affiliates and subsidiaries*. A savings association and its subsidiaries may engage in a covered transaction with an affiliate only if the transaction is permissible under section 23A of the Federal Reserve Act, 12 U.S.C. 371c, and the additional restrictions set forth in this section, as follows:

(1) A savings association and its subsidiaries may engage in a covered transaction with an affiliate only if:

(i) In the case of any affiliate, the aggregate amount of covered transactions of the savings association and its subsidiaries shall not exceed 10 per centum of the capital stock and surplus of the savings association; and

(ii) In the case of all affiliates, the aggregate amount of covered transactions of the savings association and its subsidiaries shall not exceed 20 per centum of the capital stock and surplus of the savings association;

(2) For purposes of paragraph (a)(1) of this section, any transaction by a savings association or its subsidiaries with any person shall be deemed to be a transaction with an affiliate to the extent that proceeds of the transaction are used for the benefit of, or transferred to, that affiliate;

(3) A savings association (or its subsidiary) may not make a loan or other extension of credit to an affiliate, unless the affiliate is engaged solely in activities described in 12 U.S.C. 1467a(c)(2)(F)(i), as defined in § 584.2–2 of this chapter. For the purposes of this paragraph (a)(3), a loan or other extension of credit includes a purchase of assets from an affiliate that is subject to the affiliate's agreement to repurchase the assets. Such a purchase of assets, however, will not be considered a loan or other extension of credit if the savings association (or its subsidiary) has entered into a transaction or series of transactions that meets all of the following requirements:

(i) The savings association (or its subsidiary) purchases United States Treasury securities from the affiliate, the affiliate agrees to repurchase the securities at the end of a stated term, the remaining term of the securities purchased by the savings association (or its subsidiary) exceeds the term of the affiliate's repurchase agreement, and the savings association (or its subsidiary) has possession or control of the securities and the right to dispose of the securities at any time during the term of the agreement and upon default.

(ii) The affiliate purchases United States Treasury securities from the savings association (or its subsidiary) and the savings association (or its subsidiary) agrees to repurchase the securities at the end of a stated term.

(iii) The aggregate amount of the affiliate's outstanding obligations to repurchase securities from the savings association (or its subsidiary) under the repurchase obligation described at paragraph (a)(3)(i) of this section, at all times, is less than the aggregate amount of the savings association's (or its subsidiary's) outstanding obligations to repurchase securities from the affiliate under paragraph (a)(3)(ii) of this section;

(4) A savings association and its subsidiaries may not purchase or invest in the securities of any affiliate other than with respect to shares of a subsidiary which, for purposes of this paragraph (a)(4), shall include a bank and a savings association;

(5) A savings association and its subsidiaries may not purchase a low-quality asset from an affiliate unless the association or such subsidiary, pursuant to an independent credit evaluation, committed itself to purchase the asset prior to the time the asset was acquired by the affiliate; and

(6) Any covered transactions and any transactions exempt under paragraph (d) of this section and section 23A(d) of the Federal Reserve Act, 12 U.S.C. 371c(d), between a savings association or its subsidiaries and an affiliate shall be on terms and conditions that are consistent with safe and sound banking practices.

(b) *Definitions*. For the purpose of this section:

(1) The term *affiliate* with respect to a savings association means:

(i) Any company that controls the savings association and any other company that is controlled by the company that controls the savings association;

(ii) A bank or savings association subsidiary of the savings association;

(iii) Any company:

(A) That is controlled directly or indirectly, by a trust or otherwise, by or for the benefit of shareholders who beneficially or otherwise control, directly or indirectly, by trust or otherwise, the savings association or any company that controls the savings association; or

(B) In which a majority of its directors, partners or trustees constitute a majority of the persons holding any such office with the savings association

or any company that controls the savings association;

(iv)(A) Any company, including a real estate investment trust, that is sponsored and advised on a contractual basis by the savings association or any subsidiary or affiliate of the savings association; or

(B) Any investment company with respect to which a savings association or any affiliate thereof is an investment adviser as defined in section 2(a)(20) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, 15 U.S.C. 80a–2(a)(2); and

(v) Any company: (A) That the Office or the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System determines by regulation or order to have a relationship with the savings association or any subsidiary or affiliate of the savings association such that covered transactions by the savings association or its subsidiary with that company may be affected by the relationship to the detriment of the savings association or its subsidiary; or

(B) That the Office determines presents a risk to the safety or soundness of the savings association, based on the nature of the activities conducted by the company, amount of transactions with the savings associations or its subsidiaries, financial condition of the company or its parent savings association, or other supervisory factors;

(2) The following shall not be considered to be an affiliate:

(i) Any company, other than a bank or savings association, that is a subsidiary of a savings association, unless a determination is made by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System under section 23A(b)(1)(E) of the Federal Reserve Act, 12 U.S.C. 371c(b)(1)(E), or by the Office under § 563.41(b)(1)(v), not to exclude the subsidiary company from the definition of affiliate and, provided that any company that would be an affiliate under paragraph (b)(1) of this section but for the fact that it is a subsidiary of a savings association, shall nonetheless be deemed to be an affiliate unless the Office determines to exclude such company from the definition of affiliate;

(ii) Any company engaged solely in holding the premises of the savings association;

(iii) Any company engaged solely in conducting a safe deposit business;

(iv) Any company engaged solely in holding obligations of the United States or its agencies or obligations fully guaranteed by the United States or its agencies as to principal and interest; and

(v) Any company where control results from the exercise of rights arising out of a bona fide debt previously contracted, but only for the period of time specifically authorized under applicable State or Federal law or regulation or, in the absence of a law or regulation, for a period of two years from the date of the exercise of those rights, subject, upon application, to authorization by the Office for good cause shown of extensions of time for not more than one year at a time, but extensions in the aggregate shall not exceed three years;

(3)(i) A company or shareholder shall be deemed to have control over another company if:

(A) The company or shareholder, directly or indirectly, or acting through one or more other persons owns, controls, or has power to vote 25 per centum or more of any class of voting securities of the other company;

(B) The company or shareholder would be deemed to control the company under § 574.4(a) of this chapter, or presumed to control the company under § 574.4(b) of this chapter, and in the latter case, control has not been rebutted; and

(ii) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, no company shall be deemed to own or control another company by virtue of its ownership or control of shares in a fiduciary capacity, except as provided in paragraph (b)(1)(iii) of this section;

(4) The term *subsidiary*, when used in connection with a savings association means a company that is controlled by that savings association within the meaning of part 574 of this chapter;

(5) The term *savings association* has the same meaning as that term is defined at § 583.21 of this chapter; and the term *bank* includes a state bank, national bank, banking association, or trust company;

(6) The term *company* means a corporation, partnership, business trust,

association, or similar organization and, unless specifically excluded, the term ''company'' includes a ''savings association'' and a ''bank'';

(7) The term *covered transaction* means with respect to an affiliate of a savings association:

(i) A loan or extension of credit to the affiliate;

(ii) A purchase of assets, including assets subject to an agreement to repurchase, from the affiliate, except purchases of real and personal property that may be specifically exempted by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System by order or regulation;

(iii) The acceptance of securities issued by the affiliate as collateral security for a loan or extension of credit to any person or company; or

(iv) The issuance of a guarantee, acceptance, or letter of credit, including an endorsement or standby letter of credit, on behalf of an affiliate;

(8) The term *aggregate amount of covered transactions* means the amount of the covered transactions about to be engaged in added to the current amount of all outstanding covered transactions. For this purpose, the outstanding balance of any credits extended to an affiliate shall be added to the value of any asset acquired from the affiliate (or all affiliates), as reflected on the financial records of the savings association or its subsidiaries, subject to the following conditions:

(i) With respect to a loan or extension of credit made by the savings association or its subsidiaries, any principal amount that has been amortized may be deducted from the *aggregate amount of covered transactions;*

(ii) With respect to a purchase of assets by the savings association or its subsidiaries:

(A) Any amounts of depreciation that have been deducted from the cost of an asset for federal income tax purposes by the purchaser may be deducted from the *aggregate amount of covered transactions;* and

(B) Upon the sale of an asset that was previously purchased in a covered transaction, the *aggregate amount of covered transactions* shall be reduced by an amount equal to the purchase price of the asset at the time of the covered transaction less depreciation subsequently taken and previously deducted from the *aggregate amount of covered transactions;*

(9) The term *securities* means stocks, bonds, debentures, notes, and other similar obligations;

(10) The term *low-quality asset* means an asset that falls in any one or more of the following categories:

(i) An asset classified as *substandard, doubtful,* or *loss* or treated as *other loans especially mentioned* in the most recent report of examination or inspection of an affiliate prepared by either a Federal or State supervisory agency;

(ii) An asset in a nonaccrual status;

(iii) An asset on which principal or interest payments are more than thirty days past due; or

(iv) An asset whose terms have been renegotiated or compromised due to the deteriorating financial condition of the obligor;

(11) The term *capital stock and surplus of the savings association* means ''unimpaired capital and unimpaired surplus'' as defined at § 560.93(b)(11) of this chapter.

(c) *Collateral for certain transactions with affiliates.* (1) Each loan or extension of credit to, or guarantee, acceptance, or letter of credit issued on behalf of, an affiliate by a savings association or its subsidiary shall be secured at the time of the transaction by collateral having a market value equal to:

(i) 100 per centum of the amount of the loan or extension or credit, guarantee, acceptance, or letter of credit, if the collateral is composed of:

(A) Obligations of the United States or its agencies;

(B) Obligations fully guaranteed by the United States or its agencies as to principal and interest;

(C) Notes, drafts, bills of exchange or bankers' acceptances that are eligible for rediscount or purchase by a Federal Home Loan Bank or Federal Reserve Bank; or

(D) A segregated, earmarked deposit account with the savings associations;

(ii) 110 per centum of the amount of the loan or extension of credit, guarantee, acceptance, or letter of credit if the collateral is composed of obligations of any State or political subdivision of any State;

(iii) 120 per centum of the amount of the loan or extension of credit, guarantee, acceptance, or letter of credit if the collateral is composed of other debt instruments, including receivables; or

(iv) 130 per centum of the amount of the loan or extension of credit, guarantee, acceptance, or letter of credit if the collateral is composed of stock, leases, or other real or personal property.

(2) Any such collateral that is subsequently retired or amortized shall be replaced by additional eligible collateral where needed to keep the percentage of the collateral value relative to the amount of the outstanding loan or extension of credit, guarantee, acceptance, or letter of credit equal to the minimum percentage required at the inception of the transaction.

(3) A low-quality asset shall not be acceptable as collateral for a loan or extension of credit to, or guarantee, acceptance, or letter of credit issued on behalf of, an affiliate.

(4) The securities issued by an affiliate of the savings association shall not be acceptable as collateral for a loan or extension of credit to, or guarantee, acceptance, or letter of credit issued on behalf of, that affiliate or any other affiliate of the savings association.

(5) The collateral requirements of this paragraph shall not be applicable to an acceptance that is already fully secured either by attached documents or by other property having an ascertainable market value that is involved in the transaction.

