To State Member Banks, Bank Holding Companies, Financial Holding Companies, Savings and Loan Holding Companies, and Foreign Banking Offices in the Twelfth Federal Reserve District

Agencies Announce Increases in Dollar Thresholds in Regulations Z and M for Exempt Consumer Credit and Lease Transactions

On November 20, 2013, the Federal Reserve Board and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) announced they are increasing the dollar thresholds in Regulation Z (Truth in Lending) and Regulation M (Consumer Leasing) for exempt consumer credit and lease transactions. Transactions at or below the thresholds are subject to the protections of the regulations.

The adjustments to the thresholds reflect the annual percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers as of June 1, 2013 and will take effect on January 1, 2014. These increases are consistent with amendments to the Truth in Lending and Consumer Leasing laws made by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

Based on the adjustments, the protections of the Truth in Lending and Consumer Leasing acts generally will apply to consumer credit transactions and consumer leases of $53,500 or less in 2014—an increase of $500 from 2013. However, private education loans and loans secured by real property (such as mortgages) are subject to the Truth in Lending Act regardless of the amount of the loan.

Although the Dodd-Frank Act generally transferred rulemaking authority under the Truth in Lending Act and the Consumer Leasing Act to the CFPB, the Federal Reserve Board retains authority to issue rules for certain motor vehicle dealers. Therefore, the agencies are issuing these adjustments jointly.

The attached notices will be published shortly in the Federal Register.

Additional Information

All circulars and documents are available on the Internet through the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco’s website, at http://www.frbsf.org/banking-supervision/publications/district-circular-letters/.

For additional information, please contact:

Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco
Banking Supervision and Regulation
(801) 322-7853

Attachments:

- Regulation M
- Regulation Z