# #2009-187

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

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In the Matter of:
First National Bank of Griffin
Griffin, Georgia

### **CONSENT ORDER**

WHEREAS, the Comptroller of the Currency of the United States of America ("Comptroller"), through his National Bank Examiner, has supervisory authority over First National Bank of Griffin, Griffin, Georgia ("Bank");

WHEREAS, the Comptroller, through his National Bank Examiner, has examined the Bank and his findings are contained in the Report of Examination dated as of March 31, 2009 ("ROE");

WHEREAS, 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 November 10, 2009, that is accepted by the Comptroller;

**WHEREAS**, by this Stipulation and Consent, which is incorporated by reference, the Bank has consented to the issuance of this Consent Order ("Order") by the Comptroller;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in it by the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, as amended, 12 U.S.C. § 1818, the Comptroller **HEREBY ORDERS THAT**:

### ARTICLE I

### COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

(1) The Board shall immediately appoint a Compliance Committee of at least five (5) directors, of which no more than two (2) shall be an employee or controlling shareholder of the

Bank or any of its affiliates (as the term "affiliate" is defined in 12 U.S.C. § 371c(b)(1)), or a family member of any such person. Upon appointment, the names of the members of the Compliance Committee and, in the event of a change of the membership, the name of any new member shall be submitted in writing to the Assistant Deputy Comptroller. The Compliance Committee shall be responsible for monitoring and coordinating the Bank's adherence to the provisions of this Order.

(2) The Compliance Committee shall meet at least monthly.

(3) Within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order and every thirty (30) daysthereafter, the Compliance Committee shall submit a written progress report to the Board settingforth in detail:

- (a) a description of the action needed to achieve full compliance with each
  Article of this Order;
- (b) actions taken to comply with each Article of this Order; and
- (c) the results and status of those actions.

(4) The Board shall forward a copy of the Compliance Committee's report, with any additional comments by the Board, to the Assistant Deputy Comptroller within ten (10) days of receiving such report.

### ARTICLE II

#### CAPITAL PLAN AND HIGHER MINIMUMS

(1) The Bank shall maintain the following capital levels (as defined in

12 C.F.R. Part 3):

(a) Tier 1 capital at least equal to nine percent (9%) of adjusted total assets;

(b) Total risk-based capital at least equal to thirteen percent (13%) of riskweighted assets.

(2) The requirement in this Order to meet and maintain a specific capital level means that the Bank may not be deemed to be "well capitalized" for purposes of 12 U.S.C. § 18310 and 12 C.F.R. Part 6 pursuant to 12 C.F.R. § 6.4(b)(1)(iv).

(3) Within sixty (60) days, the Board shall develop, implement, and thereafter ensureBank adherence to a three year Capital Plan. The program shall include:

- (a) an assessment of the Bank's risk profile relative to its operating environment and high level of credit risk;
- (b) specific plans for the monitoring and maintenance of adequate capital that fully supports the Bank's risk profile from current business activities and strategic initiatives and that may in no event be less than the requirements of paragraph (1);
- (c) projections for growth and capital requirements based upon a detailed analysis of the Bank's assets, liabilities, earnings, fixed assets, and offbalance sheet activities;
- (d) projections of the sources and timing of additional capital to meet the Bank's current and future needs;
- (e) the primary source(s) from which the Bank will raise capital to meet the Bank's needs;
- (f) contingency plans that identify alternative sources of capital should the primary source(s) under (d) above not be available; and
- (g) a dividend policy that permits the declaration of a dividend:

- (i) only when the Bank is in compliance with its approved Capital Plan;
- (ii) only when the Bank is in compliance with 12 U.S.C. §§ 56 and 60;and
- (iii) only with the prior written determination of no supervisory
  objection by the Assistant Deputy Comptroller. Upon receiving a
  determination of no supervisory objection from the Assistant
  Deputy Comptroller, the Bank shall implement and adhere to the
  dividend policy.

(4) Immediately upon completion, the Bank's Capital Plan shall be submitted to the Assistant Deputy Comptroller for prior written determination of no supervisory objection. Upon receiving a determination of no supervisory objection from the Assistant Deputy Comptroller, the Bank shall immediately implement and adhere to the Capital Plan.

