

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM
WASHINGTON, D.C.

STATE OF OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES,
DIVISION OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE SECURITIES
SALEM, OREGON

Written Agreement by and among

MERCHANTS BANCORP
Gresham, Oregon

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF
SAN FRANCISCO
San Francisco, California

and

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF
CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES,
DIVISION OF FINANCE AND
CORPORATE SECURITIES
Salem, Oregon

Docket No. 09-167-WA/RB-HC

WHEREAS, Merchants Bancorp, Gresham, Oregon (“Bancorp”), a registered bank holding company, owns and controls MBank, Gresham, Oregon (the “Bank”), a state chartered nonmember bank, and various nonbank subsidiaries;

WHEREAS, it is the common goal of Bancorp, the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (the “Reserve Bank”), and the Director of the State of Oregon’s Department of Consumer and Business Services acting through the Administrator of the Division of Finance and Corporate Securities (the “DFCS”) to maintain the financial soundness of Bancorp so that Bancorp may serve as a source of strength to the Bank;

WHEREAS, Bancorp, the Reserve Bank, and the DFCS have mutually agreed to enter into this Written Agreement (the "Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, on October 22, 2009 the board of directors of Bancorp, at a duly constituted meeting, adopted a resolution authorizing and directing Stan Morris to enter into this Agreement on behalf of Bancorp, and consenting to compliance with each and every provision of this Agreement by Bancorp and its institution-affiliated parties, as defined in sections 3(u) and 8(b)(3) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, as amended (the "FDI Act") (12 U.S.C. §§ 1813(u) and 1818(b)(3)).

NOW, THEREFORE, Bancorp, the Reserve Bank, and the DFCS agree as follows:

Dividends and Distributions

1. (a) Bancorp shall not declare or pay any dividends without the prior written approval of the Reserve Bank, the Director of the Division of Banking Supervision and Regulation (the "Director") of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the "Board of Governors"), and the DFCS.

(b) Bancorp shall not directly or indirectly take dividends or any other form of payment representing a reduction in capital from the Bank without the prior written approval of the Reserve Bank and the DFCS.

(c) Bancorp and its nonbank subsidiaries shall not make any distributions of interest, principal, or other sums on subordinated debentures or trust preferred securities without the prior written approval of the Reserve Bank, the Director, and the DFCS.

(d) All requests for prior approval shall be received by the Reserve Bank and the DFCS at least 30 days prior to the proposed dividend declaration date, proposed distribution on subordinated debentures, and required notice of deferral on trust preferred securities. All

requests shall contain, at a minimum, current and projected information on Bancorp's capital, earnings, and cash flow; the Bank's capital, asset quality, earnings, and allowance for loan and lease losses; and identification of the sources of funds for the proposed payment or distribution. For requests to declare or pay dividends, Bancorp must also demonstrate that the requested declaration or payment of dividends is consistent with the Board of Governors' Policy Statement on the Payment of Cash Dividends by State Member Banks and Bank Holding Companies, dated November 14, 1985 (Federal Reserve Regulatory Service, 4-877 at page 4-323).

Debt and Stock Redemption

2. (a) Bancorp and any nonbank subsidiary shall not, directly or indirectly, incur, increase, or guarantee any debt without the prior written approval of the Reserve Bank and the DFCS. All requests for prior written approval shall contain, but not be limited to, a statement regarding the purpose of the debt, the terms of the debt, and the planned source(s) for debt repayment, and an analysis of the cash flow resources available to meet such debt repayment.

(b) Bancorp shall not, directly or indirectly, purchase or redeem any shares of its stock without the prior written approval of the Reserve Bank and the DFCS.

Cash Flow Projections

3. Within 60 days of this Agreement, Bancorp shall submit to the Reserve Bank a written statement of Bancorp's planned sources and uses of cash for debt service, operating expenses, and other purposes ("Cash Flow Projection") for 2010. Bancorp shall submit to the Reserve Bank a Cash Flow Projection for each calendar year subsequent to 2010 at least one month prior to the beginning of that calendar year.

Compliance with Laws and Regulations

4. (a) In appointing any new director or senior executive officer, or changing the responsibilities of any senior executive officer so that the officer would assume a different senior executive officer position, Bancorp shall comply with the notice provisions of section 32 of the FDI Act (12 U.S.C. § 1831i) and Subpart H of Regulation Y of the Board of Governors (12 C.F.R. §§ 225.71 *et seq.*).

(b) Bancorp shall comply with the restrictions on indemnification and severance payments of section 18(k) of the FDI Act (12 U.S.C. § 1828(k)) and Part 359 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's regulations (12 C.F.R. Part 359).

Progress Reports

5. Within 30 days after the end of each calendar quarter following the date of this Agreement, the board of directors shall submit to the Reserve Bank and the DFCS written progress reports detailing the form and manner of all actions taken to secure compliance with the provisions of this Agreement and the results thereof, and a parent company only balance sheet, income statement, and, as applicable, a report of changes in stockholders' equity.

Communications

6. All communications regarding this Agreement shall be sent to:

(a) Mr. Ken Szyndel
Examining Manager
Banking Supervision and Regulation
Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco
101 Market Street, Mail Stop 945
San Francisco, California 94105

- (b) Mr. Richard Renken
Banks and Trusts Program Manager
State of Oregon, Department of Consumer and Business Services
Division of Finance and Corporate Securities
350 Winter Street NW, Room 410
Salem, Oregon 97309-0405

- (c) Mr. Rex Brittle
Chief Executive Officer
Merchants Bancorp
P.O. Box 504
Gresham, Oregon 97030-0114

Miscellaneous

7. Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement, the Reserve Bank and the DFCS may, in their sole discretion, grant written extensions of time to Bancorp to comply with any provision of this Agreement.

8. The provisions of this Agreement shall be binding upon Bancorp and its institution-affiliated parties, in their capacities as such, and their successors and assigns.

9. Each provision of this Agreement shall remain effective and enforceable until stayed, modified, terminated, or suspended in writing by the Reserve Bank or the DFCS.

10. The provisions of this Agreement shall not bar, estop, or otherwise prevent the Board of Governors, the Reserve Bank, the DFCS, or any other federal or state agency from taking any other action affecting Bancorp, the Bank, any nonbank subsidiary of Bancorp, or any of their current or former institution-affiliated parties and their successors and assigns.

11. Pursuant to section 50 of the FDI Act (12 U.S.C. § 1831aa), this Agreement is enforceable by the Board of Governors under section 8 of the FDI Act (12 U.S.C. § 1818).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed as of the 23rd day of October, 2009.

MERCHANTS BANCORP

By: /s/ Stan Morris
Stan Morris
Chairman

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF
SAN FRANCISCO

By: /s/ Kevin Zerbe
Kevin Zerbe
Vice President

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF
CONSUMER AND BUSINESS
SERVICES, DIVISION OF FINANCE
AND CORPORATE SECURITIES

By: /s/ David C. Tatman
David C. Tatman
Administrator