



April 8, 2011

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Federal Issues

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see http://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/press/bcreg/20110406a.htm.

Courts

D.C. Circuit Dissolves Temporary Administrative Stay and Denies Motion to Stay Implementation of Loan Originator Compensation Rule Pending Appeal. On April 5, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia dissolved its March 31, 2011 administrative stay of the Federal Reserve Board's Loan Originator Compensation rule. In general, that rule prohibits compensation of a mortgage loan originator based on any loan terms other than amount, and payment of any compensation where the originator is paid by the borrower. The court issued the administrative stay in order to consider the merits of the National Association of Mortgage Brokers' (NAMB's) challenge to the portion of the rule prohibiting mortgage brokers from paying loan officers a commission on specified loan transactions (as reported in *InfoBytes*, April 1, 2010). The court also denied NAMB's emergency motions for expedited relief and to stay implementation of the rule pending appeal, because NAMB had "not satisfied the stringent standards required for a stay pending appeal." As a result, the Loan Originator Compensation rule is now in effect. Click here for a copy of the Court of Appeal's April 5 order.





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U.S. District Court Allows Email Service Of Foreign Resident. On April 1, the U.S. District Court for the District of Utah granted plaintiff's motion for alternative service and entered an order allowing plaintiff to serve his complaint and summons by email upon the defendant, a resident of South Korea who plaintiff had previously been unable to locate and serve. Bullex v. Yoo, No. 10-668 (D. Utah Apr. 1, 2011). In *Bullex*, the plaintiff has alleged violations of the Anticybersquatting Consumer Protection Act, and sought transfer of the domain name bullex.com, which was registered to the defendant. Despite diligent efforts, the plaintiff had been unable to serve the defendant. The court explained that alternative service outside of the United States is permissible under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4(f)(3) and comports with constitutional notions of due process if such service is directed by the court, and not prohibited by international agreement. Given the facts of this case, which included a reasonable showing that the defendant had an accurate email address in light of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) requirement that individual registrants maintain an up-to-date and accurate email address an accurate email address with ICANN, the court found that alternative service by email provided "the best opportunity" to make sure that the defendant was apprised of the action and afford him an opportunity to object. Click here for a copy of the opinion.

Federal District Court Finds CAN-SPAM Act Applies to Misleading Commercial Information on Facebook. On March 28, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California determined that the CAN-SPAM Act, 15 U.S.C. §7701, applies not only to traditional e-mail, but to all communications sent to unique electronic destinations. Facebook, Inc. v. MaxBounty, Inc., No. CV-10-4712-JF (N.D. Cal, Mar. 28, 2011) In this matter, Plaintiff Facebook, Inc. (Facebook), among other things, has alleged that defendant MaxBounty, Inc. (MaxBounty) violated the CAN-SPAM Act, the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA) and state law claims for fraud, aiding and abetting and conspiracy, by creating fake Facebook pages that were intended to re-direct unsuspecting users to third-party commercial sites. MaxBounty moved for dismissal of all Facebook's claims as insufficient as a matter of law, and with the exception of Facebook's state law claim (which the court dismissed), the court denied MaxBounty's motion. With respect to Facebook's CAN-SPAM Act claim, MaxBounty asserted



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that its advertisements were not e-mails and did not come within the meaning of electronic mail messages under the CAN-SPAM Act. The court, in rejecting this argument, stated that the Act should be interpreted expansively and in accordance with its broad legislative purpose of making it unlawful to initiate the transmission of commercial electronic mail messages with "header information that is materially false or materially misleading." 15 U.S.C. § 7704(a)(1). The court further held that MaxBounty's communications were "electronic messages" under the Act, and noted that its holding "is consistent with the intent of Congress to mitigate the number of misleading commercial communications that overburden infrastructure of the internet." In allowing Facebook to proceed with its claim under the CFAA, the court rejected MaxBounty arguments that Facebook had failed to plead with particularity the alleged fraudulent conduct, noting that the CFAA requires only a showing of unlawful access without a need to plead the elements of common law fraud. Click here for a copy of the opinion.

Firm News

BuckleySandler LLP will host its West Coast Mortgage Lending and Servicing Today Conference on Monday, April 11 at the Balboa Bay Club and Resort in Newport Beach, CA. The conference will focus on compliance, regulatory, and litigation issues in today's changing mortgage lending and servicing environment. For more information, please visit http://fairlendingtoday.com/. To register for the conference, please email Anne McKenzie at amckenzie@buckleysandler.com.

Join Us! 2011 Fair Lending Today Conference on Compliance, Regulatory & Litigation Issues in Today's Changing Enforcement Environment, hosted by BuckleySandler LLP.

