

loss of impartiality, or otherwise to ensure confidence in the impartiality and objectivity with which agency programs are administered.

[60 FR 20174, Apr. 25, 1995, as amended at 62 FR 3772, Jan. 27, 1997; 67 FR 71070, Nov. 29, 2002]

§ 3201.103 Prohibitions on ownership of securities of FDIC-insured depository institutions.

(a) *Prohibition on ownership.* Except as permitted by this section, an employee or the spouse or minor child of an employee, shall not acquire, own, or control, directly or indirectly, a security of an FDIC-insured depository institution, or an affiliate of an FDIC-insured depository institution.

(b) *Exception to prohibition for certain interests.* Nothing in this section prohibits an employee, or the spouse or minor child of an employee, from:

(1) Acquiring, owning or controlling the securities of certain publicly traded bank holding companies or their nonbank subsidiaries where the bank holding company is not primarily engaged in banking and either the bank holding company or the bank it holds is exempt under the provisions of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 and which are identified as such by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (a list of exempt institutions can be obtained from the Corporation's Ethics Section);

(2) Acquiring, owning, or controlling the securities of certain nonfinancial savings association holding companies whose principal business is unrelated to the financial services industry and which are identified as such by the Office of Thrift Supervision pursuant to 5 CFR 3101.109(b)(3)(ii) (a list of such institutions can be obtained from the Corporation's Ethics Section);

(3) Retaining a security of an FDIC-insured depository institution or an affiliate of an FDIC-insured depository institution if the security was permitted to be retained by the employee under 12 CFR part 336 prior to the adoption of this regulation, was obtained prior to commencement of employment with the Corporation, or was acquired by a spouse prior to marriage to the employee;

(4) Acquiring, owning, or controlling a security of an FDIC-insured depository institution or the affiliate of an FDIC-insured depository institution where the security was acquired by inheritance, gift, stock split, involuntary stock dividend, merger, acquisition, or other change in corporate ownership, exercise of preemptive right, or otherwise without specific intent to acquire the security, or, by an employee's spouse or minor child as part of a compensation package in connection with his or her employment. This provision permits the retention of any such interest only where:

(i) The employee makes full, written disclosure on FDIC form 2410/07 to the Ethics Counselor within 30 days of commencing employment or acquiring the interest; and

(ii) The employee is disqualified in accordance with 5 CFR part 2635, subpart D, from participating in any particular matter that affects his or her financial interests, or that of his or her spouse or minor child;

(5) Acquiring, owning, or controlling an interest in a publicly traded or publicly available investment fund provided that, upon initial or subsequent investment by the employee (excluding ordinary dividend reinvestment), the fund does not have invested, or indicate in its prospectus the intent to invest, more than 30 percent of its assets in the securities of one or more FDIC-insured depository institutions or FDIC-insured depository institution holding companies and the employee neither exercises control nor has the ability to exercise control over the financial interests held in the fund; or

(6) Using an FDIC-insured depository institution or an affiliate of an FDIC-insured depository institution as custodian or trustee of accounts containing tax-deferred retirement funds.

(c) *Divestiture.* Based upon a determination of substantial conflict under 5 CFR 2635.403(b), the Ethics Counselor may require an employee, or the spouse or minor child of an employee, to divest a security he or she is otherwise authorized to retain under paragraph (b) of this section.

[60 FR 20174, Apr. 25, 1995, as amended at 61 FR 35915, July 9, 1996]