Request for Comment

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the FDIC’s functions, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the estimates of the burden of the information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated at Washington, DC, this 22nd day of July 2011.  
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Robert E. Feldman,  
Executive Secretary.

Supplementary Information: Proposal to renew the following currently approved collections of information:
1. Title: Recordkeeping and Disclosure Requirements in Connection with Regulation M (Consumer Leasing).
OMB Number: 3064–0083.
Frequency of Response: On occasion.
Affected Public: State nonmember banks engaging in consumer leasing.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 2000.
Estimated Time per Response: 0.75 hours ongoing; one-time systems update—40 hours.
Total Annual Burden: 166,000 hours ongoing; 80,000 hours one-time update.
General Description of Collection: Regulation M (12 CFR 213), issued by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, implements the Truth in Leasing Act.

2. Title: Recordkeeping and Disclosure Requirements in Connection with Regulation B (Equal Credit Opportunity).
OMB Number: 3064–0085.
Frequency of Response: On occasion.
Affected Public: State nonmember banks engaging in credit transactions.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 4,380.
Estimated Time per Response: notice of action—2.5 minutes; credit reporting—2 minutes; data monitoring—0.5 minutes; initial report—5 minutes; notice of right to appraisal—0.25 minutes; test recordkeeping—2
hours; corrective action recordkeeping—8 hours; self-test disclosure—1 minute.
Total Annual Burden: 599,924.

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Notice of Agreement Filed

The Commission hereby gives notice of the filing of the following agreement under the Shipping Act of 1984. Interested parties may submit comments on the agreement to the Secretary, Federal Maritime Commission, Washington, DC 20573, within ten days of the date this notice appears in the Federal Register. A copy of the agreement is available through the Commission’s Web site (http://www.fmc.gov) or by contacting the Office of Agreements at (202)-523–5793 or tradeanalysis@fmc.gov.

Agreement No.: 012134.
Title: Maersk Line/MSC Panama Space Charter Agreement.
Parties: A.P. Moller-Maersk A/S and Mediterranean Shipping Company S.A.

Synopsis: The agreement authorizes MSC to charter space to Maersk Line in the trade from Panama to U.S. Gulf Coast ports.

Dated: July 22, 2011.

By Order of the Federal Maritime Commission.

Karen V. Gregory,  
Secretary.

In connection with the above application, Margaret Kirschner, individually and as trustee and co-trustee of various trusts, has applied to retain voting shares of Town and Country Financial Corporation, Springfield, Illinois, and thereby indirectly retain control of Town and Country Bank, Springfield, Illinois, and Logan County Bank, Lincoln, Illinois. In addition, David E. Kirschner, individually and as trustee and co-trustee of various trusts, has applied to retain voting shares of Town and Country Financial Corporation, Springfield, Illinois, and thereby indirectly retain control of Town and Country Bank, Springfield, Illinois, and Logan County Bank, Lincoln, Illinois.

C. Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis (Jacqueline G. King, Community Affairs Officer) 90 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402–0991.

1. Stephen L. Grobel, Tabb, Virginia; to individually acquire voting shares of First Community Bancorp, Inc., Glasgow, Montana, and thereby indirectly acquire voting shares of First Community Bank, Glasgow, Montana.

In addition, Stephen L. Grobel and Peter J. Grobel, Helena, Montana, as members of the Grobel Family Group, to acquire voting shares of First Community Bancorp, Inc., and thereby indirectly acquire voting shares of First Community Bank, Glasgow, Montana.

D. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (Kenneth Binning, Vice President, Applications and Enforcement) 101 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94105–1579:

1. Castle Creek Capital Partners IV, L.P., and persons that are acting with, or control Castle Creek Capital Partners IV, L.P. (Castle Creek Advisors IV, LLC; Castle Creek Capital IV, LLC; John T. Pietrzak; Pietrzak Advisory Corp.; John M. Eggemeyer, III; JME Advisory Corp.; William J. Ruh; Ruh Advisory Corp.; Mark G. Merlo; Legions IV Corp.; Joseph Mikesell Thomas and Thomas Advisory Corp., all of Rancho Santa Fe, California; to acquire voting shares of First NBC Bank Holding Company, and thereby indirectly acquire voting shares of First NBC Bank, both of New Orleans, Louisiana.


Robert deV. Frierson, Deputy Secretary of the Board.

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FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Statement of Policy Regarding Communications in Connection With the Collection of Decedents’ Debts

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission (“FTC” or “Commission”).

ACTION: Policy statement.


1. When a person dies, creditors and the debt collectors they hire usually have the right to collect on the person’s debts from the assets of his or her estate. Sections 805(b) and (d) of the FDCPA prohibit debt collectors from contacting individuals other than the debtor to collect a debt, unless the individual is the debtor’s spouse, parent (if the debtor is a minor), guardian, executor, or administrator. The Commission has learned that, to recover on a decedent’s debts, some debt collectors contact the decedent’s relatives, although these relatives may have no authority to pay the debts from the decedent’s estate and no legal obligation to pay the debts from their own assets. By contacting persons who are not specified in Section 805 of the FDCPA, and by engaging in practices that may deceive those persons about their obligations, these debt collectors may be violating the FDCPA. The Commission recognizes, however, that imposing unnecessary restrictions on a debt collector’s ability to collect a decedent’s debt from the person authorized to pay those debts may instead cause some debt collectors to seek to recover by invoking the probate process, imposing substantial costs on the estate and delaying the distribution of assets to heirs and beneficiaries. To balance these interests and protect consumers from unfair, deceptive, and abusive practices, this Statement announces that the FTC will forebear from enforcing Section 805(b) of the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. 1692c(b), against a debt collector for communicating about a decedent’s debts with persons specifically identified as appropriate to contact under Section 805 of the FDCPA (e.g., spouse, parent, guardian, executor, or administrator) or any other person who has the authority to pay the decedent’s debts from the assets of the decedent’s estate. The Statement also clarifies how a debt collector can comply with the law in locating the person who has the requisite authority with whom to discuss the decedent’s debts. Finally, the Statement explains how a debt collector can avoid engaging in deceptive practices in communicating with a third party about a decedent’s debts.

DATES: This final statement of policy is effective on August 29, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Requests for copies of this Statement should be sent to: Public Reference Branch, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 130, Washington, DC 20580. The complete record of this proceeding is also available at that address. Relevant portions of the proceeding, including the final Statement, are available at (http://www.ftc.gov).


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. The Proposed Policy Statement and Public Comments Received

On October 8, 2010, the Commission published in the Federal Register a notice of proposed statement of enforcement policy regarding communications in connection with the collection of decedents’ debts (“proposed Statement”). The proposed Statement addressed three issues under the FDCPA pertaining to debt collectors who attempt to collect on the debts of deceased persons: (1) With whom a debt collector may lawfully discuss a decedent’s debt consistent with the