

Federal Reserve System

§ 261.23

(v) The reason why the requesting person cannot obtain the information sought from any other source; and

(vi) A commitment to obtain a protective order acceptable to the Board from the judicial or administrative tribunal hearing the action preserving the confidentiality of any information that is provided.

(2) *All other requests.* Any other person (except agencies identified in §§261.20 and 261.21 of this regulation) seeking access to confidential supervisory information for any other purpose shall file a written request with the General Counsel of the Board. A request under this paragraph (b)(2) shall describe the purpose for which such disclosure is sought.

(c) *Action on request—(1) Determination of approval.* The General Counsel of the Board may approve a request made under this section provided that he or she determines that:

(i) The person making the request has shown a substantial need for confidential supervisory information that outweighs the need to maintain confidentiality; and

(ii) Disclosure is consistent with the supervisory and regulatory responsibilities and policies of the Board.

(2) *Conditions or limitations.* The General Counsel of the Board may, in approving a request, impose such conditions or limitations on use of any information disclosed as is deemed necessary to protect the confidentiality of the Board's information.

(d) *Exhaustion of administrative remedies for discovery purposes in civil, criminal, or administrative action.* Action on a request under this section by the General Counsel of the Board shall exhaust administrative remedies for discovery purposes in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding. A request made pursuant to §261.12 of this regulation does not exhaust administrative remedies for discovery purposes. Therefore, it is not necessary to file a request pursuant to §261.12 to exhaust administrative remedies under this section.

(e) *Other disclosure prohibited.* All confidential supervisory information made available under this section shall remain the property of the Board. Any person in possession of such informa-

tion shall not use or disclose such information for any purpose other than that authorized by the General Counsel of the Board without his or her prior written approval.

[53 FR 20815, June 7, 1988. Redesignated at 62 FR 54359, Oct. 20, 1997; corrected at 62 FR 62508, Nov. 24, 1997]

§ 261.23 Subpoenas, orders compelling production, and other process.

(a) *Advice by person served.* Any person (including any officers, employee, or agent of the Board or any Federal Reserve Bank) who has documents or information of the Board that may not be disclosed and who is served with a subpoena, order, or other judicial or administrative process requiring his or her personal attendance as a witness or requiring the production of documents or information in any proceeding, shall:

(1) Promptly inform the Board's General Counsel of the service and all relevant facts, including the documents and information requested, and any facts of assistance to the Board in determining whether the material requested should be made available; and

(2) At the appropriate time inform the court or tribunal that issued the process and the attorney for the party at whose instance the process was issued of the substance of these rules.

(b) *Appearance by person served.* Unless the Board has authorized disclosure of the information requested, any person who has Board information that may not be disclosed, and who is required to respond to a subpoena or other legal process, shall attend at the time and place required and decline to disclose or to give any testimony with respect to the information, basing such refusal upon the provisions of this regulation. If the court or other body orders the disclosure of the information or the giving of testimony, the person having the information shall continue to decline to disclose the information and shall promptly report the facts to the Board for such action as the Board may deem appropriate.

[53 FR 20815, June 7, 1988. Redesignated at 62 FR 54359, Oct. 20, 1997]