

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Before The
OFFICE OF THRIFT SUPERVISION

)
In the Matter of)
)
Michael C. Steele:)
)
A Former President of)
Mount Morris Savings & Loan Assn.)
Mount Morris, Illinois)
OTS No. 02634)

Order No.: **ATL-2007-13**
Date: **June 15, 2007**

STIPULATION AND CONSENT TO THE ISSUANCE OF AN
ORDER OF PROHIBITION

WHEREAS, the Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS), based upon information derived from the exercise of its regulatory responsibilities, has informed Michael C. Steele (**Steele**), former President of Mount Morris Savings & Loan Association, Mount Morris, Illinois (OTS No. 02634) (Mount Morris, or "the Institution"), that grounds exist to initiate an administrative prohibition proceeding against him, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e);¹ and

WHEREAS, **Steele** desires to cooperate with the OTS and to avoid the time and expense of such administrative proceeding and, without an adjudication on the merits and solely for the purposes of settlement in accord with Federal Rules of Evidence 408 and, without admitting or denying that such grounds exist, or the Findings of Fact or opinions and conclusions of the OTS, except as to Jurisdiction, Paragraph 1, below, which is admitted, hereby stipulates and agrees to the following:

¹ All references to the United States Code (U.S.C.) are as amended.

1. **Jurisdiction**

(a) Mount Morris is a “savings association” within the meaning of 12 U.S.C. § 1813(b) and 12 U.S.C. § 1462(4). Accordingly, it is an “insured depository institution” as that term is defined in 12 U.S.C. § 1813(c);

(b) **Steele** was an officer and employee of Mount Morris and is an “institution-affiliated party” as that term is defined in 12 U.S.C. § 1813(u), having served in such capacity within 6 years of the date hereof (see 12 U.S.C. § 1818(i)(3)); and

(c) Pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1813(q), the Director of the OTS is the “appropriate Federal banking agency” to maintain an administrative prohibition proceeding against such institution-affiliated parties of a savings association. Therefore, **Steele** is subject to the jurisdiction of the OTS to initiate and maintain an administrative proceeding against him, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e). The Director of the OTS has delegated to the Regional Director of the Southeast Region of the OTS or his designee (Regional Director) the authority to issue prohibition orders where the individual has consented to the issuance of the order.

2. **OTS Findings of Fact.**

The OTS finds that in December 2002 Mount Morris hired **Steele** to be President of the Institution. Beginning in 2003 and continuing until, at least, September 2006, **Steele** opened an/or maintained numerous international accounts at Mount Morris. These international accounts were opened and/or maintained without proper internal controls and written policies and procedures. As a result, the OTS found that these accounts violated, among other things,

applicable laws and regulations involving the Bank Secrecy Act (BSA)², Customer Identification Program (CIP) requirements, as set forth in 31 C.F.R. § 103.121(b), and Suspicious Activity Report (SAR) monitoring and filing requirements of 12 C.F.R. § 563.180(d). In 2005, after OTS expressed concerns with the characteristics of some of these accounts, **Steele** indicated the Institution would close the international accounts with these characteristics. **Steele** informed the OTS that these accounts had been closed. Subsequently, OTS discovered that, **Steele** had, in fact, continued these account activities and engaged in a course of conduct designed to conceal the continued existence of, at least 67 international accounts, from the OTS. In addition, **Steele** misled the Board of Directors of Mount Morris about the nature and extent of the ongoing international account activity. **Steele** also sought the assistance of other Mount Morris employees to accomplish this concealment from OTS. As a result of his actions, **Steele** (1) engaged in a violation of law or regulation, unsafe or unsound practice, or breach of his fiduciary duty; and (2) such violation, practice or breach resulted in financial gain to **Steele**, financial harm to Mount Morris, or other damage to Mount Morris; and (3) the conduct involved personal dishonesty, or willful or continuing disregard for the safety and soundness of the Institution.

3. Consent.

Steele consents to the issuance by the OTS of the accompanying Consent Order of Prohibition (Order), as complete resolution of all possible OTS enforcement actions that could be brought against him arising out of his employment at Mount Morris. **Steele** further agrees to comply with the terms of the Order upon issuance and stipulates that the Order complies with all requirements of law.

² Currency and Foreign Transactions Reporting Act, as amended by the USA Patriot Act and other laws

4. **Finality.**

The Order is issued under 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e). Upon its issuance by the OTS, it shall be a final order, effective and fully enforceable by the OTS or any other appropriate Federal banking agency under the provisions of 12 U.S.C. § 1818(i).

5. **Waivers.**

Steele waives the following: (a) The right to be served with a written notice of the OTS's charges against him, as provided by 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e);

(a) The right to an administrative hearing of the OTS's charges against him, as provided by 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e);

(b) The right to seek judicial review of the Order, including, without limitation, any such right provided by 12 U.S.C. § 1818(h), or otherwise to challenge the validity of the Order;

(c) Any and all claims against the OTS, including its employees and agents, and any other governmental entity for the award of fees, costs, or expenses related to this OTS enforcement matter and/or the Order, whether arising under common law, the Equal Access to Justice Act, 5 U.S.C. § 504, or 28 U.S.C. § 2412; and

(d) The right to assert this proceeding, his consent to issuance of the Order, the issuance of the 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.

