

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

In the Matter of:)
)
Joseph G. Barnes)
Former Director)
First National Bank)
Rosedale, Mississippi)

AA-EC-12-87

CONSENT ORDER

WHEREAS, the Comptroller of the Currency of the United States of America (“Comptroller”) intends to initiate this personal cease and desist proceeding against Joseph G. Barnes (“Respondent”) pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(b) on the basis of Respondent’s activities while serving as Director of First National Bank, Rosedale, Mississippi (“Bank”); and

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(b);

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

Article I

JURISDICTION

(1) 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 was an “insured depository institution” as that term is defined in 12 U.S.C. § 1813(c)(2).

(2) Respondent was Director 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 personal cease and desist proceeding against him pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(b).

Article II

COMPTROLLER’S FINDINGS

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

(1) On at least three instances in 2009, Respondent failed to review, and nevertheless signed, minutes for meetings of the Bank’s Board of Directors that contained materially inaccurate information related to presentations and to discussions and approvals of bonuses that never occurred.

(2) By reason of the foregoing, Respondent engaged in unsafe or unsound practices.

Article III

PERSONAL CEASE AND DESIST ORDER

(1) Pursuant to the authority vested in him by the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, as amended, 12 U.S.C. § 1818, the Comptroller hereby orders that, whenever Respondent is employed by, or is offered employment at, an insured depository institution (as defined in 12 U.S.C.

§ 1813(c)(2)) or otherwise becomes an institution-affiliated party (“IAP”) within the meaning of 12 U.S.C. § 1813(u), Respondent shall:

- (a) Comply fully with all laws, regulations, and policies applicable to any insured depository institution with which he is or may become affiliated;
- (b) Avoid engaging in any unsafe or unsound practices, as that term is used in Title 12 of the United States Code;
- (c) Fulfill the fiduciary duties of loyalty and care owed to any insured depository institution with which he is or may become affiliated and shall, at all times, avoid placing his own interests above those of the institution;
- (d) Carefully review and ensure the accuracy of any board and/or committee minutes, or any other such documents, that Respondent is expected to ratify with his signature;
- (e) In the event Respondent serves as director of another insured depository institution, familiarize himself with the duties and responsibilities expected of such directors, as set forth in guidance and materials provided and made available by regulators;
- (f) Familiarize himself with, and adhere to, the written policies and procedures of any insured depository institution or agency with which he is or may become affiliated. In the event that Respondent is affiliated with an insured depository institution or agency with written policies and procedures that are more stringent than the provisions of this Order, Respondent shall adhere to the written policies and procedures of such insured depository institution or agency;

- (g) Provide the board of directors or president of any insured depository institution of which Respondent is currently an IAP with a copy of this Order. Respondent shall provide written certification of compliance with this paragraph to the Director, Enforcement and Compliance Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E St., SW, Washington, D.C. 20219, within ten (10) days of execution of this Order; and
- (h) Prior to accepting any offer of a position that would cause Respondent to become an IAP of an insured depository institution, provide the board of directors or president of the insured depository institution with a copy of this Order. Respondent shall provide written notice of such acceptance to the Director, Enforcement and Compliance Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E St., SW, Washington, D.C. 20219, along with a written certification of his compliance with this paragraph within ten (10) days after acceptance of such position.

(2) If, at any time, Respondent is uncertain whether a situation implicates any of the items in paragraph (1) of this Article, or if Respondent is uncertain about his duties arising from these or any other requirements of this Order, he shall obtain, at his own expense, and abide by the written advice of counsel regarding his duties and responsibilities with respect to the matter. To comply with this paragraph, Respondent shall engage counsel who is in no way affiliated with the insured depository institution and who has never been subject to any formal sanctions by any Federal banking agency, either by agency order or consent, as disclosed on the banking agencies' web sites.

(3) 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(b).

Article IV

WAIVERS

- (1) By executing this Order, Respondent waives:
- (a) the right to the issuance of a Notice of Charges for Issuance of an Order to Cease and Desist under 12 U.S.C. § 1818(b);
 - (b) all rights to a hearing and a final agency decision pursuant to 12 U.S.C. § 1818(b) 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 shall not cause, participate in or authorize the Bank (or any subsidiary or affiliate thereof) to incur, directly or indirectly, any expense for 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 the personal cease and desist proceeding contemplated by the Comptroller and arising out of the specific acts, omissions, or violations described in Article II of this Order. However, the specific acts, omissions or violations described in Article II of this Order may be used by the Comptroller 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), 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 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 actions deemed appropriate.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the undersigned has hereunto set his hand.

/s/ Joseph G. Barnes
Joseph G. Barnes

8-1-12
Date

IT IS SO ORDERED.

/s/Kristina B. Whittaker
Kristina B. Whittaker
Deputy Comptroller for Special Supervision
Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Aug. 9, 2012
Date

From Article at GetOutOfDebt.org