

AUTHORITY: 3 U.S.C. 301; 31 U.S.C. 321(b); 50 U.S.C. 1601-1651, 1701-1706; E.O. 13338, 69 FR 26751, May 13, 2004.

SOURCE: 70 FR 17203, Apr. 5, 2005, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—Relation of This Part to Other Laws and Regulations

§ 542.101 Relation of this part to other laws and regulations.

This part is separate from, and independent of, the other parts of this chapter, with the exception of part 501 of this chapter, the recordkeeping and reporting requirements and license application and other procedures of which apply to this part. Actions taken pursuant to part 501 of this chapter with respect to the prohibitions contained in this part are considered actions taken pursuant to this part. Differing foreign policy and national security circumstances may result in differing interpretations of similar language among the parts of this chapter. No license or authorization contained in or issued pursuant to those other parts authorizes any transaction prohibited by this part. No license or authorization contained in or issued pursuant to any other provision of law or regulation authorizes any transaction prohibited by this part. No license or authorization contained in or issued pursuant to this part relieves the involved parties from complying with any other applicable laws or regulations.

§ 542.102 Relation of this part to part 596 of this chapter.

For the purposes of the Terrorism List Government Sanctions Regulations set forth in part 596 of this chapter, the Government of Syria in its entirety is not subject to the regulations set forth in this part. Consequently, 31 CFR 596.503 does not apply to financial transactions with the Government of Syria, while 31 CFR 596.504 and 596.505 continue to apply.

Subpart B—Prohibitions

§ 542.201 Prohibited transactions involving blocked property.

(a) Except as authorized by regulations, orders, directives, rulings, instructions, licenses or otherwise, and

notwithstanding any contracts entered into or any license or permit granted prior to the effective date, all property and interests in property of the following persons that are in the United States, that hereafter come within the United States, or that are or hereafter come within the possession or control of United States persons, including their overseas branches, are blocked and may not be transferred, paid, exported, withdrawn, or otherwise dealt in:

(1) [Reserved]

(2) Any person determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State:

(i) To be or to have been directing or otherwise significantly contributing to the Government of Syria's provision of safe haven to or other support for any person whose property or interests in property are blocked under United States law for terrorism-related reasons, including, but not limited to, Hamas, Hizballah, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, and any persons designated pursuant to Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001;

(ii) To be or to have been directing or otherwise significantly contributing to the Government of Syria's military or security presence in Lebanon;

(iii) To be or to have been directing or otherwise significantly contributing to the Government of Syria's pursuit of the development and production of chemical, biological, or nuclear weapons and medium- and long-range surface-to-surface missiles;

(iv) To be or to have been directing or otherwise significantly contributing to any steps taken by the Government of Syria to undermine United States and international efforts with respect to the stabilization and reconstruction of Iraq; or

(v) To be owned or controlled by, or acting or purporting to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, any person whose property or interests in property are blocked pursuant to this section.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (A) OF § 542.201: The names of persons whose property or interests in property are blocked pursuant to

§ 542.202

§ 542.201(a) will be published on OFAC's Web site, announced in the FEDERAL REGISTER, and incorporated on an ongoing basis with the identifier [SYRIA] in appendix A to 31 CFR chapter V. Section 501.807 of this chapter V sets forth the procedures to be followed by persons seeking administrative reconsideration of their designations pursuant to § 542.201(a) or who wish to assert that the circumstances resulting in a designation no longer apply. Similarly, when a transaction results in the blocking of funds at a financial institution pursuant to this section and a party to the transaction believes the funds to have been blocked due to mistaken identity, that party may seek to have such funds unblocked pursuant to the administrative procedures set forth in § 501.806 of this chapter.

Section 203 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702) explicitly authorizes the blocking of property and interests in property of a person during the pendency of an investigation. The name of any individual or entity whose property or interests in property are blocked under this part pending investigation will be published as noted above with the descriptor "[BPI-SYRIA]." The scope of the blocking of property or interests in property during the pendency of an investigation may be more limited than the scope of the blocking set forth in § 542.201(a). Inquiries regarding the scope of any such blocking should be directed to OFAC's Compliance Division at 202/622-2490.

(b) The blocking of property and interests in property pursuant to § 542.201(a) includes, but is not limited to, the prohibition of:

(1) The making of any contribution of funds, goods, or services by, to, or for the benefit of any person whose property or interests in property are blocked pursuant to this section; and

(2) The receipt of any contribution or provision of funds, goods, or services from any such person.

(c) Unless otherwise authorized by this part or by a specific license expressly referring to this section, any dealing in any security (or evidence thereof) held within the possession or control of a U.S. person and either registered or inscribed in the name of or known to be held for the benefit of any person whose property or interests in property are blocked pursuant to § 542.201(a) is prohibited. This prohibition includes but is not limited to the transfer (including the transfer on the books of any issuer or agent thereof), disposition, transportation, importa-

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tion, exportation, or withdrawal of any such security or the endorsement or guaranty of signatures on any such security. This prohibition applies irrespective of the fact that at any time (whether prior to, on, or subsequent to the effective date) the registered or inscribed owner of any such security may have or might appear to have assigned, transferred, or otherwise disposed of the security.

§ 542.202 Effect of transfers violating the provisions of this part.

(a) Any transfer after the effective date that is in violation of any provision of this part or of any regulation, order, directive, ruling, instruction, or license issued pursuant to this part, and that involves any property or interest in property blocked pursuant to § 542.201(a), is null and void and shall not be the basis for the assertion or recognition of any interest in, or right, remedy, power, or privilege with respect to, such property or property interests.

(b) No transfer before the effective date shall be the basis for the assertion or recognition of any right, remedy, power, or privilege with respect to, or any interest in, any property or interest in property blocked pursuant to § 542.201(a), unless the person with whom such property is held or maintained, prior to that date, had written notice of the transfer or by any written evidence had recognized such transfer.

(c) Unless otherwise provided, an appropriate license or other authorization issued by or pursuant to the direction or authorization of the Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control before, during, or after a transfer shall validate such transfer or make it enforceable to the same extent that it would be valid or enforceable but for the provisions of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, this part, and any regulation, order, directive, ruling, instruction, or license issued pursuant to this part.

(d) Transfers of property that otherwise would be null and void or unenforceable by virtue of the provisions of this section shall not be deemed to be null and void or unenforceable as to any person with whom such property was held or maintained (and as to such