(collectively, the Bank Secrecy Act), 31 U.S.C. §§ 5311 *et seq.*

6. **Other Governmental Actions Not Affected.**

Steele acknowledges and agrees that the consent to the issuance of the Order is for the purpose of resolving this OTS enforcement matter only, and does not release, discharge, compromise, settle, dismiss, resolve, or in any way affect any other actions, charges against, or liability of **Steele** that arise pursuant to this action or otherwise and that may be or have been brought any other governmental entity.

7. **Agreement for Continuing Cooperation.**

Steele agrees that, at the OTS's written request, on reasonable notice and without service of a subpoena, he will provide discovery and testify truthfully at any deposition or at any judicial or administrative proceeding related to any investigation, litigation, or other proceeding maintained by the OTS or other appropriate Federal banking agency relating to Mount Morris, its service corporations, subsidiaries, or Institution-affiliated parties, except that **Steele** does not waive any privilege against self-incrimination under the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution or any attorney-client privilege. If **Steele** invokes his privilege against self-incrimination under the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution and the OTS or other appropriate Federal banking agency obtains a grant of immunity pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 6001, et seq., **Steele** agrees, consistent with any such grant of immunity, to provide discovery and testify truthfully at any deposition and at any judicial, administrative, or investigative proceeding on the matter for which immunity is given.

8. **Acknowledgment of Criminal Sanctions.**

Steele acknowledges that the Stipulation and Order are subject to the provisions of 12 U.S.C. § 1818(j).

9. **Miscellaneous.**

(a) The laws of the United States of America shall govern the construction and validity of the Stipulation and Order;

(b) All references to the OTS in the Stipulation and Order shall also mean any of the OTS's predecessors, successors, and assigns;

(c) The section and paragraph headings in the Stipulation and Order are for convenience only, and such headings shall not affect the interpretation of the Stipulation or Order;

(d) The terms of the Stipulation and Order represent the final agreement of the parties with respect to the subject matters hereof, and constitute the sole agreement of the parties with respect to such subject matters; and

(e) The Stipulation and Order shall remain in effect until terminated, modified, or suspended in writing by the OTS, acting through its Director, Regional Director, or other authorized representative.

WHEREFORE, Steele executes this Stipulation and Consent to the Issuance of an Order of Prohibition intending to be legally bound hereby.

Accepted by:

OFFICE OF THRIFT SUPERVISION

By: IS/
Michael C. Steele

By: IS/
John E. Ryan
Regional Director
Southeast Region

Dated: 5-23-2007

Dated: 6/15/07

2. **Steele**, except upon the prior written consent of the OTS (acting through its Director or an authorized representative thereof) and any other “appropriate Federal financial institutions regulatory agency,” for purposes of 12 U.S.C.

§ 1818(e)(7)(B)(ii), shall not:

(a) Hold any office in, or participate in any manner in the conduct of the affairs of, any institution or agency specified in 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e)(7)(A), including, but not limited to:

- (i) Any insured depository institution, e.g., savings and loan associations, savings banks, national banks, trust companies, and other banking institutions;
- (ii) Any institution treated as an insured bank under 12 U.S.C. §§ 1818(b)(3) and 1818(b)(4), or as a savings association under 12 U.S.C. § 1818(b)(9), e.g., subsidiaries and holding companies of savings associations;
- (iii) Any insured credit union under the Federal Credit Union Act (12 U.S.C. § 1781, et seq.);
- (iv) Any institution chartered under the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. § 2001, et seq.);
- (v) Any appropriate Federal depository institution regulatory agency, within the meaning of 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e)(7)(A)(v);
and
- (vi) The Federal Housing Finance Board and any Federal home loan bank.

(b) Solicit, procure, transfer, attempt to transfer, vote, or attempt to vote any proxy, consent, or authorization with respect to any voting rights in any institution described in 12 U.S.C. § 1818(e)(7)(A);

(c) Violate any voting agreement previously approved by the "appropriate Federal banking agency" within the meaning of 12 U.S.C. § 1813(q); or

(d) Vote for a director, or serve or act as an "institution-affiliated party," as that term is defined at 12 U.S.C. § 1813(u), e.g., a director, officer, employee, controlling stockholder of, or agent for, an insured depository institution.

3. The Stipulation is made a part hereof and is incorporated herein by this reference.

4. This Order is subject to the provisions of 12 U.S.C. § 1818(j).

5. **Steele** shall promptly respond to any request from the OTS for documents that the OTS reasonably requests to demonstrate compliance with this Order.

6. This Order is and shall become effective on the date it is issued, as shown in the caption hereof. The Stipulation and the Order shall remain in effect until terminated, modified, or suspended, in writing by the OTS, acting through its Director, Regional Director, or other authorized representative.

OFFICE OF THRIFT SUPERVISION

By: _____

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John E. Ryan
Regional Director
Southeast Region