
BANK SECRECY ACT

DEFINITIONS

Definitions BSA 31CFR103

Accept

A receiving financial institution, other than the recipient's financial institution, accepts a transmittal order by executing the transmittal order. A recipient's financial institution accepts a transmittal order by paying the recipient, by notifying the recipient of the receipt of the order or by otherwise becoming obligated to carry out the order.

Section 314(a)

Refers to section 314(a) of the law Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism (USA PATRIOT) Act of 2001, Public Law 107-56. In addition, the final rule implementing section 314 of the USA PATRIOT Act was issued by the Department of the Treasury on September 26, 2002, 67 Fed. Reg. 187 (2002). That rule is codified beginning at 31 C.F.R. §103.100.

At one time

For purposes of Sec. 103.23 of this part, a person who transports, mails, ships or receives; is about to or attempts to transport, mail or ship; or causes the transportation, mailing, shipment or receipt of monetary instruments, is deemed to do so “at one time” if:

- (1) That person either alone, in conjunction with or on behalf of others;
- (2) Transports, mails, ships or receives in any manner; is about to transport, mail or ship in any manner; or causes the transportation, mailing, shipment or receipt in any manner of;
- (3) Monetary instruments;
- (4) Into the United States or out of the United States;
- (5) Totaling more than \$10,000;
- (6) (i) On one calendar day or (ii) if for the purpose of evading the reporting requirements of Sec. 103.23, on one or more days.

Bank

Each agent, agency, branch or office within the United States of any person doing business in one or more of the capacities listed below:

- (1) A commercial bank or trust company organized under the laws of any state or of
- (2) the United States;
- (3) A private bank;
- (4) A savings and loan association or a building and loan association organized under the laws of any State or of the United States;
- (5) An insured institution as defined in section 401 of the National Housing Act;

- (6) A savings bank, industrial bank or other thrift institution;
- (7) **A credit union organized under the law of any state or of the United States;**
- (8) Any other organization (except a money services business) chartered under the banking laws of any state and subject to the supervision of the bank supervisory authorities of a state; and
- (9) A bank organized under foreign law.

Beneficiary

The person to be paid by a beneficiary's credit union or bank.

Beneficiary's bank

The credit union, bank or foreign bank identified in a payment order in which an account of the beneficiary is to be credited pursuant to the order or which otherwise is to make payment to the beneficiary if the order does not provide for payment to an account.

Business day

Business day, as used in this part with respect to credit unions, means that day, as normally communicated to its members, on which a bank routinely posts a particular transaction to its member's account.

Currency

The coin and paper money of the United States or of any other country that is designated as legal tender and that circulates and is customarily used and accepted as a medium of exchange in the country of issuance. Currency includes U.S. silver certificates, U.S. notes and Federal Reserve notes. Currency also includes official foreign bank notes that are customarily used and accepted as a medium of exchange in a foreign country.

Deposit account

Deposit accounts include transaction accounts, savings accounts, and other time deposits.

Domestic

When used herein, refers to the doing of business within the United States, and limits the applicability of the provision where it appears to the performance by such institutions or agencies of functions within the United States.

Eligible Non-Listed business

A business which (1) has had a transaction account at the credit union for at least 12 months; (2) frequently engages in currency transactions greater than \$10,000; (3) is incorporated, or organized under the laws of the United States or a state, or is registered as and eligible to do business in the United States; and (4) is not an ineligible business. Eligible non-listed businesses may be exempted only to the extent of their domestic (i.e. U.S.) operations.

Established customer

A person with an account with the credit union, including a loan account or deposit or other asset account, or a person with respect to which the credit union has obtained and maintains on file the person's name and address, as well as taxpayer identification number (e.g., social security or employer identification number) or, if none, alien identification number or passport number and country of issuance, and to which the credit union provides financial services relying on that information.

Execution date

Execution date is the day on which the receiving financial institution may properly issue a transmittal order in execution of the sender's order. The execution date may be determined by instruction of the sender but cannot be earlier than the day the order is received, and, unless otherwise determined, is the day the order is received. If the sender's instruction states a payment date, the execution date is the payment date or an earlier date on which execution is reasonably necessary to allow payment to the recipient on the payment date.

FinCEN

FinCEN means the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, an office within the Office of the Under Secretary (Enforcement) of the Department of the Treasury.

Foreign bank

A bank organized under foreign law, or an agency, branch or office located outside the United States of a bank. The term does not include an agent, agency, branch or office within the United States of a bank organized under foreign law.

Foreign financial agency

A person acting outside the United States for a person (except for a country, a monetary or financial authority acting as a monetary or financial authority, or an international financial institution of which the United States Government is a member) as a financial institution, bailee, depository trustee, or agent, or acting in a similar way related to money, credit, securities, gold, or a transaction in money, credit, securities, or gold.

