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- (2) The Supervisory Committee has obtained a financial statement audit or performed a supervisory committee audit which does not meet the requirements of part 715 including those in §715.8.
- (3) The credit union has experienced serious and persistent recordkeeping deficiencies as defined in paragraph (c) of this section.
- (b) Financial statement audit required. The NCUA Board may compel a federal credit union to obtain a financial statement audit performed in accordance with GAAS by an independent person who is licensed by the State or jurisdiction in which the credit union is principally located (even if such audit is not required by §715.5), for any fiscal year in which the credit union has experienced serious and persistent recordkeeping deficiencies as defined in paragraph (c) of this section. The objective of a financial statement audit performed under this paragraph is to reconstruct the records of the credit union sufficient to allow an unqualified or, if necessary, a qualified opinion on the credit union's financial statements. An adverse opinion or disclaimer of opinion should be the exception rather than the norm.
- (c) "Serious and persistent record-keeping deficiencies." A record-keeping deficiency is "serious" if the NCUA Board reasonably believes that the board of directors and management of the credit union have not timely met financial reporting objectives and established practices and procedures sufficient to safeguard members' assets. A serious recordkeeping deficiency is "persistent" when it continues beyond a usual, expected or reasonable period of time.

PART 716—PRIVACY OF CON-SUMER FINANCIAL INFORMA-TION

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APPENDIX A TO PART 716—SAMPLE CLAUSES

AUTHORITY: 15 U.S.C. 6801 et seq., 12 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.

SOURCE: 65 FR 31740, May 18, 2000, unless otherwise noted.

§ 716.1 Purpose and scope.

- (a) *Purpose.* This part governs the treatment of nonpublic personal information about consumers by the credit unions listed in paragraph (b) of this section. This part:
- (1) Requires a credit union to provide notice to members about its privacy policies and practices;
- (2) Describes the conditions under which a credit union may disclose nonpublic personal information about consumers to nonaffiliated third parties; and
- (3) Provides a method for consumers to prevent a credit union from disclosing that information to most non-affiliated third parties by "opting out" of that disclosure, subject to the exceptions in §§716.13, 716.14, and 716.15.

- (b) Scope. (1) This part applies only to nonpublic personal information about individuals who obtain financial products or services for personal, family or household purposes. This part does not apply to information about companies or about individuals who obtain financial products or services for business, commercial or agricultural purposes. This part applies to federally-insured credit unions. This part refers to a federally-insured credit union as "you" or "the credit union."
- (2) Nothing in this part modifies, limits, or supersedes the standards governing individually identifiable financial information promulgated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under the authority of §§ 262 and 264 of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (42 U.S.C. 1320d–1320d–8).

§716.2 Rule of construction.

The examples in this part and the sample clauses in appendix A of this part are not exclusive. Compliance with an example or use of a sample clause, to the extent applicable, constitutes compliance with this part.

§ 716.3 Definitions.

As used in this part, unless the context requires otherwise:

- (a)(1) Affiliate means any company that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with another company.
- (2) Examples. (i) An affiliate of a federal credit union is a credit union service organization (CUSO), as provided in 12 CFR part 712, that is controlled by the federal credit union.
- (ii) An affiliate of a federally-insured, state-chartered credit union is a company that is controlled by the credit union.
- (b)(1) Clear and conspicuous means that a notice is reasonably understandable and designed to call attention to the nature and significance of the information in the notice.
- (2) Examples. (i) Reasonably understandable. You make your notice reasonably understandable if you:
- (A) Present the information contained in the notice in clear, concise sentences, paragraphs and sections;

- (B) Use short, explanatory sentences or bullet lists whenever possible;
- (C) Use definite, concrete, everyday words and active voice whenever possible;
 - (D) Avoid multiple negatives;
- (E) Avoid legal and highly technical business terminology wherever possible; and
- (F) Avoid explanations that are imprecise and readily subject to different interpretations.
- (ii) Designed to call attention. You design your notice to call attention to the nature and significance of the information in it if you:
- (A) Use a plain-language heading to call attention to the notice;
- (B) Use a typeface and type size that are easy to read;
- (C) Provide wide margins and ample line spacing;
- (D) Use boldface or italics for key words; and
- (E) In a form that combines your notice with other information, use distinctive type size, style, and graphic devices, such as shading or sidebars.
- (iii) Notices on web sites. If you provide notices on a web page, you design your notice to call attention to the nature and significance of the information in it if you use text or visual cues to encourage scrolling down the page if necessary to view the entire notice and ensure that other elements on the web site (such as text graphics, hyperlinks or sound) do not distract attention form the notice, and you either:
- (A) Place the notice on a screen frequently accessed by consumers, such as a home page or a page on which transactions are conducted; or
- (B) Place a link on a screen frequently accessed by consumers, such as a home page or a page on which transactions are conducted, that connects directly to the notice and is labeled appropriately to convey the importance, nature and relevance of the notice.
- (c) Collect means to obtain information that you organize or can retrieve by the name of an individual or by identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual, irrespective of the source of the underlying information.
- (d) *Company* means any corporation, limited liability company, business