# #2016-079

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY

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In the Matter of:

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. Sioux Falls, South Dakota AA-EC-2016-67

# CONSENT ORDER FOR A CIVIL MONEY PENALTY

The Comptroller of the Currency of the United States of America ("Comptroller"), through his national bank examiners, has examined the affairs of Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Sioux Falls, South Dakota ("Wells Fargo" or "Bank"), and has identified (1) deficiencies and unsafe or unsound practices in the Bank's risk management and oversight of the Bank's sales practices, and (2) unsafe or unsound sales practices by the Bank. The Comptroller has informed the Bank of the findings resulting from the examinations.

The Bank, by and through its duly elected and acting Board of Directors ("Board"), has executed a Stipulation and Consent to the Issuance of a Consent Order, dated September <u>6</u>, 2016, that is accepted by the Comptroller ("Stipulation"). By the Stipulation, which is incorporated herein by reference, the Bank has consented to the issuance of this Consent Cease and Desist Order ("Order") by the Comptroller.

### ARTICLE I

### COMPTROLLER'S FINDINGS

The Comptroller finds, and the Bank neither admits nor denies, the following:

(1) The Bank's business model emphasized sales of the Bank's products and servicesto Bank customers. As part of this model, the Bank set sales goals and established an incentive

compensation structure that emphasized sales of Bank products and services to customers by Bank employees.

(2) In the course of its ongoing supervision of the Bank, the OCC has identified the following deficiencies and unsafe or unsound practices in the Bank's risk management and oversight of the Bank's sales practices:

- (a) The incentive compensation program and plans within the Community
  Bank Group were not aligned properly with local branch traffic, staff
  turnover, or customer demand, and they fostered the unsafe or unsound
  sales practices described in Paragraph (3) of this Article and pressured
  Bank employees to sell Bank products not authorized by the customer.
- (b) The Bank lacked an Enterprise-Wide Sales Practices Oversight Program and thus failed to provide sufficient oversight to prevent and detect the unsafe or unsound sales practices described in Paragraph (3) of this Article and failed to mitigate the risks that resulted from such sales practices.
- (c) The Bank lacked a comprehensive customer complaint monitoring process that impeded the Bank's ability to:
  - (1) assess customer complaint activity across the Bank;
  - (2) adequately monitor, manage, and report on customer complaints; and
  - (3) analyze and understand the potential sales practices risk.
- (d) The Bank's Community Bank Group failed to adequately oversee sales practices and failed to adequately test and monitor branch employee sales practices.

(e) The Bank's audit coverage was inadequate because it failed to include in its scope an enterprise-wide view of the Bank's sales practices.

(3) In the course of its ongoing supervision, the OCC has identified the following unsafe or unsound sales practices in the Bank's Community Bank Group (referred to as "unsafe or unsound sales practices" within this Order):

- (a) The selling of unwanted deposit or credit card accounts.
- (b) The unauthorized opening of deposit or credit card accounts.
- (c) The transfer of funds from authorized, existing accounts to unauthorized accounts ("simulated funding").
- (d) Unauthorized credit inquiries for purposes of the conduct described in subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this paragraph.

(4) By reason of the conduct set forth in Paragraphs (2) and (3) above, the Bank engaged in reckless unsafe or unsound banking practices that were part of a pattern of misconduct.

Pursuant to the authority vested in him by the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, as amended, 12 U.S.C. § 1818(i), the Comptroller hereby ORDERS that:

### ARTICLE II

### ORDER FOR A CIVIL MONEY PENALTY

(1) The Bank shall make payment of a civil money penalty in the total amount of thirty-five million dollars (\$35 million), which shall be paid upon the execution of this Order.

 (a) If a check is the selected method of payment, the check shall be made payable to the Treasurer of the United States and shall be delivered to: Comptroller of the Currency, P.O. Box 979012, St. Louis, Missouri 63197-9000.

- (b) If a wire transfer is the selected method of payment, it shall be sent in accordance with instructions provided by the Comptroller.
- (c) The docket number of this case (AA-EC-2016-67) shall be entered on the payment document or wire confirmation and a photocopy of the payment document or confirmation of the wire transfer shall be sent immediately, by overnight delivery, to the Director of Enforcement and Compliance, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 400 7<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20219.

(2) This Order shall be enforceable to the same extent and in the same manner as an effective and outstanding order that has been issued and has become final pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818.

### ARTICLE III

#### OTHER PROVISIONS

(1) This Order is intended to be, and shall be construed to be, a final order issued pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(i)(2), and expressly does not form, and may not be construed to form, a contract binding on the OCC or the United States.