Funds transfer

The series of transactions, beginning with the originator's payment order, made for the purpose of making payment to the beneficiary of the order. The term includes any payment order issued by the originator's credit union, bank or an intermediary bank intended to carry out the originator's payment order. A funds transfer is completed by acceptance by the beneficiary's credit union or bank of a payment order for the benefit of the beneficiary of the originator's payment order. Funds transfers governed by the Electronic Fund Transfer Act of 1978 (Title XX, Pub. L. 95-630, 92 Stat. 3728, 15 U.S.C. 1693, et seq.), as well as any other funds transfers that are made through an automated clearinghouse, an automated teller machine, or a point-of-sale system, are excluded from this definition.

Ineligible Businesses

A business engaged primarily in one or more of the following activities: serving as financial institutions or agents of financial institutions of any type; purchase or sale to customers of motor vehicles of any kind, vessels, aircraft, farm equipment or mobile homes; the practice of law, accountancy, or medicine; auctioning of goods; chartering or operation of ships, buses, or aircraft; gaming of any kind (other than licensed pari-mutuel betting at race tracks); investment advisory services or investment banking services; real estate brokerage; pawn brokerage; title insurance and real estate closing; trade union activities; and any other activities that may be specified by FinCEN.

A business that engages in multiple business activities is not an ineligible business as long as no more than 50% of its gross revenues is derived from one or more ineligible business activities.

Intermediary credit union or bank

A receiving bank other than the originator's bank or the beneficiary's bank.

Intermediary financial institution

A receiving financial institution, other than the transmitter's financial institution or the recipient's financial institution. The term intermediary financial institution includes an intermediary bank.

Issuer of traveler's checks, money orders, or stored value

An issuer of traveler's checks, money orders, or stored value (other than a person who does not issue such checks or money orders or stored value in an amount greater than \$1,000 in currency or monetary or other instruments to any person on any day in one or more transactions).

Listed Company Subsidiary

A subsidiary, other than a bank, which is owned at least 51%, and is controlled by a Listed Company. See 31 CFR 103.22(d)(2) for the extent to which listed companies' subsidiaries that are financial institutions may be exempted.

Monetary instruments

Monetary instruments includes currency, traveler's checks in any form and all negotiable instruments (including personal checks, business checks, official bank checks, cashier's checks, third-party checks, promissory notes (as that term is defined in the Uniform Commercial Code), and money orders) that are either in bearer form, endorsed without restriction, made out to a fictitious payee (for the purposes of Sec. 103.23), or otherwise in such form that title thereto passes upon delivery.

Money services business

Each agent, agency, branch, or office within the United States of any person doing business, whether or not on a regular basis or as an organized business concern, in one or more of the capacities listed in paragraphs (uu)(1) through (uu)(6) of this section. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, the term "money services business" **shall not include a credit union or bank**, nor shall it include a person registered with, and

regulated or examined by, the Securities and Exchange Commission or the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Money transmitter

In general any person, whether or not licensed or required to be licensed, who engages as a business in accepting currency, or funds denominated in currency, and transmits the currency or funds, or the value of the currency or funds, by any means through a financial agency or institution, a Federal Reserve Bank or other facility of one or more Federal Reserve Banks, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, or both, or an electronic funds transfer network.

Originator

The sender of the first payment order in a funds transfer.

Originator's bank

The receiving bank to which the payment order of the originator is issued if the originator is not a bank or foreign bank, or the originator if the originator is a bank or foreign bank.

Payment date

The day on which the amount of the transmittal order is payable to the recipient by the recipient's financial institution. The payment date may be determined by instruction of the sender, but cannot be earlier than the day the order is received by the recipient's financial institution and, unless otherwise prescribed by instruction, is the date the order is received by the recipient's financial institution.

Payment order

An instruction of a sender to a receiving bank, transmitted orally, electronically, or in writing, to pay, or to cause another bank or foreign bank to pay, a fixed or determinable amount of money to a beneficiary if:

- (1) The instruction does not state a condition to payment to the beneficiary other than time of payment;
- (2) The receiving bank is to be reimbursed by debiting an account of, or otherwise receiving payment from, the sender; and
- (3) The instruction is transmitted by the sender directly to the receiving bank or to an agent, funds transfer system, or communication system for transmittal to the receiving bank.

Payroll Customers

A business which (1) has had a transaction account at the credit union for at least 12 months; (2) frequently withdraws more than \$10,000 in currency for payroll purposes in order to pay its employees in the U.S.; (3) is incorporated or organized under the laws of the United States or a state, or is registered as and eligible to do business in the United States.

Person

An individual, a corporation, a partnership, a trust or estate, a joint stock company, an association, a syndicate, joint venture, or other unincorporated organization or group, an Indian Tribe (as that term is defined in the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act), and all entities cognizable as legal personalities.

Receiving bank

The bank or foreign bank to which the sender's instruction is addressed.

