

Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989, as amended, notice is hereby given that the Appraisal Subcommittee (ASC) will meet in closed session:

*Location:* FDIC Building, 1776 F Street, NW., Room 4085, Washington, DC 20429.

*Date:* November 10, 2010.

*Time:* Immediately following the ASC open session beginning at 10:30 a.m.

*Status:* Closed.

#### Matters To Be Considered

October 13, 2010 minutes—Closed Session.

Preliminary discussion of State Compliance Reviews.

Dated: October 29, 2010.

**Deborah S. Merkle,**  
*Chairman.*

[FR Doc. 2010-27909 Filed 11-3-10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

### FEDERAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS EXAMINATION COUNCIL

[Docket No. AS10-8]

#### Appraisal Subcommittee Notice of Meeting

**AGENCY:** Appraisal Subcommittee of the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

*Description:* In accordance with Section 1104(b) of Title XI of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989, as amended, notice is hereby given that the Appraisal Subcommittee (ASC) will meet in open session for its regular meeting:

*Location:* FDIC Building, 1776 F Street, NW., Room 4085, Washington, DC 20429.

*Date:* November 10, 2010.

*Time:* 10:30 a.m.

*Status:* Open.

#### Matters To Be Considered

##### Summary Agenda

October 13, 2010 minutes—Open Session.

(No substantive discussion of the above items is anticipated. These matters will be resolved with a single vote unless a member of the ASC requests that an item be moved to the discussion agenda.)

##### Discussion Agenda

Maryland Compliance Review Report and letter,

Massachusetts Compliance Review Report and letter,

Minnesota Compliance Review Report and letter.

#### How To Attend and Observe an ASC Meeting

E-mail your name, organization and contact information to [meetings@asc.gov](mailto:meetings@asc.gov).

You may also send a written request via U.S. Mail, fax or commercial carrier to the Executive Director of the ASC, 1401 H Street, NW., Ste. 760, Washington, DC 20005. Your request must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., ET, on the Monday prior to the meeting. If that Monday is a Federal holiday, then your request must be received 4:30 p.m., ET, on the previous Friday. Attendees must have a valid government-issued photo ID and must agree to submit to reasonable security measures. The meeting space is intended to accommodate public attendees. However, if the space will not accommodate all requests, the ASC may refuse attendance on that reasonable basis.

Dated: October 29, 2010.

**Deborah S. Merkle,**  
*Chairman.*

[FR Doc. 2010-27911 Filed 11-3-10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

### FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

#### Change in Bank Control Notices; Acquisitions of Shares of a Bank or Bank Holding Company

The notificants listed below have applied under the Change in Bank Control Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)) and § 225.41 of the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.41) to acquire shares of a bank or bank holding company. The factors that are considered in acting on the notices are set forth in paragraph 7 of the Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(7)).

The notices are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notices also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing to the Reserve Bank indicated for that notice or to the offices of the Board of Governors. Comments must be received not later than November 19, 2010.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (Kenneth Binning, Vice President, Applications and Enforcement), 101 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94105-1579:

1. *Henry Liebman, Gail Katz, and Sodo Builders*, all of Seattle, Washington, acting as a group in

concert; to retain voting shares of Regal Financial Bancorp, Inc., and thereby indirectly retain voting shares of Regal Financial Bank, both of Seattle, Washington.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, November 1, 2010.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Deputy Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. 2010-27868 Filed 11-3-10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6210-01-P**

### FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

#### Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1843). Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than November 29, 2010.

A. **Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis** (Jacqueline G. King, Community Affairs Officer) 90 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55480-0291:

1. *Bigfork Bancshares, Inc.*, Bigfork, Minnesota; to merge with Kelliher Bancshares Inc., and thereby indirectly acquire Citizens State Bank of Kelliher, both of Kelliher, Minnesota.

B. **Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas** (E. Ann Worthy, Vice President) 2200

North Pearl Street, Dallas, Texas 75201–2272:

1. *Veritex Holdings, Inc.*, Dallas, Texas; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Fidelity Resources Company, and thereby indirectly acquire voting shares of Fidelity Bank, Plano, Texas.

2. *WCM Holdings, Inc.*, and *WCM-Parkway, Ltd.*, both of Dallas, Texas; to acquire at least 5 percent of the voting shares of Veritex Holdings, Inc., and thereby indirectly acquire voting shares of Professional Bank, NA, both of Dallas, Texas.

**C. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco** (Kenneth Binning, Vice President, Applications and Enforcement) 101 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94105–1579:

1. *SKBHC Holdings, LLC*, and *SKBHC Hawks Nest Acquisition Corp.*, both of Corona del Mar, California; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of AmericanWest Bank, Spokane, Washington.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, November 1, 2010.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Deputy Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. 2010–27867 Filed 11–3–10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6210–01–P**

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## FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

### Notice of Inquiry; An Analysis of the European Union Repeal of the Liner Conference Block Exemption

**AGENCY:** Federal Maritime Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of Inquiry.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Maritime Commission (“FMC” or “Commission”) is issuing this inquiry to solicit information and comments concerning the effects on international liner shipping of the European Union’s (“E.U.”) repeal of the liner block exemption from competition laws that took effect on October 18, 2008. This information will assist the Commission in its identification, analysis and evaluation of any consequences of the E.U.’s policy decision on U.S. trades, and will be incorporated into the Commission’s research for *An Analysis of the E.U. Repeal of the Liner Conference Block Exemption* (“E.U. Study”) which is scheduled to be completed in late 2011.