(2) This Order constitutes a settlement of the civil money penalty proceeding against the Bank contemplated by the Comptroller, based on the practices described in the Comptroller's Findings set forth in Article I of this Order. The Comptroller releases and discharges the Bank from all potential liability for a civil money penalty that has been or might have been asserted by the Comptroller based on the practices described in Article I of this Order, to the extent known to

the Comptroller as of the effective date of the Order. Nothing in the Stipulation or the Order, however, shall prevent the Comptroller from:

- (a) instituting enforcement actions, other than a civil money penalty, against the Bank based on the findings set forth in Article I of this Order;
- (b) instituting enforcement actions against the Bank based on any other findings;
- (c) instituting enforcement actions against the Bank's institution-affiliated parties based on the findings set forth in Article I of this Order, or any other findings; or
- (d) utilizing the findings set forth in Article I of this Order in future enforcement actions against the Bank or its institution-affiliated parties to establish a pattern or the continuation of a pattern.

Further, nothing in the Stipulation or this Order shall affect any right of the Comptroller to determine and ensure compliance with the terms and provisions of the Stipulation or this Order.

(3) The terms of this Order, including this paragraph, are not subject to amendment or modification by any extraneous expression, prior agreements, or prior arrangements between the parties, whether oral or written.

IT IS SO ORDERED, this <u>6</u> day of September, 2016.

//S//Greg Coleman

Greg Coleman Deputy Comptroller Large Bank Supervision

# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY

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In the Matter of:

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. Sioux Falls, South Dakota AA-EC-2016-67

# STIPULATION AND CONSENT TO THE ISSUANCE OF AN ORDER FOR A CIVIL MONEY PENALTY

WHEREAS, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency ("OCC"), based upon information derived from the exercise of its regulatory and supervisory responsibilities, intends to institute a civil money penalty proceeding against Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Sioux Falls, South Dakota ("Bank"), pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(i), for the Bank's unsafe or unsound practices in its risk management and oversight of its sales practices, and the Bank's unsafe or unsound sales practices;

WHEREAS, in the interest of cooperation and to avoid additional costs associated with administrative and judicial proceedings with respect to the above matter, the Bank, through its duly elected and acting Board of Directors, has agreed to execute this Stipulation and Consent to the Issuance of an Order for a Civil Money Penalty ("Stipulation"), that is accepted by the OCC, through the duly authorized representative of the Comptroller of the Currency ("Comptroller");

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the above premises, it is stipulated by the Bank that:

### ARTICLE I

### JURISDICTION

(1) The Bank is an "insured depository institution" as that term is defined in 12U.S.C. § 1813(c)(2).

(2) The Bank is a "national banking association" within the meaning of 12 U.S.C.§ 1813(q)(1)(A), and is chartered and examined by the OCC. *See* 12 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq*.

(3) The OCC is the "appropriate Federal banking agency" as that term is defined in 12 U.S.C. § 1813(q) and is therefore authorized to initiate and maintain this cease and desist action against the Bank pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(b).

## ARTICLE II

#### CONSENT

(1) The Bank, without admitting or denying any wrongdoing, consents and agrees to issuance of the accompanying Consent Order for a Civil Money Penalty ("Consent Order") by the OCC.

(2) The terms and provisions of the Consent Order apply to the Bank and all of its subsidiaries, even though those subsidiaries are not named as parties to the Consent Order.

(3) The Bank consents and agrees that the Consent Order shall be deemed an "order issued with the consent of the depository institution" pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(h)(2), and consents and agrees that the Consent Order shall become effective upon its execution by the OCC through the Comptroller's duly authorized representative, and shall be fully enforceable by the Comptroller pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(i).

(4) Notwithstanding the absence of mutuality of obligation, or of consideration, or of a contract, the OCC may enforce any of the commitments or obligations herein undertaken by

the Bank under its supervisory powers, including 12 U.S.C. § 1818(i), and not as a matter of contract law. The Bank expressly acknowledges that neither the Bank nor the OCC has any intention to enter into a contract.

(5) The Bank declares that no separate promise or inducement of any kind has been made by the OCC, or by its officers, employees, or agents, to cause or induce the Bank to consent to the issuance of the Consent Order and/or execute this Stipulation.

(6) The Bank expressly acknowledges that no officer, employee, or agent of the OCC has statutory or other authority to bind the United States, the United States Treasury Department, the OCC, or any other federal bank regulatory agency or entity, or any officer, employee, or agent of any of those entities to a contract affecting the OCC's exercise of its supervisory responsibilities.