Receiving financial institution

The financial institution or foreign financial agency to which the sender's instruction is addressed. The term receiving financial institution includes a receiving bank.

Recipient

The person to be paid by the recipient's financial institution. The term recipient includes a beneficiary, except where the recipient's financial institution is a financial institution other than a bank.

Recipient's financial institution

The financial institution or foreign financial agency identified in a transmittal order in which an account of the recipient is to be credited pursuant to the transmittal order or which otherwise is to make payment to the recipient if the order does not provide for payment to an account. The term recipient's financial institution includes a beneficiary's bank, except where the beneficiary is a recipient's financial institution.

Retail type of business

The term "retail type of business" means "a business primarily engaged in providing goods to ultimate consumers and for which the business is paid in substantial portions by currency" 31 CFR 103.22(b)(2)(i). A business that is primarily engaged in providing *services*, rather than *goods*, to ultimate consumers (e.g., a car wash, a dry cleaning store, an appliance repair shop, or a health spa) does not come within the scope of this exemption. In addition, a business that is primarily engaged in selling goods wholesale rather than retail, is not within the scope of this exemption.

Seller or redeemer of traveler's checks, money orders, or stored value

A seller or redeemer of traveler's checks, money orders, or stored value (other than a person who does not sell such checks or money orders or stored value in an amount greater than \$1,000 in currency or monetary or other instruments to or redeem such instruments for an amount greater than \$1,000 in currency or monetary or other instruments from, any person on any day in one or more transactions).

Stored value

Funds or monetary value represented in digital electronics format (whether or not specially encrypted) and stored or capable of storage on electronic media in such a way as to be retrievable and transferable electronically.

Structure (structuring)

For purposes of section 103.53, a person structures a transaction if that person, acting alone, or in conjunction with, or on behalf of, other persons, conducts or attempts to conduct one or more transactions in currency, in any amount, at one or more financial institutions, on one or more days, in any manner, for the purpose of evading the reporting requirements under section 103.22 of this part. "In any manner" includes, but is not limited to, the breaking down of a single sum of currency exceeding \$10,000 into smaller sums, including sums at or below \$10,000, or the conduct of a transaction, or series of currency transactions, including transactions at or below \$10,000. The transaction or transactions need not exceed the \$10,000 reporting threshold at any single financial institution on any single day in order to constitute structuring within the meaning of this definition.

Transaction account

Transaction accounts include those accounts described in 12 U.S.C. 461(b)(1)(C), money market accounts and similar accounts that take deposits and are subject to withdrawal by check or other negotiable order.

Transaction

Transaction means a purchase, sale, loan, pledge, gift, transfer, delivery, or other disposition, and with respect to a credit union includes a deposit, withdrawal, transfer between accounts, exchange of currency, loan, extension of credit, purchase or sale of any stock, bond, certificate of deposit, or other monetary instrument or investment security, purchase or redemption of any money order, payment or order for any money remittance or transfer, or any other payment, transfer, or delivery by, through, or to a financial institution, by whatever means effected.

Transaction in Currency

A transaction involving the physical transfer of currency from one person to another. A transaction which is a transfer of funds by means of credit union check, credit union draft, wire transfer, or other written order, and which does not include the physical transfer of currency, is not a transaction in currency for this purpose.

Transmittal of funds

A series of transactions beginning with the transmitter's transmittal order, made for the purpose of making payment to the recipient of the order. The term includes any transmittal order issued by the transmitter's financial institution or an intermediary financial institution intended to carry out the transmitter's transmittal order. The term transmittal of funds includes a funds transfer. A transmittal of funds is completed by acceptance by the recipient's financial institution of a transmittal order for the benefit of the recipient of the transmitter's transmittal order. Funds transfers governed by the Electronic Fund Transfer Act of 1978 (Title XX, Pub. L. 95-630, 92 Stat. 3728, 15 U.S.C. 1693, et seq.), as well as any other funds transfers that are made through an automated clearinghouse, an automated teller machine, or a point-of-sale system, are excluded from this definition.

Transmitter

The sender of the first transmittal order in a transmittal of funds. The term transmitter includes an originator, except where the transmitter's financial institution is a financial institution or foreign financial agency other than a bank or foreign bank.

Transmitter's financial institution

The receiving financial institution to which the transmittal order of the transmitter is issued if the transmitter is not a financial institution or foreign financial agency, or the transmitter if the transmitter is a financial institution or foreign financial agency. The term transmitter's financial institution includes an originator's bank, except where the originator is a transmitter's financial institution other than a bank or foreign bank.

Transaction

Transaction includes a deposit, withdrawal, transfer between accounts, exchange of currency, loan, extension of credit, purchase or sale of any stock, bond, certificate of deposit, or other monetary instrument or security, purchase or redemption of any money order, payment or order for any money remittance or transfer, or any other payment, transfer, or delivery by, through, or to a financial institution, by whatever means effected.