2011 Panel Topics Include:

- Fair and Responsible Lending Enforcement and Litigation Overview
- Fair Mortgage Servicing: The Foreclosure Affidavit Crisis and More Challenges for Servicers
- The New Wave of SCRA Enforcement
- Dodd-Frank and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau: Implementation, Preemption, State Regulation, and UDAP
- The New Enforcement Environment and Financial Services Regulation
- Privacy, Data Security, and Data Breach Litigation Nationally and Internationally
- Community Reinvestment Act: A Revitalized Statute?
- Key Trends in Fair Lending Risk Management Programs
- Fair Lending Issues Impact on Bank Merger & Acquisition Activity

When: Monday, May 2

Where: The Fairmont Hotel in Washington, DC

Register or Learn More: Visit http://fairlendingtoday.com or email fairlending@buckleysandler.com.



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<u>James Parkinson</u> will speak on a panel session entitled "Compliance & Ethics Programs - Refreshed in Light of the UK's Bribery Act of 2010 and the Dodd-Frank Act," at the ABA Business Law Section meeting in Boston on April 16.

Donna Wilson will be presenting at a CLE webinar on "FCRA and FACTA Class Actions: Leveraging New Developments in Certification, Damages and Preemption" on Tuesday, April 26 at 1pm EDT/10am PDT. This seminar will discuss recent developments in FCRA and FACTA class action litigation, particularly the issue of proportionality of damages at the class certification stage and state law preemption, and litigation strategies for plaintiffs and defendants bringing or defending these claims. The webinar is sponsored by the legal publishing group of Strafford Publications.

<u>James Parkinson</u> will participate on a panel entitled "The Role of the Lawyer in Preventing Corruption," at the International Bar Association's Bar Leaders Conference in Miami, on May 4.

<u>Warren Traiger</u> will be speaking about potential changes to the CRA regulations and the current regulatory environment during a webinar hosted by the CRA Qualified Investment Fund, on Thursday, May 19 at 2pm.

<u>Donna Wilson</u> will be presenting at a CLE webinar on "Emerging Class Action Threat: Consumer Personal Identification Data Strategies to Minimize Litigation Risks and Maximize Insurance Coverage" on Tuesday, May 24. This seminar will analyze the Song-Beverly Act and its impact of ruling on class action litigation under other state privacy statutes. The Webinar is sponsored by the Legal Publishing Group of Strafford Publications.

<u>James Parkinson</u> will be speaking at the ACI's "FCPA Compliance in Emerging Markets" program in Washington, D.C., on June 15 -16.

<u>Andrew Sandler</u> will be speaking at CBA Live 2011 and presenting an Annual Fair Lending Report on Tuesday, June 14 at 3:30 pm in Orlando, Florida. Mr. Sandler will be giving an overview of current regulatory and enforcement developments and discussing the most significant fair lending risks confronting consumer lenders in the next twelve months.

Andrew Sandler will be participating on a panel at the Florida Bar Annual Convention on Friday, June 24 as part of the "Presidential Showcase". On the panel with Mr. Sandler is Paul Bland, Public Justice. The Moderator is Justice R. Fred Lewis, a Justice of the Florida Supreme Court, a former Chief Justice and founder of Justice Teaching.

Miscellany

U.K. Ministry of Justice Publishes Guidance on "Adequate Procedures" Defense Under U.K. Bribery Act. On March 30, the U.K. Ministry of Justice published long-awaited Guidance on the implementation of Section 7 of the U.K. Bribery Act of 2010, which made it a criminal offense for a company to fail to prevent persons associated with the company from paying bribes on the company's behalf, but provided a full defense if the company had "adequate procedures" to prevent





such bribery. The Guidance states that whether or not a company had adequate procedures in place to prevent bribery is a fact-specific inquiry for a court, but that procedures put in place by companies should be informed by six principles. Under these principles a company should: (i) establish procedures proportionate to the bribery risk faced by the company and the company's nature, scale, and complexity, (ii) ensure top-level management is committed to preventing bribery, (iii) periodically assess the nature and extent of exposure to bribery risks, (iv) apply due diligence procedures to individuals who perform services on behalf of the company, (v) ensure that anti-bribery policies are understood throughout the company, including through training, and (vi) monitor and review anti-bribery procedures and make improvements where necessary. The Guidance clarified that departures from the principles suggested in the Guidance will not create a presumption of a lack of adequate procedures. The Bribery Act will go into effect on July 1, 2011. For a copy of the Guidance, please see http://www.justice.gov.uk/guidance/bribery.htm.

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We welcome reader comments and suggestions regarding issues or items of interest to be covered in future editions of InfoBytes. Email: infobytes@buckleysandler.com

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