(5) The Board shall review and update the Bank's Capital Plan on an annual basis, or more frequently if necessary. Copies of the reviews and updates shall be submitted to the Assistant Deputy Comptroller. Prior to adoption by the Board, any subsequent amendments or revisions to the Capital Plan shall be submitted to the Assistant Deputy Comptroller for review and prior written determination of no supervisory objection. Upon receiving a determination of no supervisory objection from the Assistant Deputy Comptroller, the Bank shall immediately implement and adhere to the Capital Plan, as amended or revised.

(6) The Board shall ensure that the Bank has processes, personnel, and control systems to ensure implementation of and adherence to the program developed pursuant to this Article.

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(7) If the OCC determines, in its sole judgment, that the Bank has failed to submit an acceptable Capital Plan as required by paragraph (3) of this Article, or fails to implement or adhere to a Capital Plan for which the OCC has taken no supervisory objection pursuant to paragraph (4) of this Article, then within ninety (90) days of receiving written notice from the OCC of such fact, the Bank shall develop and shall submit to the OCC for its review and prior written determination of no supervisory objection a Capital Contingency Plan, which shall detail the Board's proposal to sell or merge the Bank, or liquidate the Bank under 12 U.S.C. § 181. After the OCC has advised the Bank that it does not take supervisory objection to the Capital Contingency Plan, the Board shall immediately implement, and shall thereafter ensure adherence to, the terms of the contingency plan. Failure to submit a timely, acceptable contingency plan may be deemed a violation of this Order, in the exercise of the OCC's sole discretion.

#### ARTICLE III

# COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE CONCENTRATIONS

(1) The Board shall immediately adopt, implement and thereafter ensure Bank adherence to a written commercial real estate ("CRE") concentration risk management program consistent with OCC Bulletin 2006-46, "Concentrations in Commercial Real Estate Lending, Sound Risk Management Practices: Interagency Guidance on CRE Concentration Risk Management." The program shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

- (a) Ongoing risk assessments to identify potential CRE concentrations in the portfolio, including exposures to similar or interrelated groups or borrowers;
- (b) Board and management oversight of CRE concentrations, to include:

- Policy guidelines and an overall CRE lending strategy, including actions required when the Bank approaches the limits of its CRE guidelines;
- (ii) Procedures and controls to effectively adhere to and monitor compliance with the Bank's lending policies and strategies;
- (iii) Regular review of information and reports that identify, analyze, and quantify the nature and level of risk presented by CRE concentrations; and
- (iv) Periodic review and approval of CRE risk exposure limits;
- (c) Portfolio management, to include internal lending guidelines and concentration limits that control the Bank's overall exposure to CRE, and a contingency plan to reduce or mitigate concentrations in the event of adverse market conditions;
- (d) Management information systems, to provide sufficient timely information to management for identification, measurement, monitoring, and management of CRE concentrations risk;
- (e) Periodic market analysis, to provide management and the Board with information to assess whether its CRE lending strategy and policies continue to be appropriate in light of changes in CRE market conditions;
- (f) Credit underwriting standards for CRE, to include:
  - (i) Maximum loan amount by type of property;
  - (ii) Loan terms;
  - (iii) Pricing structures;

- (iv) Collateral valuation;
- (v) Loan-to-value limits by property type;
- (vi) Requirements for feasibility studies and sensitivity analysis or stress testing;
- (vii) Minimum requirements for initial investment and maintenance of hard equity by the borrower; and
- (viii) Minimum standards for borrower net worth, property cash flow, and debt service coverage for the property;
- (g) Portfolio stress testing and sensitivity analysis of CRE concentrations; and
- (h) Credit risk review of CRE, to include an effective, accurate, and timely risk rating system.

(2) The Board shall forward a copy of any analysis performed on existing or potential CRE concentrations to the Assistant Deputy Comptroller immediately following the review.

(3) The Board shall ensure that the Bank has processes, personnel, and control systems to ensure the implementation of and adherence to the program developed pursuant to this article.

### ARTICLE IV

#### INTERNAL LOAN REVIEW

(1) The Board shall immediately employ or designate a sufficiently experienced and qualified person(s) or firm to ensure the timely and independent identification of problem loans and leases.