(d) *Exemptions*. The provisions of this section, except paragraph (a)(6) of this section, shall not be applicable to the following transactions by a savings association:

(1) Any transaction, subject to the prohibition contained in paragraph (a)(5) of this section with a savings association or a bank:

(i) That controls 80 per centum or more of the voting shares of the savings association;

(ii) In which the savings association controls 80 per centum or more of the voting shares; or

(iii) In which 80 per centum or more of the voting shares are controlled by the company that controls 80 per centum or more of the voting shares of the savings association;

(2) Making deposits in an affiliated bank, affiliated savings association or affiliated foreign bank in the ordinary course of correspondent business, subject to any restrictions that the Office or the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System may prescribe by regulation or order;

(3) Giving immediate credit to an affiliate for uncollected items received in the ordinary course of business;

(4) Subject to paragraph (a)(3) of this section, making a loan or extension of credit to, or issuing a guarantee, acceptance, or letter of credit on behalf of, an affiliate, if such loan, extension of credit, guarantee, acceptance, or letter of credit is fully secured by:

(i) Obligations of the United States or its agencies;

(ii) Obligations fully guaranteed by the United States or its agencies as to principal and interest; or

(iii) A segregated, earmarked deposit account with the savings association;

(5) Purchasing assets having a readily identifiable and publicly available market quotation and purchased at that market quotation or, subject to the prohibition contained in paragraph (a)(5) of this section, purchasing loans on a nonrecourse basis from affiliated banks or savings associations; and

(6) Purchasing from an affiliate a loan or extension of credit that was originated by the savings association and sold to the affiliate subject to a repurchase agreement or with recourse.

(e) *Recordkeeping and notice requirements*. (1) With respect to all transactions between a savings association and its subsidiaries and the association's affiliates or between a savings association and an unaffiliated party to the extent that the proceeds of the transaction are used for the benefit of, or transferred to, an affiliate, the association shall make and retain records that reflect those transactions in reasonable detail. The association's records shall, at a minimum:

(i) Identify the affiliate;

(ii) Indicate the dollar amount of the transaction and reflect that the amount is within the applicable quantitative limitations specified in this

section or that the transaction is not subject to those limitations;

(iii) Indicate whether the transaction involves a low-quality asset as that term is defined in paragraph (b)(10) of this section;

(iv) Indicate the type and amount of any collateral involved in the transaction and that such collateral complies in all respects with the requirements of this section or that the transaction is not subject to those limitations;

(v) With respect to any transaction subject to § 563.42 of this part, demonstrate that the terms and circumstances of the transaction comply with the standards set forth therein;

(vi) Reflect that loans and extensions of credit made to affiliates comply with paragraph (a)(3) of this section; and

(vii) Be readily accessible for examination and other supervisory purposes.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) through (d) of this section, and except with respect to transactions of the type described in 12 CFR 250.250, the Office may require prior notification by a savings association and its subsidiaries of any and all transactions with any or all of the association's affiliates or subsidiaries under the following circumstances:

(i) A de novo savings association that commenced operations or an association or holding company thereof that has been the subject of an application or notice under part 574 of this chapter that was approved during the preceding two year period; or

(ii) A savings association that:

(A) Has a composite rating of 4 or 5, as defined in § 516.3(c) of this chapter;

(B) Is not meeting all of its regulatory capital requirements;

(C) Has entered into a consent to merge, a supervisory agreement or cease and desist order during the preceding two year period, or is subject to a formal enforcement proceeding; or

(D) The OTS determines is a problem association or in troubled condition.

(3) Upon receipt of written notice from the Office identifying one or more of the circumstances described in paragraph (e)(2) of this section and stating that the Office has determined that prior notification by a savings association will be required pursuant to this paragraph, the association shall provide, no later than 30 days prior to entering into any transaction for which prior notification has been required, written notice containing a full description of the proposed transaction. If no objections are raised by the Office during such 30 day period, the association or its subsidiaries may proceed with the proposed transaction.

[56 FR 34011, July 25, 1991, as amended at 57 FR 14344, Apr. 20, 1992; 60 FR 66869, Dec. 27, 1995; 61 FR 65179, Dec. 11, 1996; 61 FR 66579, Dec. 18, 1996; 62 FR 3781, Jan. 27, 1997; 62 FR 66262, Dec. 18, 1997; 63 FR 43293, Aug. 13, 1998; 64 FR 69185, Dec. 10, 1999]

§ 563.42 Additional standards applicable to transactions with affiliates and subsidiaries.

(a) *General.* A savings association and its subsidiaries may engage in a transaction with an affiliate only if the transaction is permissible under section 23B of the Federal Reserve Act, 12 U.S.C. 371c–1, and the additional restrictions set forth in this section, as follows:

(1) *Standards.* A savings association and its subsidiaries may engage in any of the transactions described in paragraph (a)(2) of this section only:

(i) On terms and under circumstances, including credit standards, that are substantially the same, or at least as favorable to the association or its subsidiary, as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with or involving nonaffiliated companies; or

(ii) In the absence of comparable transactions, on terms and under circumstances, including credit standards, that in good faith would be offered to, or would apply to, nonaffiliated companies;

(2) *Transactions covered.* Paragraph (a)(1) of this section applies to the following:

(i) Any covered transaction with an affiliate;

(ii) The sale of securities or other assets to an affiliate, including assets subject to an agreement to repurchase;

(iii) The payment of money or the furnishing of services to an affiliate under contract, lease, or otherwise;

(iv) Any transaction in which an affiliate acts as an agent or broker or receives a fee for its services to the savings association or to any other person;

(v) Any transaction or series of transactions with a third party:

(A) If an affiliate has a financial interest in the third party; or

(B) If an affiliate is a participant in the transaction or series of transactions;

(3) *Transactions that benefit an affiliate*. For the purpose of this section, any transaction by a savings association or its subsidiaries with any person shall be deemed to be a transaction with an affiliate if any of the proceeds of the transaction are used for the benefit of, or transferred to, that affiliate.

(b) *Prohibited transactions*—(1) *General*. A savings association and its subsidiaries:

(i) Shall not purchase as fiduciary any securities or other assets from any affiliate unless the purchase is permitted:

(A) Under the instrument creating the fiduciary relationship;

(B) By court order; or

(C) By law of the jurisdiction governing the fiduciary relationship; and

(ii) Whether acting as principal or fiduciary, shall not knowingly purchase or otherwise acquire, during the existence of any underwriting or selling syndicate, any security if a principal underwriter of that security is an affiliate of the association.

(2) *Exception*. Paragraph (b)(1)(ii) of this section shall not apply if the purchase or acquisition of securities has been approved, before the securities are initially offered for sale to the public, by a majority of the directors of the savings association who are not officers or employees of the association or any affiliate thereof.

(c) *Advertising restriction*. A savings association and its subsidiaries and any affiliate of a savings association shall not publish any advertisement or enter into any agreement stating or suggesting that the association shall in any way be responsible for the obligations of its affiliates.

(d) *Definitions*. For the purpose of this section:

(1) The terms *affiliate*, *bank*, *covered transaction*, *savings association* and *subsidiary* have the meaning given to each term in § 563.41 of this part, (but the term *affiliate* does not include any company described in paragraph (b)(2) of § 563.41 of this part, any bank, or any savings association).

(2) The term *security* has the meaning given to that term in section 3(a)(10) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. 78c(a)(10); and

(3) The term *principal underwriter* means any underwriter who, in connection with a primary distribution of securities:

(i) Is in privity of contract with the issuer or an affiliated person of the issuer;

(ii) Acting alone or in concert with one or more other persons, initiates or directs the formation of an underwriting syndicate; or

(iii) Is allowed a rate of gross commission, spread, or other profit greater than the rate allowed another underwriter participating in the distribution.

(e) *Recordkeeping requirements*. With respect to all transactions subject to this section between a savings association and its subsidiaries and the association's affiliates or between a savings association and an unaffiliated party to the extent that the proceeds of the transaction are used for the benefit of, or transferred to, an affiliate, the association shall make and retain records, that reflect those transactions in reasonable detail. The association's records shall, at a minimum, include the information required by § 563.41(e)(1)(v) of this part.

[56 FR 34013, July 25, 1991, as amended at 60 FR 66869, Dec. 27, 1995]

§ 563.43 Loans by savings associations to their executive officers, directors and principal shareholders.

Pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1463(a) and 1468, a savings association, its subsidiaries and its insiders (as defined) shall be subject to the restrictions contained in 12 CFR Part 215, subparts A and B of the Federal Reserve Board's Regulation O, with the exception of 12 CFR 215.13, in the same manner and to the same extent as if the association were a bank and a member bank of the Federal Reserve System, except that:

(a) Such provisions shall be administered and enforced by the OTS;

(b) References to the term ''bank holding company'' shall be deemed to refer to ''savings and loan holding company'';

(c) References to ''report of condition filed under 12 U.S.C. 1817(a)(3)'' shall be deemed to refer to ''Thrift Financial Report'';

(d) The term *subsidiary* shall include a savings association that is ''controlled,'' within the meaning of § 563.41(a)(3) of this part, by a company (including for this purpose an insured depository institution) that is a savings and loan holding company. When used to refer to a subsidiary of a savings association, the term *subsidiary* shall mean a ''subsidiary'' as that term is defined at § 563.41(b)(4) of this part; and

(e) References to the Reserve Bank or the Comptroller shall be deemed to include the Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision.

(f) References to the term ''unimpaired capital and unimpaired surplus'' shall be deemed to refer to ''unimpaired capital and unimpaired surplus'' as defined at § 563.93(b)(11) of this part.

[57 FR 45980, Oct. 6, 1992, as amended at 59 FR 53571, Oct. 25, 1994; 60 FR 66869, Dec. 27, 1995]

§ 563.47 Pension plans.

(a) *General*. No savings association or service corporation thereof shall sponsor an employee pension plan which, because of unreasonable costs or any other reason, could lead to material financial loss or damage to the sponsor. For purposes of this section, an employee pension plan is defined in section 3(2) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended. The prospective obligation or liability of a plan sponsor to each plan participant shall be stated in or determinable from the plan, and, for a defined benefit plan, shall also be based upon an actuarial estimate of future experience under the plan.

(b) *Funding*. Actuarial cost methods permitted under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, shall be used to determine plan funding.

(c) *Plan amendment*. A plan may be amended to provide reasonable annual cost-of-living increases to retired participants: *Provided*, That

(1) Any such increase shall be for a period and amount determined by the sponsor's board of directors, but in no event shall it exceed the annual increase in the Consumer Price Index published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics; and

(2) No increase shall be granted unless (i) anticipated charges to net income for future periods have first been found by such board of directors to be reasonable and are documented by appropriate resolution and supporting analysis; and (ii) the increase will not reduce the association's regulatory capital below its regulatory capital requirement.

(d) *Termination*. The plan shall permit the sponsor's board of directors and its successors to terminate such plan. Notice of intent to terminate shall be filed with the OTS at least 60 days prior to the proposed termination date.

(e) *Records*. Each savings association or service corporation maintaining a plan not subject to recordkeeping and reporting requirements of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, shall establish and maintain records containing the following:

(1) Plan description;

(2) Schedule of participants and beneficiaries;

(3) Schedule of participants and beneficiaries' rights and obligations;

(4) Plan's financial statements; and

(5) Except for defined contribution plans, an opinion signed by an enrolled actuary (as defined by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974) affirming that actuarial assumptions in the aggregate are reasonable, take into account the plan's experience and expectations, and represent the actuary's best estimate of the plan's projected experiences.

[59 FR 66159, Dec. 23, 1994]

Subpart C—Securities and Borrowings

§ 563.74 Mutual capital certificates.

(a) *General*. No savings association that is in the mutual form shall issue mutual capital certificates pursuant to this section or amend the terms of such certificates unless it has obtained written approval of the Office. No approval shall be granted unless the proposed issuance of the mutual capital certificates and the form and manner of filing of the application are in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(b) *Eligibility Requirements*. The Office will consider and process an application for approval of the issuance of mutual capital certificates pursuant to this section only if the issuance is authorized by applicable law and regulation and is not inconsistent with any provision of the applicant's charter, constitution or bylaws.

(c) *Application form; supporting information*. An application for approval of the issuance of mutual capital certificates pursuant to this section shall be in the form prescribed by the Office. Such application and instructions may be obtained from the OTS. Information and exhibits shall be furnished in support of the application in accordance with such instructions, setting forth all of the terms and provisions relating to the proposed issue and showing that all of the requirements of this section have been or will be met.

