

Securities and Exchange Commission

§ 201.611

RULES REGARDING DISGORGEMENT AND PENALTY PAYMENTS

§ 201.600 Interest on sums disgorged.

(a) *Interest required.* Prejudgment interest shall be due on any sum required to be paid pursuant to an order of disgorgement. The disgorgement order shall specify each violation that forms the basis for the disgorgement ordered; the date which, for purposes of calculating disgorgement, each such violation was deemed to have occurred; the amount to be disgorged for each such violation; and the total sum to be disgorged. Prejudgment interest shall be due from the first day of the month following each such violation through the last day of the month preceding the month in which payment of disgorgement is made. The order shall state the amount of prejudgment interest owed as of the date of the disgorgement order and that interest shall continue to accrue on all funds owed until they are paid.

(b) *Rate of interest.* Interest on the sum to be disgorged shall be computed at the underpayment rate of interest established under Section 6621(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. 6621(a)(2), and shall be compounded quarterly. The Commission or the hearing officer may, by order, specify a lower rate of prejudgment interest as to any funds which the respondent has placed in an escrow or otherwise guaranteed for payment of disgorgement upon a final determination of the respondent's liability. Escrow and other guarantee arrangements must be approved by the Commission or the hearing officer prior to entry of the disgorgement order.

§ 201.601 Prompt payment of disgorgement, interest and penalties.

(a) *Timing of payments.* Unless otherwise provided, funds due pursuant to an order by the Commission requiring the payment of disgorgement, interest or penalties shall be paid no later than 21 days after service of the order, and funds due pursuant to an order by a hearing officer shall be paid on the first day after the order becomes final pursuant to § 201.360.

(b) *Stays.* A stay of any order requiring the payment of disgorgement, in-

terest or penalties may be sought at any time pursuant to § 201.401.

§ 201.610 Submission of proposed plan of disgorgement.

The Commission or the hearing officer may, at any time, order any party to submit a plan for the administration and distribution of disgorgement funds. Unless ordered otherwise, the Division of Enforcement shall submit a proposed plan no later than 60 days after funds or other assets have been turned over by the respondent pursuant to a Commission disgorgement order and any appeals of the disgorgement order have been waived or completed, or appeal is no longer available.

§ 201.611 Contents of plan of disgorgement; provisions for payment.

(a) *Required plan elements.* Unless otherwise ordered, a plan for the administration of a disgorgement fund shall include the following elements:

(1) Procedures for the receipt of additional funds, including the specification of an account where funds will be held and the instruments in which the funds may be invested;

(2) Specification of categories of persons potentially eligible to receive proceeds from the fund;

(3) Procedure for providing notice to such persons of the existence of the fund and their potential eligibility to receive proceeds of the fund;

(4) Procedures for making and approving claims, procedures for handling disputed claims and a cut-off date for the making of claims;

(5) A proposed date for the termination of the fund, including provision for the disposition of any funds not otherwise distributed;

(6) Procedures for the administration of the fund, including selection, compensation and, as necessary, indemnification of a fund administrator to oversee the fund, process claims, prepare accountings, file tax returns and, subject to the approval of the Commission, make distributions from the fund to investors; and

(7) Such other provisions as the Commission or the hearing officer may require.

(b) *Payment to registry of the court or court-appointed receiver.* Subject to such

§ 201.612

conditions as the Commission or the hearing officer shall deem appropriate, a plan of disgorgement may provide for payment of disgorgement funds into a court registry or to a court-appointed receiver in any case pending in federal or state court against a respondent or any other person based upon a complaint alleging violations arising from the same or substantially similar facts as those alleged in the Commission's order instituting proceedings.

(c) *Payment to the United States Treasury under certain circumstances.* When, in the opinion of the Commission or the hearing officer, the cost of administering a plan of disgorgement relative to the value of the available disgorgement funds and the number of potential claimants would not justify distribution of the disgorgement funds to injured investors, the plan may provide that the funds shall be paid directly to the general fund of the United States Treasury.

§ 201.612 Notice of proposed plan of disgorgement and opportunity for comment by non-parties.

Notice of a proposed plan of disgorgement shall be published in the *SEC News Digest*, in the *SEC Docket*, and in such other publications as the Commission or the hearing officer may require. The notice shall specify how copies of the proposed plan may be obtained and shall state that persons desiring to comment on the proposed plan may submit their views, in writing, to the Commission.

§ 201.613 Order approving, modifying or disapproving proposed plan of disgorgement.

At any time more than 30 days after publication of notice of a proposed plan of disgorgement, the hearing officer or the Commission shall, by order, approve, approve with modifications, or disapprove the proposed plan. In the discretion of the Commission or the hearing officer, a proposed plan of disgorgement that is substantially modified prior to adoption may be republished for an additional comment period pursuant to § 201.612. The order approving or disapproving the plan should be entered within 30 days after the end of the final period allowed for

17 CFR Ch. II (4-1-03 Edition)

comments on the proposed plan unless the Commission or the hearing officer, by written order, allows a longer period for good cause shown.

§ 201.614 Administration of plan of disgorgement.

(a) *Appointment and removal of administrator.* The Commission or the hearing officer shall have discretion to appoint any person, including a Commission employee, as administrator of a plan of disgorgement and to delegate to that person responsibility for administering the plan. A respondent may be required or permitted to administer or assist in administering a plan of disgorgement, subject to such terms and conditions as the Commission or the hearing officer deem appropriate to ensure the proper distribution of funds. An administrator may be removed at any time by order of the Commission or hearing officer.

(b) *Administrator to post bond.* If the administrator is not a Commission employee, the administrator shall be required to obtain a bond in the manner prescribed by 11 U.S.C. 322, in an amount to be approved by the Commission. The cost of the bond may be paid for as a cost of administration. The Commission may waive posting of a bond for good cause shown.

(c) *Administrator's fees.* If the administrator is a Commission employee, no fee shall be paid to the administrator for his or her services. If the administrator is not a Commission employee, he or she may file an application for fees for completed services, and upon approval by the Commission or a hearing officer, may be paid a reasonable fee for those services. Any objections thereto shall be filed within 21 days of service of the application on the parties.

(d) *Source of funds.* Unless otherwise ordered, fees and other expenses of administering the plan of disgorgement shall be paid first from the interest earned on disgorged funds, and if the interest is not sufficient, then from the corpus.

(e) *Accountings.* During the first 10 days of each calendar quarter, or as otherwise directed by the Commission or the hearing officer, the administrator shall file an accounting of all