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

In the Matter of:)	
Belinda Brandimarti)	
Former Assistant Branch Manager)	AA-EC-11-56
)	
JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.)	
Columbus, OH)	

CONSENT ORDER

WHEREAS, the Comptroller of the Currency of the United States of America ("Comptroller") intends to initiate a prohibition proceeding against Belinda Brandimarti ("Respondent") pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e) on the basis of Respondent's improper conduct while serving as Assistant Branch Manager of JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. ("Bank") during the period of November 2006 through March 2007;

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, it is stipulated by and between the Comptroller, through his duly authorized representative, and Respondent that:

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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*. Accordingly, the Bank is an "insured depository institution" as that term is defined in 12 U.S.C. § 1813(c)(2).
- (2) Respondent is a former Assistant Branch Manager 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 a prohibition action 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) Respondent was an employee of the Bank at its Flushing, New York branch during the period of November 22, 1993 through March 30, 2007.

Initials: <u>BB</u> Date: 5/18/11 Respondent was an Assistant Branch Manager during the period of December 1, 2006 through March 30, 2007.

- (2) During the period of at least November 2006 through March 2007, Respondent abused her position to facilitate a check-kiting-like scheme on behalf of a close personal friend who held at least five personal and business accounts at the Bank. Respondent made repeated fund transfers in varied amounts among her friend's accounts to conceal large overdrafts ranging up to \$492,000.
- (3) Respondent's transfer of funds among her friend's accounts at the Bank, in effect, provided her friend unauthorized interest-free loans by the Bank, which her friend ultimately repaid.
- (4) In addition, Respondent refunded approximately \$656 dollars in miscellaneous overdraft and other fees to her friend's accounts.
- (5) Respondent's conduct exposed the Bank to risk of loss up to \$492,000 and actual loss of interest on the unauthorized loans plus \$656 in Bank fees.
- (6) Respondent received cash payments from her friend for her participation in the scheme.
- (7) By reason of the foregoing conduct, Respondent engaged in unsafe or unsound banking practices, breached her fiduciary duty to the Bank, and demonstrated personal dishonesty and willful and continuing disregard for the safety and soundness of the Bank that resulted financial gain or other benefit to Respondent and financial loss or other damage to the Bank.

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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 hereby agrees that she 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) (as amended); or
 - vote for a director, or serve or act as an "institution-affiliated (d) 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:
 - any insured depository institution, as defined in 12 U.S.C. (a) § 1813(c);
 - any institution treated as an insured depository institution (b) under 12 U.S.C. §§ 1818(b)(3), (b)(4) or (b)(5), including, but not limited to, bank holding companies and any subsidiary of such institution, or treated as a savings and loan holding

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- 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
- (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(e).

Article IV

OTHER PROVISIONS

- (1) By consenting to the issuance of this Order, Respondent waives:
 - (a) the right to the issuance of a Notice of Intention to Prohibit

 Further Participation under 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e);

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- (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.
- (2) Respondent acknowledges that:

(a)

She shall not cause, participate in or authorize the Bank (or any subsidiary or affiliate thereof) to incur, directly or indirectly, any expense for the payment of restitution or the civil money penalty under this Order, or 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.

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- (b) 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, his agents or employees to cause or induce her to agree to consent to the issuance of this Order or to execute this Order.
- (3) This Order constitutes a settlement of the prohibition proceeding arising out of the specific acts, omissions, or violations described in the Comptroller's Findings (Article II of this Order). 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 patter or practice of misconduct.
- (4) This Order shall not be construed as an adjudication on the merits and, except as set forth above in paragraph (4), 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.
- (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

Initials: <u>BB</u> Date: 5/18/11 proceedings on the actions alleged herein. Nothing in this paragraph shall affect Respondent's testimonial obligations.

(6) Nothing herein shall preclude any proceedings brought by the Comptroller to enforce the terms of this Order, and 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 actions deemed appropriate.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the undersigned has hereunto set her hand.		
/s/Belinda Brandimarti	5/18/11	
Belinda Brandimarti	Date	
IT IS SO ORDERED.		
/s/Henry Fleming	5/31/11	
Henry Fleming	Date	
Director for Special Supervision		