(d) *Charter amendment*. No application for approval of the issuance of mutual capital certificates pursuant to this section may be filed unless the amendment to the mutual association's charter, constitution or bylaws or other actions conferring such authority shall have been approved pursuant to the procedures and requirements set forth in the mutual association's charter, constitution or bylaws, or as may otherwise be required by applicable law.

(e) *Filing requirements*. The application for issuance of mutual capital certificates shall be publicly filed with the OTS.

(f) *Supervisory objection*. No application or approval of the issuance of mutual capital certificates pursuant to this section shall be approved if, in the opinion of the Office, the policies, condition, or operation of the applicant afford a basis for supervisory objection to the application.

(g) *Limitation on offering period*. Following the date of the approval of the application by the Office, the association shall have an offering period of not more than one year in which to complete the sale of the mutual capital certificates issued pursuant to this section. The Office may in its discretion extend such offering period if a written request showing good cause for such extension is filed with it not later than 30 days before the expiration of such offering period or any extension thereof.

(h) *Reports*. Within 30 days after completion of the sale of mutual capital certificates issued pursuant to this section, the association shall transmit to the OTS a written report stating the total dollar amount of securities sold, and the amount of net proceeds received by the association, and within 90 days it shall transmit a written report stating the number of purchasers.

(i) *Requirements as to mutual capital certificates*—(1) *Form of certificate*. Each mutual capital certificate and any governing agreement evidencing a mutual capital certificate issued by an association pursuant to this section:

(i) Shall bear on its face, in bold-face type, the following legend: ''This security is not a savings account or a deposit and it is not insured by the United States or any agency or fund of the United States''; and

(ii) Shall clearly state that the certificate is subject to the requirements of § 563.74(i)(2).

(2) *Legal requirements*. Mutual capital certificates issued pursuant to this section shall:

(i) Be subordinate to all claims against the association having the same priority as savings accounts, savings certificates, debt obligations or any higher priority;

(ii) Not be eligible for use as collateral for any loan made by the issuing association;

(iii) Constitute a claim in liquidation not exceeding the face value plus accrued dividends of the certificates, on

the general reserves, surplus and undivided profits of the association remaining after the payment in full of all savings accounts, savings certificates and debt obligations;

(iv) Be entitled to the payment of dividends, which may be fixed, variable, participating, or cumulative, or any combination thereof, only if, when and as declared by the association's board of directors out of funds legally available for that purpose, provided that no dividend may be declared or paid without the approval of the Office if such payment would cause the association to fail to meet its regulatory capital requirement under § 567.2 of this chapter, and provided further that no dividend may be paid if such payment would constitute a violation of 12 U.S.C. 1828(b);

(v) Not be redeemable, except: (A) Where the dollar weighted average term of each issue of mutual capital certificates to be redeemed is seven years or more and redemption is to be made pursuant to a redemption schedule; (B) in the event of a merger, consolidation or reorganization approved by the Office; or (C) where the funds for redemption are raised by the issuance of mutual capital certificates approved pursuant to this section, or in conjunction with the issuance of capital stock pursuant to part 563b of this chapter: *Provided,* that mandatory redemption shall not be required; that mutual capital certificates shall not be redeemable on the demand or at the option of the holder; and that mutual capital certificates shall not receive, benefit from, be credited with or otherwise be entitled to or due payments in or for redemption if such payments would cause the association to fail to meet its regulatory capital requirement under § 567.2 of this chapter; *And Provided further*, for the purposes of this paragraph (i)(2)(v), the ''dollar weighted average term'' of an issue of mutual capital certificates shall be the sum of the products calculated for each year that the mutual capital certificates in the issue have been redeemed or are scheduled to be redeemed. Each product shall be calculated by multiplying the number of years of each mutual capital certificate of a given term by a fraction, the numerator of which shall be the total dollar amount of each mutual capital certificate in the issue with the same term and the denominator of which shall be the total dollar amount of mutual capital certificates in the entire issue;

(vi) Not have preemptive rights;

(vii) Not have voting rights, except that an association may provide for voting rights if:

(A) The savings association fails to pay dividends for a minimum of three consecutive dividend periods, and then the holders of the class or classes of mutual capital certificates granted such voting rights, and voting as a single class, with one vote for each outstanding certificate, may elect by a majority vote a maximum of one-third of the association's board of directors, the directors so elected to serve until the next annual meeting of the association succeeding the payment of all current and past dividends;

(B) Any merger, consolidation, or reorganization (except in a supervisory case) is sought to be authorized, where the issuing association is not the survivor, provided that the regulatory capital of the resulting association available for payment of any class of mutual capital certificate on liquidation is less than the regulatory capital available for such class prior to the merger, consolidation, or reorganization;

(C) Action is sought to be authorized which would create any class of mutual capital certificates having a preference or priority over an outstanding class or classes of mutual capital certificates;

(D) Any action is sought to be authorized which would adversely change the specific terms of any class of mutual capital certificates;

(E) Action is sought to be authorized which would increase the number of a class of mutual capital certificates, or the number of a class of mutual capital certificates ranking prior to or on parity with another class of mutual capital certificates; or

(F) Action is sought which would authorize the issuance of an additional class or classes of mutual capital certificates without the association having met specific financial standards;

(viii) Not constitute an obligation of the association and shall confer no

rights which would give rise to any claim of or action for default;

(ix) Not be convertible into any account, security, or interest, except that mutual capital certificates may be surrendered in exchange for preferred stock issued in connection with the conversion of the issuing savings association to the stock form pursuant to part 563b of this chapter, provided that the preferred stock shall have substantially the same voting rights, designations, preferences and relative, participating optional, or other special rights, and qualifications, limitations, and restrictions, as the mutual capital certificates exchanged for the preferred stock.

(x) Provide for charging of losses after the exhaustion of all other items in the regulatory capital account.

[54 FR 49552, Nov. 30, 1989, as amended at 55 FR 13515, Apr. 11, 1990; 57 FR 14345, Apr. 20, 1992; 59 FR 66159, Dec. 23, 1994]

§ 563.76 Offers and sales of securities at an office of a savings association.

(a) A saving association may not offer or sell debt or equity securities issued by the association or an affiliate of the association at an office of the association; except that equity securities issued by the association or an affiliate in connection with the association's conversion from the mutual to stock form of organization in a conversion approved pursuant to part 563b of this chapter may be offered and sold at the association's offices: *Provided*, That:

(1) The Regional Director does not object on supervisory grounds that the offer and sale of the securities at the offices of the association;

(2) No commissions, bonuses, or comparable payments are paid to any employee of the savings association or its affiliates or to any other person in connection with the sale of securities at an office of a savings association; except that compensation and commissions consistent with industry norms may be paid to securities personnel of registered broker-dealers;

(3) No offers or sales are made by tellers or at the teller counter, or by comparable persons at comparable locations;

(4) Sales activity is conducted in a segregated or separately identifiable area of the savings association's offices apart from the area accessible to the general public for the purposes of making or withdrawing deposits;

(5) Offers and sales are made only by regular, full-time employees of the savings association or by securities personnel who are subject to supervision by a registered broker-dealer;

(6) An acknowledgment, in the form set forth in paragraph (c) of this section, is signed by any customer to whom the security is sold in the savings association's offices prior to the sale of any such securities;

(7) A legend that the security is not a deposit or account and is not federally insured or guaranteed appears conspicuously on the security and in all offering documents and advertisements for the securities; the legend must state in bold or other prominent type at least as large as other textual type in the document that ''This security is not a deposit or account and is not federally insured or guaranteed''; and

(8) The savings association will be in compliance with its current capital requirements upon completion of the conversion stock offering.

(b) Securities sales practices, advertisements, and other sales literature used in connection with offers and sales of securities by savings associations shall be subject to § 563g.10 of this chapter.

(c) Offers and sales of securities of a savings association or its affiliates in any office of the savings association must use a one-page, unambiguous, certification in substantially the following form:

FORM OF CERTIFICATION

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THIS SECURITY IS NOT A DEPOSIT OR ACCOUNT AND IS NOT FEDERALLY INSURED, AND IS NOT GUARANTEED BY [insert name of savings association] OR BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

If anyone asserts that this security is federally insured or guaranteed, or is as safe as an insured deposit, I should call the Office of Thrift Supervision Regional Director [insert Regional Director's name and telephone number with area code].

I further certify that, before purchasing the *[description of security being offered]* of *[name of issuer, name of savings association and affiliation to issuer (if different)]*, I received an offering circular.

The offering circular that I received contains disclosure concerning the nature of the security being offered and describes the risks involved in the investment, including:

[List briefly the principal risks involved and cross reference certain specified pages of the offering circular where a more complete description of the risks is made.]

Signature: _____

Date: _____

(d) For purposes of this section, an ''office'' of an association means any premises used by the association that are identified to the public through advertising or signage using the association's name, trade name, or logo.

[57 FR 46088, Oct. 7, 1992]

§ 563.80 Borrowing limitations.

(a) *General*. Except as the Office otherwise may permit by advice in writing, a savings association may borrow only in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(b) *Amount of borrowing*. A savings association may borrow up to the amount authorized by the laws under which the savings association operates.

(c) *Security*. An association may give security for borrowings subject to any requirements imposed by the Office or the FDIC regarding notice of default on borrowings and any FDIC right of first refusal to purchase collateral.

(d) *Required statement for all securities evidencing outside borrowings*. Each security shall bear on its face, in a prominent place, the following legend:

This security is not a savings account or a deposit and it is not insured by the United States or any agency or fund of the United States.

(e) *Filing requirements for outside borrowings with maturities in excess of one year*. (1) Unless the savings association meets its capital requirement under part 567 of this chapter, it shall, at least ten business days prior to issuance, file with the Regional Director or his or her designee a notice of intent to issue securities evidencing such borrowings. Such notice shall contain a summary of the items of the security, including:

(i) Principal amount of the securities;

(ii) Anticipated interest rate range and price range at which the securities are to be sold;

(iii) Minimum denomination;

(iv) Stated and average effective maturity;

(v) Mandatory and optional prepayment provisions;

(vi) Description, amount, and maintenance of collateral if any;

(vii) Trustee provisions if any;

(viii) Events of default and remedies of default;

(ix) Any provisions which restrict, conditionally or otherwise, the operations of the association.

(2) The OTS shall have 10 business days after receipt of such filing to object to the issuance of such securities. The OTS shall object if the terms or covenants of the proposed issue place unreasonable burdens on, or control over, the operations of the association. If no objection is taken, the savings association shall have 120 calendar days within which to issue such securities.

(f) *Note accounts*. For purposes of this section, note accounts are not borrowings.

[54 FR 49552, Nov. 30, 1989, as amended at 55 FR 7300, Mar. 1, 1990; 55 FR 13515, Apr. 11, 1990; 57 FR 14345, Apr. 20, 1992; 57 FR 33438, July 29, 1992]

§ 563.81 Issuance of subordinated debt securities and mandatorily redeemable preferred stock.