(7) The Consent Order constitutes a settlement of the civil money penalty proceeding against the Bank contemplated by the OCC, based on the practices described in the Comptroller's Findings set forth in Article I of the Consent Order. The OCC releases and discharges the Bank from all potential liability for a civil money penalty that has been or might have been asserted by the OCC based on the practices described in Article I of the Consent Order, to the extent known to the OCC as of the effective date of the Consent Order. Nothing in this Stipulation or the Consent Order, however, shall prevent the OCC from:

- (a) Instituting enforcement actions, other than a civil money penalty, against the Bank based on the findings set forth in Article I of the Consent Order;
- (b) Instituting enforcement actions against the Bank based on any other findings;

- Instituting enforcement actions against the Bank's institution-affiliated parties based on the findings set forth in Article I of the Consent Order, or any other findings; or
- (d) Utilizing the findings set forth in Article I of the Consent Order in future enforcement actions against the Bank or its institution-affiliated parties to establish a pattern or the continuation of a pattern.

Further, nothing in this Stipulation or the Consent Order shall affect any right of the OCC to determine and ensure compliance with the terms and provisions of this Stipulation or the Consent Order.

### ARTICLE III

### <u>WAIVERS</u>

(1) The Bank, by executing this Stipulation and consenting to the Consent Order, waives:

- (a) Any and all rights to the issuance of a Notice of Charges pursuant to 12U.S.C. § 1818(i);
- (b) Any and all procedural rights available in connection with the issuance of the Consent Order;
- (c) Any and all rights to a hearing and a final agency decision pursuant to 12U.S.C. § 1818(i, and 12 C.F.R. Part 19;
- (d) Any and all rights to seek any type of administrative or judicial review of the Consent Order;
- (e) Any and all claims for fees, costs, or expenses against the OCC, or any officer, employee, or agent of the OCC, related in any way to this

enforcement matter or the Consent Order, whether arising under common law or under the terms of any statute, including, but not limited to, the Equal Access to Justice Act, 5 U.S.C. § 504 and 28 U.S.C. § 2412;

- (f) Any and all rights to assert this proceeding, this Stipulation, consent to the issuance of the Consent Order, and/or the issuance of the Consent Order, as the basis for a claim of double jeopardy in any pending or future proceeding brought by the United States Department of Justice or any other governmental entity; and
- (g) Any and all rights to challenge or contest the validity of the Consent Order.

### ARTICLE IV

#### CLOSING

(1) The provisions of this Stipulation and the Consent Order shall not inhibit, estop, bar, or otherwise prevent the OCC from taking any other action affecting the Bank if, at any time, the OCC deems it appropriate to do so to fulfill the responsibilities placed upon it by the several laws of the United States of America.

(2) Nothing in this Stipulation or the Consent Order shall preclude any proceedings brought by the OCC to enforce the terms of the Consent Order, and nothing in this Stipulation or the Consent Order constitutes, nor shall the Bank contend that it constitutes, a release, discharge, compromise, settlement, dismissal, or resolution of any actions, or in any way affects any actions that may be or have been brought by any other representative of the United States or an agency thereof, including, without limitation, the United States Department of Justice.

(3) The terms of this Stipulation, including this paragraph, and of the Consent Order are not subject to amendment or modification by any extraneous expression, prior agreements or prior arrangements between the parties, whether oral or written.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the undersigned, authorized by the Comptroller as his representative, has hereunto set his hand on behalf of the Comptroller.

By: <u>//S//Greg Coleman</u>

Greg Coleman Deputy Comptroller Large Bank Supervision 9/6/16 Date IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the undersigned, as the duly elected and acting Board of Directors of Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Sioux Falls, South Dakota, have hereunto set their hands on behalf of the Bank.

//S//John G. Stumpf	Sept. 1, 2016
John G. Stumpf	Date
//S//Lloyd H. Dean	Sept. 1, 2016
Lloyd H. Dean	Date
//S//Enrique Hernandez, Jr.	Sept. 1, 2016
Enrique Hernandez, Jr.	Date
//S//Cynthia H. Milligan	Sept. 1, 2016
Cynthia H. Milligan	Date
	9 . 1 . 2016
//S//Federico F. Pena	Sept. 1, 2016
Federico F. Peña	Date
//S//James H. Quigley	Sept. 1, 2016
James H. Quigley	Date
//S//Stephen W. Sanger	Sent 1 2016
//S//Stephen W. Sanger	Sept. 1, 2016
Stephen W. Sanger	Date