

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

In the Matter of: Karim Walthour Lawrence former Vice President Omni National Bank Atlanta, GA)))))	AA-EC-11-03
---	-----------------------	-------------

CONSENT ORDER

WHEREAS, the Comptroller of the Currency of the United States of America (“Comptroller”) intends to initiate this prohibition proceeding against Karim Walthour Lawrence (“Respondent”) pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e) on the basis of Respondent’s activities while employed as a Vice President at Omni National Bank, Atlanta, GA (“Bank”), during the period of at least February 2008 through March 2009.

WHEREAS, in the interest of cooperation and to avoid the costs associated with future administrative and judicial proceedings with respect to the above matter, Respondent, without admitting or denying any wrongdoing, desires to enter into this Consent Order (“Order”) issued pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e);

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: KWL
Date: 2/8/11

Article I

JURISDICTION

(1) During all times relevant, the Bank was 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 a Vice President of 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 this prohibition against him 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) During the period of approximately February 2008 through March 2009, while employed as a Vice President of the Bank, Respondent knowingly

Initials: KWL

Date: 2/8/11

accepted hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash and other gifts from various contractors in exchange for hiring those contractors to renovate foreclosed properties in the Bank's Other Real Estate Owned portfolio.

(2) On January 5, 2011, Respondent entered a guilty plea to one count of corruptly soliciting or accepting cash in exchange for awarding rehabilitation construction work to contractors while employed at a financial institution, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 215(a)(2) (*United States of America v. Karim Walthour Lawrence*, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, No. 1:10-CR-476). Sentencing is scheduled to occur in March 2011.

(3) By reason of the foregoing conduct, Respondent violated the law; engaged in unsafe or unsound banking practices; breached his fiduciary duties to the Bank; received personal gain; and demonstrated personal dishonesty and a willful and continuing disregard for the safety or soundness of the Bank.

Article III

ORDER OF PROHIBITION

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;

Initials: KWL
Date: 2/8/11

- (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) (as amended); or
- (d) vote for a director, or serve or act as an “institution-affiliated party,” as defined in 12 U.S.C. § 1813(u) (as amended).

(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 depository institution under 12 U.S.C. §§ 1818(b)(3), (b)(4) or (b)(5), including, but not limited to, any subsidiary of such institution, or treated as a savings and loan holding company or subsidiary under 12 U.S.C. § 1818(b)(9) (as amended);
- (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

Initials: KWL
Date: 2/8/11

(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) (as amended).

(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

OTHER PROVISIONS

- (1) By executing this Order, Respondent waives:
- (a) the right to the issuance of a Notice under 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e);
 - (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

Initials: KWL
Date: 2/8/11

(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.

(2) Respondent shall not cause, participate in or authorize the Bank (or any subsidiary or affiliate thereof) to incur, directly or indirectly, any legal (or other professional) expense 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 the Bank (or any subsidiary or affiliate thereof) with respect to such amounts except as permitted by 12 C.F.R. § 7.2014 and Part 359.

(3) Respondent acknowledges that he 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, his agents or employees to cause or induce Respondent to agree to consent to the issuance of this Order and/or to execute this Order.

(4) It is hereby agreed that the provisions of this Order constitute a settlement of this prohibition proceeding arising out of the specific acts, omissions, or violations described in Article II. However, the specific acts,

Initials: KWL
Date: 2/8/11

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.

(5) 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 above in paragraph (4) of this Article, shall not inhibit, estop, bar, or otherwise prevent the Comptroller from taking any action affecting 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.

(6) 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 Respondent's testimonial obligations.

(7) Respondent understands that nothing herein shall preclude any proceedings brought by the Comptroller to enforce the terms of this Order, and that nothing herein constitutes, nor shall Respondent 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

Initials: KWL
Date: 2/8/11

actions deemed appropriate.

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

/s/Karim Lawrence
Karim Walthour Lawrence

2/8/11
Date

/s/Henry Fleming
Henry Fleming
Director for Special Supervision

4/6/11
Date

Initials: KWL
Date: 2/8/11