(a) *General*—(1) *Savings associations receiving standard treatment*. No savings association subject to standard treatment of its applications, as defined at § 516.3(b) of this chapter, shall issue subordinated debt securities or mandatorily redeemable preferred stock includable in regulatory capital pursuant to this section or amend the terms of such securities unless it has obtained the written approval of the OTS. Approval of the issuance under this section, in order to meet the requirements of § 567.5 of this chapter, may be obtained either before or after the securities are issued. No approval shall be granted unless issuance of the securities and the form and manner of filing of the application are in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(2) *Savings associations receiving expedited treatment*. No savings association eligible for expedited treatment, as defined at § 516.3(a) of this chapter, shall

issue subordinated debt securities or mandatorily redeemable preferred stock pursuant to this section for inclusion in regulatory capital or amend the terms of such securities unless it provides notice to the OTS, and such notice contains a statement of the association's intent to include such securities in regulatory capital. Notice should be made 30 days in advance of an issuance of subordinated debt securities or mandatorily redeemable preferred stock under this section, if the association intends to qualify such securities or stock as supplementary capital under § 567.5(b)(2) of this chapter. Notice may be made either before or after such securities are issued, but will only be includable in regulatory capital (to the extent permitted by § 567.5(b) of this chapter) if the issuance of the securities and the filing of the notice are in accordance with the provisions of this section and the savings association certifies, in writing, to the Office that all regulatory requirements have been met. The Office reserves the right to determine after the 30-day notice period has expired that the issuance does not comply with the requirements of this section or those of Part 567 for inclusion in capital.

(b) *Eligibility requirements.* In determining whether an issuance of subordinated debt securities or mandatorily redeemable preferred stock is includable in the regulatory capital of a savings association pursuant to this section, the OTS will consider the following factors:

(1) Whether the issuance of such securities by the savings association is authorized by applicable law and regulation and is not inconsistent with any provision of the savings association's charter or bylaws. Proof of such provision shall be submitted with the notice or application;

(2)(i) Whether, in the opinion of the OTS the overall policies, condition and operation of the savings association do not afford a basis for supervisory objection to the application or notice. The OTS shall establish guidelines that shall identify supervisory bases that may be used to object to the inclusion of specific subordinated debt and preferred stock issuances as regulatory capital. Such guidelines shall constitute illustrative but not exclusive bases for supervisory objection to subordinated debt and mandatorily redeemable preferred stock applications and notices. Such bases for supervisory objection may include, but are not limited to instances where:

(A) Regulatory capital, without regard to the amount of any subordinated debt and mandatorily redeemable preferred stock to be included in regulatory capital, does not meet the requirements of § 567.2 of this chapter;

(B) Actual and expected losses have not been offset by specific and general valuation allowances to the extent required pursuant to § 563.160 and § 563.172 of this part; and

(C) Actual and anticipated income from operations, after distribution of earnings to the holders of savings accounts, payment of dividends on outstanding equity securities and payment of interest on borrowings but before income taxes, is not demonstrably sufficient for payment of dividends and redemption price, discount and related expenses of the proposed issuance.

(ii) The OTS may modify the guidelines in paragraph (b)(2)(i) of this section from time to time, as appropriate, and any such changes shall be effective for those applications and notices filed after the date of the changes to the guidelines and for those applications and notices submitted to the OTS but not yet deemed ''complete.''

(3) Whether the issuance of such securities by the savings association in the transaction and any related transactions will result in a transfer of risk from the Savings Association Insurance Fund or the Bank Insurance Fund, as the case may be, to parties other than savings associations. In this connection, the issuance of subordinated debt securities shall not be deemed to result in a sufficient transfer of risk if such securities or any indenture or related agreement pursuant to which they are issued provides for events of default or includes other provisions that could result in a mandatory prepayment of principle by declaration or otherwise, other than events of default arising out of the obligor's failure to make timely payment of interest and principal, its failure to

comply with reasonable financial, operating and maintenance covenants of a type that are customarily included in indentures relating to publicly offered issues of debt securities, and events of default relating to certain events of bankruptcy or insolvency, receivership and similar events.

(c) *Form of application or notice; supporting information.* Applications subject to standard treatment under § 516.3(b) of this chapter, or notices eligible for expedited treatment under § 516.3(a) of this chapter, pursuant to this section, shall be in the form prescribed by the OTS. The form of application and instructions for a savings association subject to standard treatment, and instructions for a notice by a savings association subject to expedited treatment, may be obtained from the OTS. Information and exhibits shall be furnished in support of an application or notice in accordance with the applicable instructions, setting forth all of the terms and provisions relating to the proposed issuance and showing that all of the requirements of this section have been or will be met.

(d) *Requirements as to securities.* Subordinated debt securities and mandatorily redeemable preferred stock issued pursuant to this section shall meet all of the following requirements unless one or more of such requirements, not including paragraphs (d)(1)(i)(A) and (d)(1)(ii) of this section which are not eligible for waiver, are waived by the OTS:

(1) *Form of certificate.* Each certificate evidencing subordinated debt or mandatorily redeemable preferred stock issued by a savings association pursuant to this section shall:

(i) Bear on its face, in bold-face type, the following legends:

(A) ''This security is not a savings account or deposit and it is not insured by the United States or any agency or fund of the United States''; and

(B) ''Absent prior written approval by the Office, this security is not eligible for purchase by any savings association or a corporate affiliate thereof, except that this security may be purchased by a corporate affiliate of the issuer or by any diversified savings and loan holding company and any non-savings association subsidiary thereof.''

(ii) Clearly state that the security—

(A) Is subordinated on liquidation, as to principal, interest, and premium, if any, to all claims (including post-default interest) against the savings association having the same priority as savings account holders or any higher priority;

(B) Is unsecured by the assets of the issuing association, or any of its affiliates; and

(C) Is not eligible as collateral for any loan by the issuing association.

(iii) In connection only with a certificate evidencing subordinated debt, state or refer to a document stating the terms under which the issuing savings association may prepay the obligation, which shall include at least the right to prepay without premium or other penalty during the fifteen months immediately prior to the maturity date;

(iv) State or refer to a document stating that, in connection with a certificate evidencing subordinated debt, no voluntary prepayment of principal shall be made and that no payment of principal shall be accelerated and, in connection with a certificate evidencing mandatorily redeemable preferred stock, no voluntary redemption, other than scheduled redemptions, shall be made without the approval of the OTS if the savings association is failing to meet its regulatory capital requirements under part 567 of this chapter or, if after giving effect to such payment, the association would fail to meet such regulatory capital requirements;

(v) State the limitations upon payment of interest or dividends, as appropriate imposed by 12 U.S.C. 1828(b); and

(vi) In connection only with a certificate evidencing subordinated debt, set forth, in the certificate and the purchase agreement or indenture, precisely the following statement:

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this certificate (or in any related document); (A) if the FDIC shall be appointed receiver for the issuer of this certificate (the ''issuer'') and in its capacity as such shall cause the issuer to merge with or into another financial institution, or in such capacity shall sell or otherwise convey part or all of the assets of the issuer to another financial institution or shall arrange for the assumption of less than all of the liabilities of

the issuer by one or more other financial institutions, the FDIC shall have no obligation, either in its capacity as receiver or in its corporate capacity, to contract for or to otherwise arrange for the assumption of the obligation represented by this certificate in whole or in part by any financial institution or institutions which results from any such merger or which has purchased or otherwise acquired from the FDIC as receiver for the issuer, any of the assets of the issuer, or which, pursuant to any arrangement with the FDIC, has assumed less than all of the liabilities of the issuer. To the extent that obligations represented by this certificate have not been assumed in full by a financial institution with or into which the issuer may have been merged, as described in this paragraph (A), and/or by one or more financial institutions which have succeeded to all or a portion of the assets of the issuer, or which have assumed a portion but not all of the liabilities of the issuer as a result of one or more transactions entered into by the FDIC as receiver for the issuer, then the holder of this certificate shall be entitled to payments on this obligation in accordance with the procedures and priorities set forth in any applicable receivership regulations or in orders of the FDIC relating to such receivership.

(B) In the event that the obligation represented by this certificate is assumed in full by another financial institution, which shall succeed by merger or otherwise to substantially all of the assets and the business of the issuer, or which shall by arrangement with the FDIC assume all or a portion of the liabilities of the issuer, and payment or provision for payment shall have been made in respect of all matured installments of interests upon the certificates together with all matured installments of principal on such certificates which shall have become due otherwise than by acceleration, then any default caused by the appointment of a receiver for the issuer shall be deemed to have been cured, and any declaration consequent upon such default declaring the principal and interest on the certificate to be immediately due and payable shall be deemed to have been rescinded.

(C) This security is not eligible to be purchased or held by any savings association or corporate affiliate thereof except that this security may be purchased or held by a corporate affiliate of the issuer or by a diversified savings and loan holding company and its non-savings association subsidiaries. The issuer of this security may not recognize on its transfer books any transfer made to a savings association or any corporate affiliate thereof (except as provided in the preceding sentence) and will not be obligated to make any payments of principal or interest on this security if the owner of this security is a savings association or any corporate affiliate thereof (except as provided in the preceding sentence).

(2) *Limitation as to term.* No subordinated debt security or mandatorily redeemable preferred stock issued by a savings association pursuant to this section shall have an original period to maturity or required redemption of less than seven years. During the first six years that such a security is outstanding, the total of all required sinking fund payments, other required prepayments, required purchase-fund payments, required reserve allocations and required redemptions with respect to the portion of such six years as have elapsed shall at no time exceed the original principal amount or original redemption price, thereof multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of years that have elapsed since the issuance of the security and the denominator of which is the number of years covered by the original period to maturity or required redemption.

(3) *Limitations on sale to certain associations.* (i) No savings association may sell any subordinated debt securities issued pursuant to this section to a Federal Home Loan Bank or, except with prior written approval of the Office in a supervisory case, to the FDIC; and

(ii) Without the prior written approval of the Office, no savings association may sell, either directly or indirectly through an underwriter or otherwise, any subordinated debt securities issued pursuant to this section to a savings association or any corporate affiliate thereof, except that a savings association may sell such securities to its corporate affiliates or to a diversified savings and loan holding company and its non-savings association subsidiaries.

(4) *Indenture.* An issuer must use an indenture, as described herein, for subordinated debt securities offered pursuant to this section. Such an indenture must provide for the appointment of a trustee other than the obligor or an affiliate of the obligor (as defined in 12 CFR 583.2) and provide for the collective enforcement of the rights and remedies of the security holders, if the aggregate amount of debt securities ''publicly offered'' (sales in a private

non-public offering as defined in 12 CFR 563g.4 are excluded) and sold by a single obligor in any consecutive twelve month period exceeds $2,000,000 and/or $5,000,000 in any consecutive thirty-six month period.

(e) [Reserved]

(f) *Additional requirements.* The Office may impose on the savings association such requirements or conditions with regard to the securities or the offering or issuance thereof as it may deem necessary or desirable for the protection of purchasers, the savings association, the Office, or the Savings Association Insurance Fund or the Bank Insurance Fund, as the case may be.

(g) *Limitation on offering period.* Following the date of approval of an application by a savings association subject to standard treatment by the OTS, or the earlier of the date of non-objection by the OTS of a notice by a savings association eligible for expedited treatment or 30 days after submission of a notice by such a savings association, unless the OTS has rejected such notice or issued a request for additional information on such notice, the association shall have an offering period of not more than one year in which to complete the sale of the subordinated debt securities or mandatorily redeemable preferred stock issued pursuant to this section. The Office may in its discretion extend such offering period if a written request showing good cause for such extension is filed with it not later than 30 days before the expiration of such offering period or any previous extension thereof.

(h) *Reports.* Within 30 days after completion of the sale of the subordinated debt securities or mandatorily redeemable preferred stock issued pursuant to this section, the savings association shall transmit a written report to the OTS stating the number of purchases, the total dollar amount of securities sold, and the amount of net proceeds received by the savings association. The association's report shall clearly state the amount of subordinated debt or mandatorily redeemable preferred stock, net of all expenses, that the association intends to be counted as regulatory capital.

