Office of Thrift Supervision, Treasury

APPENDIX TO PART 535—OFFICIAL STAFF COMMENTARY

SUBPART A—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 535.1 Authority, Purpose, and Scope.

1(c) Scope

1. Penalties for noncompliance. Administrative enforcement of the rule for savings associations may involve actions under section 8 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1818), including cease-and-desist orders requiring that actions be taken to remedy violations and civil money penalties.

2. Application to subsidiaries. The term “savings association” as used in this Appendix also includes subsidiaries owned in whole or in part by a savings association.

PART 536—CONSUMER PROTECTION IN SALES OF INSURANCE

Sec.

536.10 Purpose and scope.

536.20 Definitions.

536.30 Prohibited practices.

536.40 What you must disclose.

536.50 Where insurance activities may take place.

536.60 Qualification and licensing requirements for insurance sales personnel.

APPENDIX A TO PART 536—CONSUMER GRIEVANCE PROCESS.

AUTHORITY: 12 U.S.C. 1462a, 1463, 1464, 1467a, and 1831x.

SOURCE: 65 FR 75845, Dec. 4, 2000, unless otherwise noted.

§ 536.10 Purpose and scope.

(a) General rule. This part establishes consumer protections in connection with retail sales practices, solicitations, advertising, or offers of any insurance product or annuity to a consumer by:

(1) Any savings association; or

(2) Any other person that is engaged in such activities at an office of a savings association or on behalf of a savings association.

(b) Application to operating subsidiaries. For purposes of §559.3(h) of this chapter, an operating subsidiary is subject to this part only to the extent that it sells, solicits, advertises, or offers insurance products or annuities at an office of a savings association or on behalf of a savings association.

§ 536.20 Definitions.

As used in this part:

Affiliate means a company that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with another company.

Company means any corporation, partnership, business trust, association or similar organization, or any other trust (unless by its terms the trust must terminate within twenty-five years or not later than twenty-one years and ten months after the death of individuals living on the effective date of the trust). It does not include any corporation the majority of the shares of which are owned by the United States or by any State, or a qualified family partnership, as defined in section 2(o)(10) of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1841(o)(10)).

Consumer means an individual who purchases, applies to purchase, or is solicited to purchase from a covered person insurance products or annuities primarily for personal, family, or household purposes.

Control of a company has the same meaning as in section 3(w)(5) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813(w)(5)).

Domestic violence means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts by a current or former family member, household member, intimate partner, or caretaker:

(1) Attempting to cause or causing or threatening another person physical harm, severe emotional distress, psychological trauma, rape, or sexual assault;

(2) Engaging in a course of conduct or repeatedly committing acts toward another person, including following the person without proper authority, under circumstances that place the person in reasonable fear of bodily injury or physical harm;

(3) Subjecting another person to false imprisonment; or

(4) Attempting to cause or causing damage to property so as to intimidate or attempt to control the behavior of another person.

Electronic media includes any means for transmitting messages electronically between a covered person and a consumer in a format that allows visual text to be displayed on equipment,