(2) The Board shall immediately establish an effective, independent and on-going loan review system to review, at least quarterly, the Bank's loan and lease portfolios to assure the

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timely identification and categorization of problem credits. The system shall provide for a written report to be filed with the Board after each review and shall use a loan and lease grading system consistent with the guidelines set forth in "Rating Credit Risk" booklet of the Comptroller's Handbook. Such reports shall include, at a minimum, conclusions regarding:

- (a) the overall quality of the loan and lease portfolios;
- (b) the identification, type, rating, and amount of problem loans and leases;
- (c) the identification and amount of delinquent loans and leases;
- (d) credit and collateral documentation exceptions;
- (e) the identification and status of credit related violations of law, rule or regulation;
- (f) the identity of the loan officer who originated each loan reported in accordance with subparagraphs (b) through (e) of the Article;
- (g) concentrations of credit;
- (h) loans and leases to executive officers, directors, principal shareholders(and their related interests) of the Bank; and
- (i) loans and leases not in conformance with the Bank's lending and leasing policies, and exceptions to the Bank's lending and leasing policies.

(3) The Board shall immediately develop, implement, and thereafter ensure Bank adherence to a written program providing for independent review of problem loans and leases in the Bank's loan and lease portfolios for the purpose of monitoring portfolio trends, on at least a quarterly basis. The program shall require a quarterly report to the Board. At a minimum the program shall provide for an independent reviewer's assessment of the Bank's:

- (a) monitoring systems for early problem loan identification to assure the timely identification and rating of loans and leases based on lending officer submissions;
- (b) statistical records that serve as a basis for identifying sources of problem loans and leases by industry, size, collateral, division, group, indirect dealer, and individual lending officer;
- (c) system for monitoring previously charged-off assets and their recovery potential;
- (d) system for monitoring compliance with the Bank's lending policies and laws, rules, and regulations pertaining to the Bank's lending function; and
- (e) system for monitoring the adequacy of credit and collateral documentation.

(4) A written description of the program called for in this Article shall be forwarded to the Assistant Deputy Comptroller upon implementation.

(5) The Board shall evaluate the internal loan and lease review report(s) and shall ensure that immediate, adequate, and continuing remedial action, if appropriate, is taken upon all findings noted in the report(s).

(6) A copy of the reports submitted to the Board, as well as documentation of the action taken by the Bank to collect or strengthen assets identified as problem credits, shall be preserved in the Bank.

#### ARTICLE V

### CRITICIZED ASSETS

(1) The Bank shall take immediate and continuing action to protect its interest in those assets criticized in the ROE, in any subsequent Report of Examination, by internal or external loan review, or in any list provided to management by the National Bank Examiners.

(2) The Board shall immediately adopt, implement, and thereafter ensure Bank adherence to a written program designed to eliminate the basis of criticism of assets criticized in the ROE, in any subsequent Report of Examination, or by any internal or external loan review, or in any list provided to management by the National Bank Examiners as "doubtful," "substandard," or "special mention." This program shall include, at a minimum:

- (a) an identification of the expected sources of repayment;
- (b) the appraised value of supporting collateral and the position of the Bank's lien on such collateral where applicable;
- (c) an analysis of current and satisfactory credit information, including cashflow analysis where loans are to be repaid from operations; and
- (d) the proposed action to eliminate the basis of criticism and the time frame for its accomplishment.

(3) The Board, or a designated committee, shall conduct a review, on at least a monthly basis, to determine:

- (a) the status of each criticized asset or criticized portion thereof that equals or exceeds five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000);
- (b) management's adherence to the program adopted pursuant to this Article;
- (c) the status and effectiveness of the written program; and

(d) the need to revise the program or take alternative action.

(4) A copy of each review shall be forwarded to the Assistant Deputy Comptroller on a quarterly basis (in a format similar to Appendix A, attached hereto).