(i)—(j) [Reserved]

(k) *Conditions of approval and acceptance for subordinated debt and mandatorily redeemable preferred stock applications and notices.* Issuance of subordinated debt and mandatorily redeemable preferred stock applications and notices shall be subject to the following conditions:

(1) Where securities are to be sold pursuant to an offering circular required to be filed with the OTS pursuant to 12 CFR 563g.2, and where such offering circular has not yet been declared effective prior to the date of approval of or nonobjection to the subordinated debt or preferred stock application or notice, the offering circular in the form declared effective shall not disclose any material adverse information concerning the savings association's business, operations, prospects, or financial condition not disclosed in the latest form of offering circular filed as an exhibit to the application or notice;

(2) The savings association shall submit to the OTS no later than 30 days from the completion of the sale of the securities, certification of compliance with all applicable laws and regulations in connection with the offering, issuance, and sale of the securities;

(3) The savings association shall submit to the OTS no later than 30 days from the completion of the sale of the securities, the report(s) required by paragraph (h) of this section and the following additional items:

(i) Three copies of an executed form of the securities issued pursuant to the subject application or notice and a copy of any related agreement or indenture governing the issuance of securities; and

(ii) A certificate from the principal executive officer of the savings association that states that to the best of his or her knowledge, none of the securities issued pursuant to the subject application or notice were sold to any association whose accounts are insured by the Savings Association Insurance Fund, or a corporate affiliate thereof, except as permitted by 12 CFR 563.81;

(4) That as of the date of approval or nonobjection, there have been no material changes with respect to the information disclosed in the application or notice as submitted to the OTS;

(5) The savings association receives prior written approval or nonobjection from the OTS for any post-approval amendment to the securities or any related indenture if:

(i) The proposed amendment modifies or is inconsistent with any provision of the securities, or the indenture that is required to be included therein by the OTS's regulations as may then be in effect or would result in a transfer of risk to the savings association or the Savings Association Insurance Fund or the Bank Insurance Fund, as appropriate; and

(ii) All or a portion of the proceeds from the issuance and sale of the securities would continue to be included in the regulatory capital of the savings association following adoption of the amendment;

(6) The savings association shall submit to the OTS promptly after execution, one copy of each amendment to the securities or the related indenture, made after approval or nonobjection, and if prior approval of or nonobjection to such amendment was not obtained, shall also state the reason(s) such prior approval or nonobjection was not required; and

(7) Before any offers or sales of the securities are made on the premises of the association or its affiliates, the savings association shall submit to the OTS a set of policies and procedures for such sale of the securities satisfactory to the OTS.

[54 FR 49552, Nov. 30, 1989, as amended at 55 FR 13515, Apr. 11, 1990; 57 FR 14345, Apr. 20, 1992; 62 FR 66262, Dec. 18, 1997]

Subpart D [Reserved]

Subpart E—Capital Distributions

SOURCE: 64 FR 2809, Jan. 19, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

§ 563.140 What does this subpart cover?

This subpart applies to all capital distributions by a savings association (''you'').

§ 563.141 What is a capital distribution?

A capital distribution is:

(a) A distribution of cash or other property to your owners made on account of their ownership, but excludes:

(1) Any dividend consisting only of your shares or rights to purchase your shares; or

(2) If you are a mutual savings association, any payment that you are required to make under the terms of a deposit instrument and any other amount paid on deposits that the OTS determines is not a distribution for the purposes of this section;

(b) Your payment to repurchase, redeem, retire or otherwise acquire any of your shares or other ownership interests, any payment to repurchase, redeem, retire, or otherwise acquire debt instruments included in your total capital under § 567.5 of this chapter, and any extension of credit to finance an affiliate's acquisition of your shares or interests;

(c) Any direct or indirect payment of cash or other property to owners or affiliates made in connection with a corporate restructuring. This includes your payment of cash or property to shareholders of another association or to shareholders of its holding company to acquire ownership in that association, other than by a distribution of shares;

(d) Any other distribution charged against your capital accounts if you would not be well capitalized, as set forth in § 565.4(b)(1) of this chapter, following the distribution; and

(e) Any transaction that the OTS or the Corporation determines, by order or regulation, to be in substance a distribution of capital.

§ 563.142 What other definitions apply to this subpart?

The following definitions apply to this subpart:

Affiliate means an affiliate, as defined under § 563.41(b) of this part.

Capital means total capital, as defined under § 567.5(c) of this chapter.

Net income means your net income computed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Retained net income means your net income for a specified period less total capital distributions declared in that period.

Shares means common and preferred stock, and any options, warrants, or other rights for the acquisition of such stock. The term ''share'' also includes convertible securities upon their conversion into common or preferred stock. The term does not include convertible debt securities prior to their conversion into common or preferred stock or other securities that are not equity securities at the time of a capital distribution.

§ 563.143 Must I file with the OTS?

Whether and what you must file with the OTS depends on whether you and your proposed capital distribution fall within certain criteria.

(a) *Application required.*

If:	Then you:
(1) You are not eligible for expedited treatment under § 516.3(a) of this chapter.	Must file an application with the OTS.
(2) The total amount of all of your capital distributions (including the proposed capital distribution) for the applicable calendar year exceeds your net income for that year to date plus your retained net income for the preceding two years.	Must file an application with the OTS.
(3) You would not be at least adequately capitalized, as set forth in § 565.4(b)(2) of this chapter, following the distribution.	Must file an application with the OTS.
(4) Your proposed capital distribution would violate a prohibition contained in any applicable statute, regulation, or agreement between you and the OTS (or the Corporation), or violate a condition imposed on you in an OTS-approved application or notice.	Must file an application with the OTS.

(b) *Notice required.*

If you are not required to file an application under paragraph (a) of this section, but:	Then you:
(1) You would not be well capitalized, as set forth under § 565.4(b)(1), following the distribution.	Must file a notice with the OTS.
(2) Your proposed capital distribution would reduce the amount of or retire any part of your common or preferred stock or retire any part of debt instruments such as notes or debentures included in capital under part 567 of this chapter (other than regular payments required under a debt instrument approved under § 563.81).	Must file a notice with the OTS.
(3) You are a subsidiary of a savings and loan holding company.	Must file a notice with the OTS.

(c) *No prior notice required.*

If neither you nor your proposed capital distribution meet any of the criteria listed in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.	Then you do not need to file a notice or an application with the OTS before making a capital distribution.

§ 563.144 How do I file with the OTS?

(a) *Contents*. Your notice or application must:

(1) Be in narrative form.

(2) Include all relevant information concerning the proposed capital distribution, including the amount, timing, and type of distribution.

(3) Demonstrate compliance with § 563.146.

(b) *Schedules*. Your notice or application may include a schedule proposing capital distributions over a specified period, not to exceed 12 months.

(c) *Timing*. You must file your notice or application at least 30 days before the proposed declaration of dividend or approval of the proposed capital distribution by your board of directors.

§ 563.145 May I combine my notice or application with other notices or applications?

You may combine the notice or application required under § 563.143 with any other notice or application, if the capital distribution is a part of, or is proposed in connection with, another transaction requiring a notice or application under this chapter. If you submit a combined filing, you must:

(a) State that the related notice or application is intended to serve as a notice or application under this subpart; and

(b) Submit the notice or application in a timely manner.

§ 563.146 Will the OTS permit my capital distribution?

The OTS will review your notice or application under the review procedures in 12 CFR part 516, subpart A. The OTS may disapprove your notice or deny your application filed under § 563.143, in whole or in part, if the OTS makes any of the following determinations.

(a) You will be undercapitalized, significantly undercapitalized, or critically undercapitalized as set forth in § 565.4(b) of this chapter, following the capital distribution. If so, the OTS will determine if your capital distribution is permitted under 12 U.S.C. 1831o(d)(1)(B).

(b) Your proposed capital distribution raises safety or soundness concerns.

(c) Your proposed capital distribution violates a prohibition contained in any statute, regulation, agreement between you and the OTS (or the Corporation), or a condition imposed on you in an OTS-approved application or notice. If so, the OTS will determine whether it may permit your capital distribution notwithstanding the prohibition or condition.

Subpart F—Financial Management Policies

§ 563.161 Management and financial policies.

(a) For the protection of its account holders and other savings associations each savings association and service corporation thereof shall maintain safe and sound management and shall pursue financial policies that are safe and consistent with economical home financing and the purposes of federal savings associations and are appropriate to their respective types of operations; in implementing this regulation the Office will take into consideration that service corporations may be authorized to engage in activities which involve a higher degree of risk than do activities permitted to savings associations.

(b) Compensation to officers, directors, and employees of each savings association and its service corporations shall not be in excess of that which is reasonable and commensurate with their duties and responsibilities. Former officers, directors, and employees of savings association or its service corporation who regularly perform services therefor under consulting contracts are employees thereof for purposes of this paragraph (b).

§ 563.170 Examinations and audits; appraisals; establishment and maintenance of records.

(a) *Examinations and audits*. Each savings association and affiliate thereof shall be examined periodically, and may be examined at any time, by the Office, with appraisals when deemed advisable, in accordance with general policies from time to time established by the Office. The costs, as computed by the Office, of any examinations made by it, including office analysis,

overhead, per diem, travel expense, other supervision by the Office, and other indirect costs, shall be paid by the savings associations examined, except that in the case of service corporations of Federal savings associations the cost of examinations, as determined by the Office, shall be paid by the service corporations. Payments shall be made in accordance with a schedule of annual assessments based upon each savings association's total assets and of rates for examiner time in amounts determined by the Office.

(b) *Appraisals.* (1) Unless otherwise ordered by the Office, appraisal of real estate by the Office in connection with any examination or audit of a savings association, affiliate, or service corporation shall be made by an appraiser, or by appraisers, selected by the Office's Regional Director of the Region in which such savings association is located. The cost of such appraisal shall promptly be paid by such savings association, affiliate, or service corporation direct to such appraiser or appraisers upon receipt by the savings association, affiliate, or service corporation of a statement of such cost as approved by such Regional Director. A copy of the report of each appraisal made by the Office pursuant to any of the foregoing provisions of this section shall be furnished to the savings association, affiliate, or service corporation, as appropriate within a reasonable time, not to exceed 90 days, following the completion of such appraisals and the filing of a report thereof by the appraiser, or appraisers, with such Regional Director.

(2) The Office may obtain at any time, at its expense, such appraisals of any of the assets, including the security therefor, of a savings association, affiliate, or service corporation as the Office deems appropriate.

(c) *Establishment and maintenance of records.* To enable the Office to examine savings associations and affiliates and audit savings associations, affiliates, and service corporations pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section, each savings association, affiliate, and service corporation shall establish and maintain such accounting and other records as will provide an accurate and complete record of all business it transacts. This includes, without limitation, establishing and maintaining such other records as are required by statute or any other regulation to which the savings association, affiliate, or service corporation is subject. The documents, files, and other material or property comprising said records shall at all times be available for such examination and audit wherever any of said records, documents, files, material, or property may be.

(d) *Change in location of records.* A savings association shall not transfer the location of any of its general accounting or control records, or the maintenance thereof, from its home office to a branch or service office, or from a branch or service office to its home office or to another branch or service office unless prior to the date of transfer its board of directors has:

(1) By resolution authorized the transfer or maintenance and;

(2) Sent a certified copy of the resolution to the Regional Director of the OTS Region in which the principal office of the savings association is located.

(e) *Use of data processing services for maintenance of records.* A savings association which determines to maintain any of its records by means of data processing services shall so notify the Regional Director of the Region in which the principal office of such savings association is located, in writing, at least 90 days prior to the date on which such maintenance of records will begin. Such notification shall include identification of the records to be maintained by data processing services and a statement as to the location at which such records will be maintained. Any contract, agreement, or arrangement made by a savings association pursuant to which data processing services are to be performed for such savings association shall be in writing and shall expressly provide that the

records to be maintained by such services shall at all times be available for examination and audit.

