

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

In the Matter of: Vicki W. Sickels Former Commercial Banking Relationship Manager U.S. Bank, N.A. Cincinnati, Ohio))))))	AA-EC-09-86
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CONSENT ORDER

WHEREAS, the Comptroller of the Currency of the United States of America (“Comptroller”) intends to initiate a prohibition proceeding against Vicki W. Sickels (“Respondent”) pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e) on the basis of Respondent’s activities during 2005 through 2007 while serving as a Commercial Banking Relationship Manager at a branch of U.S. Bank, N.A. (“Bank”) in Mount Ayr, Iowa;

WHEREAS, in the interest of cooperation and to avoid the costs associated with administrative and judicial proceedings with respect to the above matter, and without admitting or denying any wrongdoing, Respondent desires to enter into this Consent Order (“Order”);

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the above premises, it is stipulated by and between the Comptroller, through his duly authorized representative, and Respondent that:

Initials _____ Date _____

Article I

JURISDICTION

(1) The Bank was and 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.* Accordingly, the Bank is an “insured depository institution” as that term is defined in 12 U.S.C. § 1813(c)(2).

(2) Respondent was employed at the Bank from October 15, 1996 until July 24, 2007, when her employment was terminated. At the time of her termination, Respondent was a Commercial Banking Relationship Manager at the Bank and is an “institution-affiliated party” of the Bank as that term is defined in 12 U.S.C. § 1813(u), having served in such capacity within six (6) years from the date hereof (*see* 12 U.S.C. § 1818(i)(3)).

(3) Pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1813(q), the Comptroller is the “appropriate Federal banking agency” to maintain an enforcement proceeding against institution-affiliated parties. Therefore, Respondent is subject to the authority of the Comptroller to initiate and maintain these removal and prohibition and civil money penalty proceedings against her pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e).

Article II

COMPTROLLER'S FINDINGS

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

(1) From September 2005 to January 2007, Respondent purposely misdirected the proceeds of new loans and advances for certain Bank customers to cover loan payments for other unrelated customers that involved over \$16,000.

(2) Respondent engaged in unsafe or unsound banking practices through the misapplication of customer loan proceeds and payments.

(3) Respondent's conduct involved personal dishonesty and demonstrated a willful and continuing disregard for the safety or soundness of the Bank and thereby caused the Bank to sustain financial loss and other damage.

Article III

PROHIBITION AND REMOVAL

Respondent consents to, and it is ORDERED that:

(1) With respect to the institutions and agencies set forth in paragraph (2) of this Article, Respondent shall not:

- (a) participate in any manner in the conduct of their affairs;
- (b) solicit, procure, transfer, attempt to transfer, vote, or attempt to vote any proxy, consent, or authorization with respect to any voting rights;

- (c) violate any voting agreement previously approved by the “appropriate Federal banking agency,” as defined in 12 U.S.C. § 1813(q); or
- (d) vote for a director, or serve or act as an “institution-affiliated party,” as defined in 12 U.S.C. § 1813(u).

(2) The prohibitions in paragraph (1) of this Article apply to the following institutions and agencies:

- (a) any insured depository institution, as defined in 12 U.S.C. § 1813(c);
- (b) any institution treated as an insured bank under 12 U.S.C. §§ 1818(b)(3), (b)(4), or as a savings association under 12 U.S.C. § 1818(b)(9);
- (c) any insured credit union under the Federal Credit Union Act;
- (d) any institution chartered under the Farm Credit Act of 1971;
- (e) any appropriate Federal depository institution regulatory agency; and
- (f) the Federal Housing Finance Board and any Federal Home Loan Bank.

(3) The prohibitions of paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Article shall cease to apply with respect to a particular institution if Respondent obtains the prior written consent of both the Comptroller and the institution's “appropriate Federal financial institutions regulatory agency,” as defined in 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e)(7)(D).

(4) 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 IV

WAIVERS

- (1) By executing this Order, Respondent waives:
- (a) The right to issuance of a Notice under 12 U.S.C. § 1818;
 - (b) all rights to a hearing and a final agency decision pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e) and 12 C.F.R. Part 19;
 - (c) all rights to seek judicial review of this Order;
 - (d) all rights in any way to contest the validity of this Order; and
 - (e) any and all claims for fees, costs or expenses against the Comptroller, or any of his agents or employees, related in any way to this enforcement matter or this 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.

Article V

OTHER PROVISIONS

- (1) Respondent shall not cause, participate in, or authorize an insured depository institution (or any subsidiary or affiliate thereof) to incur, directly or indirectly, any expense incurred relative to the negotiation and issuance of this Order, except as permitted by 12 C.F.R. § 7.2014 and Part 359, and Respondent shall not, directly or

indirectly, obtain or accept any indemnification (or other reimbursement) from any insured depository institution (or any subsidiary or affiliate thereof) with respect to such amounts except as permitted by 12 C.F.R. § 7.2014 and Part 359.

(2) Respondent acknowledges that she has read and understands the premises and obligations of this Order and declares that no separate promise or inducement of any kind has been made by the Comptroller or his agents or employees to cause or induce Respondent to agree to consent to the issuance of this Order or to execute this Order.

(3) It is hereby agreed that the provisions of this Order constitute a settlement of these enforcement proceedings arising out of the specific acts, omissions, or violations described in Article II. However, the specific acts, omissions, or violations described in Article II may be used by the OCC in future enforcement actions to establish a pattern or practice of misconduct or the continuation of a pattern or practice of misconduct.

(4) It is further agreed that the provisions of this Order shall not be construed as an adjudication on the merits and, except as set forth in paragraph (3), shall not inhibit, estop, bar, or otherwise prevent the Comptroller from taking any action affecting the Respondent if, at any time, he deems it appropriate to do so to fulfill the responsibilities placed upon him by the several laws of the United States of America.

(5) Respondent further agrees not to take any action or to make or permit to be made any public statement denying, directly or indirectly, the specific acts, omissions, or violations referenced in this Order, or otherwise creating the impression that this Order is

without factual basis. If Respondent violates this provision, the OCC may set aside this settlement and commence administrative proceedings on the actions alleged herein.

Nothing in this paragraph shall affect the Respondent's testimonial obligations.

(6) Nothing herein shall preclude any proceedings brought by the Comptroller to enforce the terms of this Order and that nothing herein constitutes, and Respondent shall not contend that it constitutes, a waiver of any right, power, or authority of any other representatives of the United States or agencies thereof, including the Department of Justice, to bring other actions deemed appropriate.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the undersigned have hereunto set their hands.

/s/Henry Fleming

11/19/09

Henry Fleming
Director for Special Supervision
Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Date

/s/Vicki W Sickels
Vicki W. Sickels

11/12/09
Date