(5) The Bank may extend credit, directly or indirectly, including renewals, extensions or capitalization of accrued interest, to a borrower whose loans or other extensions of credit are criticized in the ROE, in any subsequent Report of Examination, in any internal or external loan review, or in any list provided to management by the National Bank Examiners and whose aggregate loans or other extensions exceed five hundred thousand (\$500,000) only if each of the following conditions is met:

- (a) the Board or designated committee finds that the extension of additional credit is necessary to promote the best interests of the Bank and that prior to renewing, extending or capitalizing any additional credit, a majority of the full Board (or designated committee) approves the credit extension and records, in writing, why such extension is necessary to promote the best interests of the Bank; and
- (b) a comparison to the written program adopted pursuant to this Article shows that the Board's formal plan to collect or strengthen the criticized asset will not be compromised.

(6) A copy of the approval of the Board or of the designated committee shall be maintained in the file of the affected borrower.

### ARTICLE VI

### LOAN UNDERWRITING STANDARDS

(1) The Board shall immediately develop, implement, and thereafter adhere to a written program to improve its construction and land development loan underwriting standards.The program shall include, but not be limited to, procedures for ensuring that:

- (a) market feasibility analyses are performed on construction and development projects;
- (b) global cash flow analyses are performed on construction and development loan borrowers and guarantors when appropriate;
- (c) current rental and sales information is maintained in all construction projects;
- (d) periodic, independent inspections are performed on all construction and development projects; and
- (e) all construction and development loans are either in conformity with the Bank's loan policies and procedures or in compliance with the Bank's written provisions for exceptions to loan policies and procedures.

(2) The Board shall establish, communicate, and ensure adherence to prudent credit underwriting standards that are commensurate with all types of loans the institution will make.

(3) Upon completion, the Board shall submit a copy of the program to the AssistantDeputy Comptroller for review.

#### ARTICLE VII

### ALLOWANCE FOR LOAN AND LEASE LOSSES

(1) The Board shall establish a program and specific policy guidance for compliance with FAS 114. This policy shall be designed in light of the comments on maintaining a proper Allowance found in OCC Bulletin 2006-47 "Allowance for Loan and Lease Losses." The Board shall focus particular attention on the following factors:

- (a) thresholds and characteristics of loans that will be individually assessed for impairment;
- (b) definition of impairment;
- (c) methods used in measuring impairment;
- (d) documentation requirements;

(2) A copy of the Board's program shall be submitted to the Assistant Deputy Comptroller for review and prior written determination of no supervisory objection. Upon receiving a determination of no supervisory objection from the Assistant Deputy Comptroller, the Bank shall implement and adhere to the program.

# ARTICLE VIII

### **CLOSING**

(1) Although the Board is by this Order required to submit certain proposed actions and programs for the review or prior written determination of no supervisory objection of the Assistant Deputy Comptroller, the Board has the ultimate responsibility for proper and sound management of the Bank.

(2) It is expressly and clearly understood that if, at any time, the Comptroller deems it appropriate in fulfilling the responsibilities placed upon it by the several laws of the United

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States of America to undertake any action affecting the Bank, nothing in this Order shall in any way inhibit, estop, bar or otherwise prevent the Comptroller from so doing.

(3) Any time limitations imposed by this Order shall begin to run from the effective date of this Order. Such time limitations may be extended in writing by the Assistant Deputy Comptroller for good cause upon written application by the Board.

(4) The provisions of this Order are effective upon issuance of this Order by the Comptroller, through his authorized representative whose hand appears below, and shall remain effective and enforceable, except to the extent that, and until such time as, any provisions of this Order shall have been amended, suspended, waived, or terminated in writing by the Comptroller.

(5) In each instance in this Order in which the Board is required to ensure adherence to, and undertake to perform certain obligations of the Bank, it is intended to mean that the Board shall:

- (a) authorize and adopt such actions on behalf of the Bank as may be necessary for the Bank to perform its obligations and undertakings under the terms of this Order;
- (b) require the timely reporting by Bank management of such actions directed by the Board to be taken under the terms of this Order;
- (c) follow-up on any non-compliance with such actions in a timely and appropriate manner; and
- (d) require corrective action be taken in a timely manner of any noncompliance with such actions.

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

(7) 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>10th</u> day of <u>November</u>, 2009.