[54 FR 49552, Nov. 30, 1989, as amended at 55 FR 34547, Aug. 23, 1990; 57 FR 14335, Apr. 20, 1992; 57 FR 40092, Sept. 2, 1992; 58 FR 28348, May 13, 1993; 59 FR 29502, June 7, 1994; 59 FR 53571, Oct. 25, 1994; 59 FR 60304, Nov. 23, 1994; 60 FR 66718, Dec. 26, 1995; 61 FR 50984, Sept. 30, 1996]

§ 563.171 Frequency of safety and soundness examination.

(a) *General*. The OTS examines savings associations pursuant to authority conferred by 12 U.S.C. 1463 and the requirements of 12 U.S.C. 1820(d). The OTS is required to conduct a full-scope, on-site examination of every savings association at least once during each 12-month period.

(b) *18-month rule for certain small institutions*. The OTS may conduct a full-scope, on-site examination of a savings association at least once during each 18-month period, rather than each 12-month period as provided in paragraph (a) of this section, if the following conditions are satisfied:

(1) The savings association has total assets of $250 million or less;

(2) The savings association is well capitalized as defined in § 565.4 of this chapter;

(3) At its most recent examination, the OTS found the savings association to be well managed;

(4) At its most recent examination, the OTS assigned the savings association a composite rating of 1 or 2, as defined in § 516.3(c) of this chapter;

(5) The savings association currently is not subject to a formal enforcement proceeding or order; and

(6) No person acquired control of the savings association during the preceding 12-month period in which a full-scope, on-site examination would have been required but for this section.

(c) *Authority to conduct more frequent examinations*. This section does not limit the authority of the OTS to examine any savings association as frequently as the agency deems necessary.

[63 FR 16381, Apr. 2, 1998, as amended at 64 FR 69185, Dec. 10, 1999]

§ 563.172 Financial derivatives.

(a) *What is a financial derivative?* A financial derivative is a financial contract whose value depends on the value of one or more underlying assets, indices, or reference rates. The most common types of financial derivatives are futures, forward commitments, options, and swaps. A mortgage derivative security, such as a collateralized mortgage obligation or a real estate mortgage investment conduit, is not a financial derivative under this section.

(b) *May I engage in transactions involving financial derivatives?* (1) If you are a Federal savings association, you may engage in a transaction involving a financial derivative if you are authorized to invest in the assets underlying the financial derivative, the transaction is safe and sound, and you otherwise meet the requirements in this section.

(2) If you are a state-chartered savings association, you may engage in a transaction involving a financial derivative if your charter or applicable State law authorizes you to engage in such transactions, the transaction is safe and sound, and you otherwise meet the requirements in this section.

(3) In general, if you engage in a transaction involving a financial derivative, you should do so to reduce your risk exposure.

(c) *What are my board of directors' responsibilities with respect to financial derivatives?* (1) Your board of directors is responsible for effective oversight of financial derivatives activities.

(2) Before you may engage in any transaction involving a financial derivative, your board of directors must establish written policies and procedures governing authorized financial derivatives. Your board of directors should review Thrift Bulletin 13a, ''Management of Interest Rate Risk, Investment Securities, and Derivatives Activities,'' and other applicable agency guidance on establishing a sound risk management program.

(3) Your board of directors must periodically review:

(i) Compliance with the policies and procedures established under paragraph (c)(2) of this section; and

(ii) The adequacy of these policies and procedures to ensure that they

continue to be appropriate to the nature and scope of your operations and existing market conditions.

(4) Your board of directors must ensure that management establishes an adequate system of internal controls for transactions involving financial derivatives.

(d) *What are management's responsibilities with respect to financial derivatives?* (1) Management is responsible for daily oversight and management of financial derivatives activities. Management must implement the policies and procedures established by the board of directors and must establish a system of internal controls. This system of internal controls should, at a minimum, provide for periodic reporting to the board of directors and management, segregation of duties, and internal review procedures.

(2) Management must ensure that financial derivatives activities are conducted in a safe and sound manner and should review Thrift Bulletin 13a, ''Management of Interest Rate Risk, Investment Securities, and Derivatives Activities'' (available at the address listed at § 516.1 of this chapter), and other applicable agency guidance on implementing a sound risk management program.

(e) *What records must I keep on financial derivative transactions?* You must maintain records adequate to demonstrate compliance with this section and with your board of directors' policies and procedures on financial derivatives.

[63 FR 66349, Dec. 1, 1998]

§ 563.176 Interest-rate-risk-management procedures.

Savings associations shall take the following actions:

(a) The board of directors or a committee thereof shall review the savings association's interest-rate-risk exposure and devise a policy for the savings association's management of that risk.

(b) The board of directors shall formerly adopt a policy for the management of interest-rate risk. The management of the savings association shall establish guidelines and procedures to ensure that the board's policy is successfully implemented.

(c) The management of the savings association shall periodically report to the board of directors regarding implementation of the savings association's policy for interest-rate-risk management and shall make that information available upon request to the Office.

(d) The savings association's board of directors shall review the results of operations at least quarterly and shall make such adjustments as it considers necessary and appropriate to the policy for interest-rate-risk management, including adjustments to the authorized acceptable level of interest-rate risk.

[54 FR 49552, Nov. 30, 1989, as amended at 58 FR 45813, Aug. 31, 1993; 59 FR 53571, Oct. 25, 1994]

§ 563.177 Procedures for monitoring Bank Secrecy Act compliance.

(a) *Purpose.* The purpose of this regulation is to require savings associations (as defined by § 561.43 of this chapter) to establish and maintain procedures reasonably designed to assure and monitor compliance with the requirements of subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code, and the implementing regulations promulgated thereunder by the U.S. Department of Treasury, 31 CFR part 103.

(b) *Compliance procedure.* On or before April 27, 1987, each savings association shall develop and provide for the continued administration of a program reasonably designed to assure and monitor compliance with the recordkeeping and reporting requirements set forth in subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code, and the implementing regulations promulgated thereunder by the Department of Treasury, 31 CFR part 103. The compliance program shall be reduced to writing, approved by the savings association's board of directors, and reflected in the minutes of the savings association.

(c) *Contents of compliance program.* The compliance program shall, at a minimum:

(1) Provide for a system of internal controls to assure ongoing compliance;

(2) Provide for independent testing for compliance to be conducted by a savings association's in-house personnel or by an outside party;

(3) Designate individual(s) responsible for coordinating and monitoring day-to-day compliance; and

(4) Provide training for appropriate personnel.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 3068–0530)

Subpart G—Reporting and Bonding

§ 563.180 Suspicious Activity Reports and other reports and statements.

(a) *Periodic reports.* Each savings association and service corporation thereof shall make such periodic or other reports of its affairs in such manner and on such forms as the Office may prescribe. The Office may provide that reports filed by savings associations or service corporations to meet the requirements of other regulations also satisfy requirements imposed under this section.

(b) *False or misleading statements or omissions.* No savings association or director, officer, agent, employee, affiliated person, or other person participating in the conduct of the affairs of such association nor any person filing or seeking approval of any application shall knowingly:

(1) Make any written or oral statement to the Office or to an agent, representative or employee of the Office that is false or misleading with respect to any material fact or omits to state a material fact concerning any matter within the jurisdiction of the Office; or

(2) Make any such statement or omission to a person or organization auditing a savings association or otherwise preparing or reviewing its financial statements concerning the accounts, assets, management condition, ownership, safety, or soundness, or other affairs of the association.

(c) *Notifications of loss and reports of increase in deductible amount of bond.* A savings association maintaining bond coverage as required by § 563.190 of this part shall promptly notify its bond company and file a proof of loss under the procedures provided by its bond, concerning any covered losses greater than twice the deductible amount. Whenever a deductible amount specified in a bond is increased above the permissible deductible amount specified in the table in § 563.190(b) of this part, the affected savings association or service corporation shall report promptly the facts concerning such increase in writing to the OTS.

(d) *Suspicious Activity Reports*—(1) *Purpose and scope.* This paragraph (d) ensures that savings associations and service corporations file a Suspicious Activity Report when they detect a known or suspected violation of Federal law or a suspicious transaction related to a money laundering activity or a violation of the Bank Secrecy Act.

(2) *Definitions.* For the purposes of this paragraph (d):

(i) *FinCEN* means the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network of the Department of the Treasury.

(ii) *Institution-affiliated party* means any institution-affiliated party as that term is defined in sections 3(u) and 8(b)(9) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813(u) and 1818(b)(9)).

(iii) *SAR* means a Suspicious Activity Report on the form prescribed by the OTS.

(3) *SARs required.* A savings association or service corporation shall file a SAR with the appropriate Federal law enforcement agencies and the Department of the Treasury in accordance with the form's instructions, by sending a completed SAR to FinCEN in the following circumstances:

(i) *Insider abuse involving any amount.* Whenever the savings association or service corporation detects any known or suspected Federal criminal violation, or pattern of criminal violations, committed or attempted against the savings association or service corporation or involving a transaction or transactions conducted through the savings association or service corporation, where the savings association or service corporation believes that it was either an actual or potential victim of a criminal violation, or series of criminal violations, or that it was used to facilitate a criminal transaction, and it has a substantial basis for identifying one of its directors, officers, employees, agents or other institution-affiliated parties as having committed or aided in the commission of a criminal act, regardless of the amount involved in the violation.

(ii) *Violations aggregating $5,000 or more where a suspect can be identified.* Whenever the savings association or service corporation detects any known or suspected Federal criminal violation, or pattern of criminal violations, committed or attempted against the savings association or service corporation or involving a transaction or transactions conducted through the savings association or service corporation and involving or aggregating $5,000 or more in funds or other assets, where the savings association or service corporation believes that it was either an actual or potential victim of a criminal violation or series of criminal violations, or that it was used to facilitate a criminal transaction, and it has a substantial basis for identifying a possible suspect or group of suspects. If it is determined prior to filing this report that the identified suspect or group of suspects has used an alias, then information regarding the true identity of the suspect or group of suspects, as well as alias identifiers, such as drivers' license or social security numbers, addresses and telephone numbers, must be reported.

(iii) *Violations aggregating $25,000 or more regardless of potential suspects.* Whenever the savings association or service corporation detects any known or suspected Federal criminal violation, or pattern of criminal violations, committed or attempted against the savings association or service corporation or involving a transaction or transactions conducted through the savings association or service corporation and involving or aggregating $25,000 or more in funds or other assets, where the savings association or service corporation believes that it was either an actual or potential victim of a criminal violation or series of criminal violations, or that it was used to facilitate a criminal transaction, even though there is no substantial basis for identifying a possible suspect or group of suspects.

(iv) *Transactions aggregating $5,000 or more that involve potential money laundering or violations of the Bank Secrecy Act.* Any transaction (which for purposes of this paragraph (d)(3)(iv) means a deposit, withdrawal, transfer between accounts, exchange of currency, loan, extension of credit, purchase or sale of any stock, bond, certificate of deposit, or other monetary instrument or investment security, or any other payment, transfer, or delivery by, through, or to a financial institution, by whatever means effected) conducted or attempted by, at or through the savings association or service corporation and involving or aggregating $5,000 or more in funds or other assets, if the savings association or service corporation knows, suspects, or has reason to suspect that:

(A) The transaction involves funds derived from illegal activities or is intended or conducted in order to hide or disguise funds or assets derived from illegal activities (including, without limitation, the ownership, nature, source, location, or control of such funds or assets) as part of a plan to violate or evade any law or regulation or to avoid any transaction reporting requirement under Federal law;

(B) The transaction is designed to evade any regulations promulgated under the Bank Secrecy Act; or

(C) The transaction has no business or apparent lawful purpose or is not the sort in which the particular customer would normally be expected to engage, and the institution knows of no reasonable explanation for the transaction after examining the available facts, including the background and possible purpose of the transaction.