**DATES:** Responses are due on or before January 18, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit all comments concerning this Inquiry to: Karen V. Gregory, Secretary, Federal Maritime Commission, 800 North Capitol Street,

NW., Room 1046, Washington, DC 20573–0001.

Or e-mail non-confidential comments to: [secretary@fmc.gov](mailto:secretary@fmc.gov). (e-mail comments as attachments in Microsoft Word)

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Austin L. Schmitt, Director, Bureau of Trade Analysis, Federal Maritime Commission, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Washington, DC 20573–0001, Telephone: (202) 523–5796, E-mail: [aschmitt@fmc.gov](mailto:aschmitt@fmc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Submit Comments:* Non-confidential filings may be submitted in hard copy or by e-mail as an attachment (Microsoft Word) addressed to [secretary@fmc.gov](mailto:secretary@fmc.gov) on or before January 18, 2011. Include in the subject line: “FMC EU Study—Response to NOI”. Responses to this inquiry that seek confidential treatment must be submitted in hard copy by U.S. mail or courier. Confidential filings must be accompanied by a transmittal letter that identifies the filing as “confidential,” describes the nature and extent of the confidential treatment requested, and states the reason for the request (e.g., commercially sensitive data). When submitting documents in response to the NOI that contain confidential information, the confidential copy of the filing must consist of the complete filing and be marked by the filer as “Confidential-Restricted,” with the confidential material clearly marked on each page. When a confidential filing is submitted, an original and one additional copy of the public version of the filing must be submitted. The public version of the filing should exclude confidential materials, and be clearly marked on each affected page, “confidential materials excluded.” Questions regarding filing or treatment of confidential responses to this inquiry should be directed to the Commission’s Secretary, Karen V. Gregory, at the telephone number or e-mail provided above.

The Federal Maritime Commission is seeking information and comments from interested parties regarding the impacts of the E.U. repeal of the liner conference block exemption, Regulation (EEC) No. 4056/86,<sup>1</sup> on the performance of liner shipping in U.S. trades. The adoption by the European Union of Regulation 1419/2006 (“Repeal”), on September 25, 2006, removed the previous block exemption from E.U. competition laws as of October 18, 2008. Under European

<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EEC) No. 4056/86 included a block exemption from E.U. competition laws for liner shipping conferences, which allowed them, under certain conditions, to fix prices and regulate capacity.

Commission Regulation No. 906/2009, liner shipping consortia with market shares up to 30% retain an exemption for certain activities.

### Background

As the expert agency responsible for regulating liner shipping in U.S. trades, the Commission has an on-going responsibility to keep abreast of changes in foreign laws and regulations that may impact liner activities in U.S. trades. The Commission developed the E.U. Study as a means of meeting that responsibility, and of determining whether or not any impacts on U.S. trades that could be related to the E.U.’s Repeal warranted Commission action with respect to its existing regulations and oversight activities under the Shipping Act of 1984 as amended by the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 1998.

In doing so, the Commission was cognizant of recommendations made by the National Industrial Transportation League (“NITL”) to the Antitrust Modernization Commission (“AMC”) in their October 18, 2006 comments. NITL told the AMC that, in light of the E.U.’s repeal of the liner conference block exemption, it would be appropriate for the United States government to undertake a review of the antitrust immunity granted under the Shipping Act. NITL stated, in particular, that such a review should include an analysis of the impact that the changes adopted in Europe will have on the shipment of goods in U.S. trades.<sup>2</sup>

On November 23, 2009, in a public address to several industry groups, FMC Chairman Richard A. Lidinsky, Jr. announced the Commission’s intention to undertake a comprehensive study of the impact of the E.U.’s repeal of the liner block exemption on U.S. trades. He noted that the E.U. study would cover a five-year period, from January 2006 through December 2010, and that it would include an analysis of changes in liner market structure, competition, services offered, vessel capacity, rates and surcharges. He also advised that the Commission staff was consulting key industry and customer groups concerning the parameters of the study, the proposed research methods, and the possibility of future interviews with industry representatives. Chairman Lidinsky declared that the Commission intended to publish a Notice of Inquiry (“NOI”) in late 2010, and stressed the importance he attached to participation by the shipper community in both the

<sup>2</sup> See Comments Submitted on Behalf of the National Industrial Transportation League, by Attorneys Nicholas J. DiMichael and Karyn A. Booth, Thompson Hine LLP, October 18, 2006, page 9.