/S/

James F. DeVane, Jr. Assistant Deputy Comptroller Georgia Field Office

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

In the Matter of:	
First National Bank of Griffin	
Griffin, Georgia	

# STIPULATION AND CONSENT TO THE ISSUANCE OF A CONSENT ORDER

The Comptroller of the Currency of the United States of America ("Comptroller") intends

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to initiate cease and desist proceedings against First National Bank of Griffin, Griffin, Georgia

("Bank") pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(b), having found unsafe and unsound banking practices

relating to credit administration, loan underwriting, and risk management practices.

The Bank, in the interest of compliance and cooperation, consents to the issuance of a

Consent Order, dated November 10, 2009 ("Order");

In consideration of the above premises, the Comptroller, through his authorized

representative, and the Bank, through its duly elected and acting Board of Directors, hereby

stipulate and agree to the following:

# ARTICLE I

# JURISDICTION

(1) The Bank is a national banking association chartered and examined by the Comptroller pursuant to the National Bank Act of 1864, as amended, 12 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.* 

(2) The Comptroller is "the appropriate Federal banking agency" regarding the Bank pursuant to 12 U.S.C. §§ 1813(q) and 1818(b).

(3) The Bank is an "insured depository institution" within the meaning of12 U.S.C. § 1818(b)(1).

- (4) Upon issuance of this Order:
  - (a) the Bank will not be an "eligible bank" for purposes of 12 C.F.R. § 5.3(g), and for purposes of 12 C.F.R. Part 5 regarding rules, policies, and procedure for corporate activities, unless otherwise informed in writing by the Comptroller.
  - (b) the Bank will be subject to the limitation of 12 C.F.R. § 5.51(c)(6)(ii) for the purposes of 12 C.F.R. § 5.51 requiring OCC approval of a change in directors and senior executive officers, unless otherwise informed in writing by the OCC; and
  - (c) the Bank will be subject to the limitation on golden parachute and indemnification payments provided by 12 C.F.R. § 359.1(f)(1)(ii)(C) and 12 C.F.R. § 5.51(c)(6)(ii), unless otherwise informed in writing by the OCC.

### ARTICLE II

#### AGREEMENT

(1) The Bank, without admitting or denying any wrongdoing, hereby consents and agrees to the issuance of the Order by the Comptroller.

(2) The Bank further agrees that said Order shall be deemed an "order issued with the consent of the depository institution" as defined in 12 U.S.C. § 1818(h)(2), and consents and agrees that said Order shall become effective upon its issuance and shall be fully enforceable by the Comptroller under the provisions of 12 U.S.C. § 1818(i). Notwithstanding the absence of mutuality of obligation, or of consideration, or of a contract, the Comptroller may enforce any of

the commitments or obligations herein undertaken by the Bank under his 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 Comptroller has any intention to enter into a contract.

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

### ARTICLE III

### WAIVERS

- (1) The Bank, by signing this Stipulation and Consent, hereby waives:
  - (a) the issuance of a Notice of Charges pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(b);
  - (b) any and all procedural rights available in connection with the issuance of the Order;
  - (c) all rights to a hearing and a final agency decision pursuant to
    12 U.S.C. § 1818(i), 12 C.F.R. Part 19
  - (d) all rights to seek any type of administrative or judicial review of the Order; and
  - (e) any and all rights to challenge or contest the validity of the Order.

# ARTICLE IV

# OTHER ACTION

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

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

/S/ James F. DeVane, Jr. Assistant Deputy Comptroller Georgia Field Office

11/10/09 Date

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the undersigned, as the duly elected and acting Board of

Directors of the Bank, have hereunto set their hands on behalf of the Bank.

/S/	11/10/09
J. Mark Brittain	Date
/S/	11/10/09
J. Henry Cheatham	Date
/S/	11/10/09
John Charles Copeland	Date
/S/	11/10/09
Alvin Goldstein	Date

/S/	11/10/09
Gregory W. Hammonds	Date
/S/	11/10/09
Walter E. Jones, Jr.	Date
/S/	11/10/09
Henry B. Mabbett	Date
/S/	11/10/09
David G. Newton	Date
/S/	11/10/09
John T. Newton, Jr.	Date
/S/	11/10/09
Dora Jane Smith	Date