(4) *Service corporations.* When a service corporation is required to file a SAR under paragraph (d)(3) of this section, either the service corporation or a savings association that wholly or partially owns the service corporation may file the SAR.

(5) *Time for reporting.* A savings association or service corporation is required to file a SAR no later than 30 calendar days after the date of initial detection of facts that may constitute a basis for filing a SAR. If no suspect was identified on the date of detection of the incident requiring the filing, a savings association or service corporation may delay filing a SAR for an additional 30 calendar days to identify a suspect. In no case shall reporting be delayed more than 60 calendar days after the date of initial detection of a

reportable transaction. In situations involving violations requiring immediate attention, such as when a reportable violation is ongoing, the savings association or service corporation shall immediately notify, by telephone, an appropriate law enforcement authority and the OTS in addition to filing a timely SAR.

(6) *Reports to state and local authorities.* A savings association or service corporation is encouraged to file a copy of the SAR with state and local law enforcement agencies where appropriate.

(7) *Exception.* A savings association or service corporation need not file a SAR for a robbery or burglary committed or attempted that is reported to appropriate law enforcement authorities.

(8) *Retention of records.* A savings association or service corporation shall maintain a copy of any SAR filed and the original or business record equivalent of any supporting documentation for a period of five years from the date of the filing of the SAR. Supporting documentation shall be identified and maintained by the savings association or service corporation as such, and shall be deemed to have been filed with the SAR. A savings association or service corporation shall make all supporting documentation available to appropriate law enforcement agencies upon request.

(9) *Notification to board of directors*—(i) *Generally.* Whenever a savings association (or a service corporation in which the savings association has an ownership interest) files a SAR pursuant to this paragraph (d), the management of the savings association or service corporation shall promptly notify its board of directors, or a committee of directors or executive officers designated by the board of directors to receive notice.

(ii) *Suspect is a director or executive officer.* If the savings association or service corporation files a SAR pursuant to this paragraph (d) and the suspect is a director or executive officer, the savings association or service corporation may not notify the suspect, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 5318(g)(2), but shall notify all directors who are not suspects.

(10) *Compliance.* Failure to file a SAR in accordance with this section and the instructions may subject the savings association or service corporation, its directors, officers, employees, agents, or other institution-affiliated parties to supervisory action.

(11) *Obtaining SARs.* A savings association or service corporation may obtain SARs and the instructions from the appropriate OTS Regional Office listed in 12 CFR 516.1(b).

(12) *Confidentiality of SARs.* SARs are confidential. Any institution or person subpoenaed or otherwise requested to disclose a SAR or the information contained in a SAR shall decline to produce the SAR or to provide any information that would disclose that a SAR has been prepared or filed, citing this paragraph (d), applicable law (*e.g.*, 31 U.S.C. 5318(g)), or both, and shall notify the OTS.

(13) *Safe harbor.* The safe harbor provision of 31 U.S.C. 5318(g), which exempts any financial institution that makes a disclosure of any possible violation of law or regulation from liability under any law or regulation of the United States, or any constitution, law or regulation of any state or political subdivision, covers all reports of suspected or known criminal violations and suspicious activities to law enforcement and financial institution supervisory authorities, including supporting documentation, regardless of whether such reports are filed pursuant to this paragraph (d), or are filed on a voluntary basis.

(e) *Adjustable-rate mortgage indices*—(1) *Reporting obligation.* Upon the request of a Federal Home Loan Bank, all savings associations within the jurisdiction of that Federal Home Loan Bank shall report the data items set forth in paragraph (e)(2) of this section for the Federal Home Loan Bank to use in calculating and publishing an adjustable-rate mortgage index.

(2) *Data to be reported.* For purposes of paragraph (e)(1) of this section, the term ''data items'' means the data items previously collected from the monthly Thrift Financial Report and such data items as may be altered, amended, or substituted by the requesting Federal Home Loan Bank.

(3) *Applicable indices.* For the purpose of this reporting requirement, the term ''adjustable-rate mortgage index''

means any of the adjustable-rate mortgage indices calculated and published by a Federal Home Loan Bank or the Federal Home Loan Bank Board on or before August 9, 1989.

[54 FR 49552, Nov. 30, 1989, as amended at 56 FR 29566, June 28, 1991; 56 FR 32474, July 16, 1991; 57 FR 61251, Dec. 24, 1992; 59 FR 66159, Dec. 23, 1994; 61 FR 6105, Feb. 16, 1996]

§ 563.181 Reports of change in control of mutual savings associations.

(a) *Reports of change in control*—(1) *When reports are required*. Reports are required under this paragraph (a) whenever any change occurs in the control of savings association and no report is required under any other paragraph of this section. As used in this section, the term ''control'' means power, directly or indirectly, to direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of the savings association, and the term ''savings association'' means a mutual savings association. Reports shall be made to the Office by the president or other chief executive officer of the savings association involved within 15 days after he or she obtains knowledge of such change. If there is any doubt as to whether a change in control has occurred, such doubt shall be resolved in favor of reporting to the Office.

(2) *Contents of reports*. Reports of change in the control of a savings association, as required under this paragraph (a), shall contain the following information to the extent that such information is known by the person making the report:

(i) The name or names of the person or persons who acquired such control;

(ii) The basis of such control; and

(iii) The date and a description of the transaction or transactions by which such control was acquired.

(b) *Reports of changes in voting stock or voting rights*—(1) *When reports are required*. (i) Reports are required under this paragraph (b) whenever a change occurs in the outstanding voting stock or voting rights of a savings association resulting in control or a change in the control of such savings association. Reports shall be made to the Office by the president or other chief executive officer of the savings association involved within 15 days after he or she obtains knowledge of such change. If there is any doubt as to whether such a change has resulted in control or a change in control, such doubt shall be resolved in favor of reporting to the Office.

(ii) Without any limitation on the foregoing, a report is required under this paragraph (b) whenever any person, partnership, corporation, trust or group of associated persons acquires, receives, or becomes the holder of:

(A) Ten percent or more of the outstanding shares of any class of the voting stock of the savings association or of the voting rights thereto;

(B) Ten percent or more of the outstanding voting rights of the savings association; or

(C) Any appointment, designation or right of substitution with respect to 10 percent or more of the outstanding voting rights of the savings association.

(2) *Contents of reports*—(i) *General*. The reports required under this paragraph (b) shall contain the items of information set forth below to the extent that such information is known by the person making the report. In addition, such reports shall contain such other information as may be available to inform the Office of the effect of the transaction upon control of the savings association.

(ii) *Reports of changes in voting stock or voting rights with respect to such stock*. Reports of changes in ownership of voting stock or holdings of voting rights with respect to such stock, resulting in control or a change in the control of a savings association, shall contain the following information:

(A) The number of shares of each class of voting stock and the number of voting rights with respect thereto involved in the transaction;

(B) The names of the purchasers (or transferees) of such stock or such voting rights;

(C) The names of the sellers (or transferors) of such stock or voting rights;

(D) The amount of consideration received by the sellers (or transferors) in connection with the transaction;

(E) The names of the beneficial owners if the shares or voting rights are of record in another name or other names;

(F) The total number of shares of each class of voting stock owned by the sellers (or transferors), the purchasers (or transferees), and the beneficial owners both immediately before and after the transaction;

(G) The total number of shares of each class of voting stock outstanding both immediately before and after the transaction;

(H) The total number of voting rights (with respect to voting stock) held by the sellers (or transferors), the purchasers (or transferees), and the beneficial owners both immediately before and after the transaction;

(I) The total number of such voting rights outstanding both immediately before and after the transaction; and

(J) In the case of any appointment, designation, or substitution of a holder or holders of such voting rights, the name or names of the holder or holders both immediately before and after the transaction.

(iii) *Reports of changes in voting rights with respect to withdrawable accounts.* Reports of changes in holding of voting rights with respect to withdrawable accounts, resulting in control or a change in the control of a savings association, shall contain the following information:

(A) In the case of a transfer or transfers of such voting rights from one holder or group of holders to another holder or group of holders;

(*1*) The date of each such transfer; and

(*2*) The name or names of the acquiring holder or holders and of the transferor or transferors (unless such transferors are the original owners of the accounts to which such voting rights attach);

(B) In the case of any appointment, designation, or substitution of a holder or holders of voting rights, with respect to a holder or group of holders already having control:

(*1*) The date of such appointment, designation or substitution; and

(*2*) The names of each of the holders both immediately before and after such change; and

(C) In the case of any other acquisition of or change in control (without regard to the number of voting rights involved):

(*1*) The name or names of the person or persons acquiring such control;

(*2*) The basis of such control; and

(*3*) The date and a description of such acquisition or change.

(c) *Reports of solicitation of voting rights*—(1) *When reports are required.* Reports are required under this paragraph (c) whenever any person, partnership, corporation, trust, or group of associated persons:

(i) Solicits voting rights with respect to 10 percent or more of the outstanding shares of any class of voting stock of a savings association.

(ii) Solicits 10 percent or more of the outstanding voting rights in a savings association; or

(iii) Solicits any voting rights in a savings association when such solicitor already holds either:

(A) Voting rights with respect to 10 percent or more of the outstanding shares of any class of the voting stock of such savings association; or

(B) Ten percent or more of the outstanding voting rights in such savings association.

(2) *Content of reports*—(i) *General.* The reports required under this paragraph (c) shall contain the items of information set forth below to the extent that such information is known by the person making the report. In addition, such reports shall contain such other information as may be available to inform the Office of the possible impact of the solicitation upon control of the savings association.

(ii) *Voting rights with respect to stock.* Reports of solicitation of voting rights with respect to any class of voting stock of a savings association shall contain the following information:

(A) The name or names of the person or persons making the solicitation;

(B) The extent of such solicitation (including relevant dates) and the class or classes of such voting stock with respect to which the solicitation of voting rights is made;

(C) The number of shares of such class or classes of voting stock which the solicitor already owns and the total number of voting rights with respect thereto which he or she holds at the time of such solicitation; and

(D) The total number of shares of such class or classes of voting stock

outstanding at the time of such solicitation.

(iii) *Voting rights with respect to withdrawable accounts.* Reports of solicitation of voting rights with respect to withdrawable accounts of a savings association shall contain the following information:

(A) The name or names of the person or persons making the solicitation;

(B) The extent of such solicitation (including relevant dates); and

(C) The approximate percentage of the outstanding voting rights which the solicitor already holds at the time of such solicitation.

(d) *Definitions.* As used in this section—

(1) The term *stock* means rights, interest, or powers with respect to a mutual savings association.

(2) The term *voting rights* means stock which carries voting rights.

(3) The term *voting rights* means proxies, consents, or authorizations which give the holder or holders the right to vote with respect to shares of voting stock, or with respect to withdrawable accounts, in a savings association.

§ 563.183 Reports of change in chief executive officer or director; other reports; form and filing of such reports.

(a) *Definitions used in this section*—(1) *Control.* The term ''control'' means power, directly or indirectly, to direct the management or policies of a savings association or to vote 25 percent or more of any class of the voting stock or voting rights in a savings association.

(2) *Savings association.* The term ''savings association'' means a savings association, whether in mutual or stock form, and any savings and loan holding company as defined in section 10 of the Home Owners' Loan Act.

(3) *Stock.* The term ''stock'' means any permanent or guaranty stock or other nonwithdrawable account, share, or equity security in a savings association.

(4) *Voting stock.* The term ''voting stock'' means any stock which carries voting rights.

(5) *Voting rights.* The term ''voting rights'' means any proxies, consents, or authorizations which give the holder(s) the right to vote with respect to shares of voting stock or withdrawable accounts in a savings association.

(b) *Reports of change in chief executive officer or director.* Whenever a change resulting in control or a change in control of a savings association has occurred concurrently with or within 60 days after or 12 months before a change or replacement of the chief executive officer or any director of the savings association, a report shall be filed containing the following:

(1) The name of the new chief executive officer or director;

(2) The effective date of the person's appointment or election; and

(3) A statement of the person's past and current business and professional affiliations.

(c) *Form and filing of reports.* (1) Unless otherwise specified by the Office, a report required by § 563.181 of this part or this section § 563.183 shall be done in accordance with § 516.1(c) of this chapter.

(2) Such a report shall be made by the president or other chief executive officer of the savings association.

(3) Such a report shall be filed within 15 days after the person making it learns of the change in control or the activity which necessitates filing the report, except that a report required under paragraph (b) of this section shall be filed within 15 days after the effective date of the change or replacement of the chief executive officer or director, or within 15 days after the officer making the report obtains knowledge of the change or replacement, whichever occurs later.

(d) *Other reports.* The Office may also require savings associations and individuals or other persons who have or have had any connection with the management of any savings association, including any present or former director, officer, controlling person, or agent of a savings association, to provide such periodic or other reports as it may determine to be necessary or appropriate for protection of investors or the Office.

[54 FR 49552, Nov. 30, 1989, as amended at 60 FR 66718, Dec. 26, 1995]

§ 563.190 Bonds for directors, officers, employees, and agents; form of and amount of bonds.

(a) Each savings association shall maintain fidelity bond coverage. The bond shall cover each director, officer, employee, and agent who has control over or access to cash, securities, or other property of the savings association.

(b) The amount of coverage to be required for each savings association shall be determined by the association's management, based on its assessment of the level that would be safe and sound in view of the association's potential exposure to risk; provided, such determination shall be subject to approval by the association's board of directors.

(c) Each savings association may maintain bond coverage in addition to that provided by the insurance underwriter industry's standard forms, through the use of endorsements, riders, or other forms of supplemental coverage, if, in the judgment of the association's board of directors, additional coverage is warranted.

(d) The board of directors of each savings association shall formally approve the association's bond coverage. In deciding whether to approve the bond coverage, the board shall review the adequacy of the standard coverage and the need for supplemental coverage. Documentation of the board's approval shall be included as a part of the minutes of the meeting at which the board approves coverage. Additionally, the board of directors shall review the association's bond coverage at least annually to assess the continuing adequacy of coverage.

[57 FR 12698, Apr. 13, 1992]

§ 563.191 Bonds for agents.

In lieu of the bond provided in § 563.190 of this part in the case of agents appointed by a savings association, a fidelity bond may be provided in an amount at least twice the average monthly collections of such agents, provided such agents shall be required to make settlement with the savings association at least monthly, and provided such bond is approved by the board of directors of the savings association. No bond need be obtained for any agent that is a financial institution insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

§ 563.200 Conflicts of interest.

If you are a director, officer, or employee of a savings association, or have the power to direct its management or policies, or otherwise owe a fiduciary duty to a savings association:

(a) You must not advance your own personal or business interests, or those of others with whom you have a personal or business relationship, at the expense of the savings association; and

(b) You must, if you have an interest in a matter or transaction before the board of directors:

(1) Disclose to the board all material nonprivileged information relevant to the board's decision on the matter or transaction, including:

(i) The existence, nature and extent of your interests; and

(ii) The facts known to you as to the matter or transaction under consideration;

(2) Refrain from participating in the board's discussion of the matter or transaction; and

(3) Recuse yourself from voting on the matter or transaction (if you are a director).

[61 FR 60178, Nov. 27, 1996]

§ 563.201 Corporate opportunity.

(a) If you are a director or officer of a savings association, or have the power to direct its management or policies, or otherwise owe a fiduciary duty to a savings association, you must not take advantage of corporate opportunities belonging to the savings association.

(b) A corporate opportunity belongs to a savings association if:

(1) The opportunity is within the corporate powers of the savings association or a subsidiary of the savings association; and

(2) The opportunity is of present or potential practical advantage to the savings association, either directly or through its subsidiary.

(c) OTS will not deem you to have taken advantage of a corporate opportunity belonging to the savings association if a disinterested and independent majority of the savings association's board of directors, after receiving a full and fair presentation of the matter, rejected the opportunity as a matter of sound business judgment.

[61 FR 60179, Nov. 27, 1996]

Subpart H—Notice of Change of Director or Senior Executive Officer

SOURCE: 63 FR 51274, Sept. 25, 1998, unless otherwise noted.

§ 563.550 What does this subpart do?

This subpart implements 12 U.S.C. 1831i, which requires certain savings associations and savings and loan holding companies to notify the OTS before appointing or employing directors and senior executive officers.

§ 563.555 What definitions apply to this subpart?

The following definitions apply to this subpart:

Director means an individual who serves on the board of directors of a savings association or savings and loan holding company. This term does not include an advisory director who:

(1) Is not elected by the shareholders;

(2) Is not authorized to vote on any matters before the board of directors or any committee of the board of directors;

(3) Provides only general policy advice to the board of directors or any committee of the board of directors; and

(4) Has not been identified by the OTS in writing as an individual who performs the functions of a director, or who exercises significant influence over, or participates in, major policymaking decisions of the board of directors.

Senior executive officer means an individual who holds the title or performs the function of one or more of the following positions (without regard to title, salary, or compensation): president, chief executive officer, chief operating officer, chief financial officer, chief lending officer, or chief investment officer. *Senior executive officer* also includes any other person identified by the OTS in writing as an individual who exercises significant influence over, or participates in, major policymaking decisions, whether or not hired as an employee.

Troubled condition means:

(1) A savings association that has a composite rating of 4 or 5, as defined in § 516.3(c) of this chapter;

(2) A savings and loan holding company that has an unsatisfactory rating under the OTS's holding company rating system, or that is informed in writing by the OTS that it has an adverse effect on its subsidiary savings association;

(3) A savings association or savings and loan holding company that is subject to a capital directive, a cease-and-desist order, a consent order, a formal written agreement, or a prompt corrective action directive relating to the safety and soundness or financial viability of the savings association, unless otherwise informed in writing by the OTS; or

(4) A savings association or savings and loan holding company that is informed in writing by the OTS that it is in troubled condition based on information available to the OTS.

§ 563.560 Who must give prior notice?

(a) *Savings association or savings and loan holding company*. Except as provided under § 563.590, you must notify the OTS at least 30 days before adding or replacing any member of your board of directors, employing any person as a senior executive officer, or changing the responsibilities of any senior executive officer so that the person would assume a different senior executive position if:

(1) You are a savings association and at least one of the following circumstances apply:

(i) You do not comply with all minimum capital requirements under part 567 of this chapter;

(ii) You are in troubled condition; or

(iii) The OTS has notified you, in connection with its review of a capital restoration plan required under section 38 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act or part 565 of this chapter or otherwise,

that a notice is required under this subpart; or

(2) You are a savings and loan holding company and you are in troubled condition.

(b) *Notice by individual.* If you are an individual seeking election to the board of directors of a savings association or savings and loan holding company described in paragraph (a) of this section, and have not been nominated by management, you must either provide the prior notice required under paragraph (a) of this section or follow the process under § 563.590(b).

§ 563.565 What procedures govern the filing of my notice?

The procedures found in § 516.1 of this chapter govern the filing of your notice under § 563.560.

§ 563.570 What information must I include in my notice?

(a) *Content requirements.* Your notice must include:

(1) The information required under 12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(6)(A), and the information prescribed in the Interagency Notice of Change in Director or Senior Executive Officer and the Interagency Biographical and Financial Report which are available from OTS headquarters at the address in part 516 of this chapter; or from any OTS regional office;

(2) Legible fingerprints of the proposed director or senior executive officer. You are not required to file fingerprints if, within three years prior to the date of submission of the notice, the proposed director or senior executive officer provided legible fingerprints as part of a notice filed with the OTS under 12 U.S.C. 1831i; and

(3) Such other information required by the OTS.

(b) *Modification of content requirements.* The OTS may require or accept other information in place of the content requirements in paragraph (a) of this section.

§ 563.575 What procedures govern OTS review of my notice for completeness?

The OTS will first review your notice to determine whether it is complete.

(a) If your notice is complete, the OTS will notify you in writing of the date that the OTS received the complete notice.

(b) If your notice is not complete, the OTS will notify you in writing what additional information you need to submit, why we need the information, and when you must submit it. You must, within the specified time period, provide additional information or request that the OTS suspend processing of the notice. If you fail to act within the specified time period, the OTS may treat the notice as withdrawn or may review the application based on the information provided.

§ 563.580 What standards and procedures will govern OTS review of the substance of my notice?

The OTS will disapprove a notice if, pursuant to the standard set forth in 12 U.S.C. 1831i(e), the OTS finds that the competence, experience, character, or integrity of the proposed director or senior executive officer indicates that it would not be in the best interests of the depositors of the savings association or of the public to permit the individual to be employed by, or associated with, the savings association or savings and loan holding company. If the OTS disapproves a notice, it will issue a written notice that explains why the OTS disapproved the notice. The OTS will send the notice to the savings association or savings and loan holding company and the individual.

§ 563.585 When may a proposed director or senior executive officer begin service?

(a) A proposed director or senior executive officer may begin service 30 days after the date the OTS receives all required information, unless:

(1) The OTS notifies you that it has disapproved the notice; or

(2) The OTS extends the 30-day period for an additional period not to exceed 60 days. If the OTS extends the 30-day period, it will notify you in writing that the period has been extended, and will state the reason for the extension. The proposed director or senior executive officer may begin service upon expiration of the extended period, unless

the OTS notifies you that it has disapproved the notice during the extended period.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this section, a proposed director or senior executive officer may begin service after the OTS notifies you, in writing, of its intention not to disapprove the notice.

§ 563.590 When will the OTS waive the prior notice requirement?

(a) *Waiver request.* (1) An individual may serve as a director or senior executive officer before filing a notice under this subpart if the OTS issues a written finding that:

(i) Delay would threaten the safety or soundness of the savings association;

(ii) Delay would not be in the public interest; or

(iii) Other extraordinary circumstances exist that justify waiver of prior notice.

(2) If the OTS grants a waiver, you must file a notice under this subpart within the time period specified by the OTS.

(b) *Automatic waiver.* An individual may serve as a director before filing a notice under this subpart, if the individual was not nominated by management and the individual submits a notice under this subpart within seven days after election as a director.

(c) *Subsequent OTS action.* The OTS may disapprove a notice within 30 days after the OTS issues a waiver under paragraph (a) of this section or within 30 days after the election of an individual who has filed a notice and is serving pursuant to an automatic waiver under paragraph (b) of this section.

PART 563b—CONVERSIONS FROM MUTUAL TO STOCK FORM

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Subpart B [Reserved]

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Subpart D [Reserved]

Subpart E—Forms

563b.100 Form AC—Application for Conversion.
563b.101 Form PS—Proxy Statements.
563b.102 Form OC—Offering Circulars.

AUTHORITY: 12 U.S.C. 1462, 1462a, 1463, 1464, 1467a, 2901; 15 U.S.C. 78c, 78l, 78m, 78n, 78w.

SOURCE: 54 FR 49596, Nov. 30, 1989, unless otherwise noted.

§ 563b.1 Scope of part.

(a) *General.* Except as the Office may otherwise determine, the provisions of this part shall exclusively govern the conversion of mutual savings associations to capital stock associations, and no mutual savings association shall convert to the capital stock form without the prior written consent of the Office. The Office may grant a waiver in writing from any requirement of this part for good cause shown.

(b) *Provisions of prescribed forms.* Any provision in a form prescribed under this part and covering the same subject matter as any provision of this part