

§ 6d. Dealing by unregistered futures commission merchants or introducing brokers prohibited; duties in handling customer receipts; conflict-of-interest systems and procedures; Chief Compliance Officer; rules to avoid duplicative regulations; swap requirements; portfolio margining accounts

(a) Futures commission merchant registration requirements; duties of merchants in handling customer receipts

It shall be unlawful for any person to be a futures commission merchant unless—

(1) such person shall have registered, under this chapter, with the Commission as such futures commission merchant and such registration shall not have expired nor been suspended nor revoked; and

(2) such person shall, whether a member or nonmember of a contract market or derivatives transaction execution facility, treat and deal with all money, securities, and property received by such person to margin, guarantee, or secure the trades or contracts of any customer of such person, or accruing to such customer as the result of such trades or contracts, as belonging to such customer. Such money, securities, and property shall be separately accounted for and shall not be commingled with the funds of such commission merchant or be used to margin or guarantee the trades or contracts, or to secure or extend the credit, of any customer or person other than the one for whom the same are held: *Provided, however,* That such money, securities, and property of the customers of such futures commission merchant may, for convenience, be commingled and deposited in the same account or accounts with any bank or trust company or with the clearing house organization of such contract market or derivatives transaction execution facility, and that such share thereof as in the normal course of business shall be necessary to margin, guarantee, secure, transfer, adjust, or settle the contracts or trades of such customers, or resulting market positions, with the clearinghouse organization of such contract market or derivatives transaction execution facility or with any member of such contract market or derivatives transaction execution facility, may be withdrawn and applied to such purposes, including the payment of commissions, brokerage, interest, taxes, storage, and other charges, lawfully accruing in connection with such contracts and trades: *Provided further,* That in accordance with such terms and conditions as the Commission may prescribe by rule, regulation, or order, such money, securities, and property of the customers of such futures commission merchant may be commingled and deposited as provided in this section with any other money, securities, and property received by such futures commission merchant and required by the Commission to be separately accounted for and treated and dealt with as belonging to the customers of such futures commission merchant: *Provided further,* That such money may be invested in obligations of the United States, in general obligations of any State or of any political subdivi-

sion thereof, and in obligations fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States, such investments to be made in accordance with such rules and regulations and subject to such conditions as the Commission may prescribe.

(b) Duties of clearing agencies, depositories, and others in handling customer receipts

It shall be unlawful for any person, including but not limited to any clearing agency of a contract market or derivatives transaction execution facility and any depository, that has received any money, securities, or property for deposit in a separate account as provided in paragraph (2) of this section,¹ to hold, dispose of, or use any such money, securities, or property as belonging to the depositing futures commission merchant or any person other than the customers of such futures commission merchant.

(c) Conflicts of interest

The Commission shall require that futures commission merchants and introducing brokers implement conflict-of-interest systems and procedures that—

(1) establish structural and institutional safeguards to ensure that the activities of any person within the firm relating to research or analysis of the price or market for any commodity are separated by appropriate informational partitions within the firm from the review, pressure, or oversight of persons whose involvement in trading or clearing activities might potentially bias the judgment or supervision of the persons; and

(2) address such other issues as the Commission determines to be appropriate.

(d) Designation of Chief Compliance Officer

Each futures commission merchant shall designate an individual to serve as its Chief Compliance Officer and perform such duties and responsibilities as shall be set forth in regulations to be adopted by the Commission or rules to be adopted by a futures association registered under section 21 of this title.

(e) Rules to avoid duplicative regulation of dual registrants

Consistent with this chapter, the Commission, in consultation with the Securities and Exchange Commission, shall issue such rules, regulations, or orders as are necessary to avoid duplicative or conflicting regulations applicable to any futures commission merchant registered with the Commission pursuant to section 6f(a) of this title (except paragraph (2) thereof), that is also registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to section 78o(b) of title 15 (except paragraph (11) thereof), involving the application of—

(1) section 78h, section 78o(c)(3), and section 78q of title 15 and the rules and regulations thereunder related to the treatment of customer funds, securities, or property, maintenance of books and records, financial reporting or other financial responsibility rules (as defined in section 78c(a)(40) of title 15), involving security futures products; and

¹ So in original. Probably means subsection (a)(2) of this section.

(2) similar provisions of this chapter and the rules and regulations thereunder involving security futures products.

(f) Swaps

(1) Registration requirement

It shall be unlawful for any person to accept any money, securities, or property (or to extend any credit in lieu of money, securities, or property) from, for, or on behalf of a swaps customer to margin, guarantee, or secure a swap cleared by or through a derivatives clearing organization (including money, securities, or property accruing to the customer as the result of such a swap), unless the person shall have registered under this chapter with the Commission as a futures commission merchant, and the registration shall not have expired nor been suspended nor revoked.

(2) Cleared swaps

(A) Segregation required

A futures commission merchant shall treat and deal with all money, securities, and property of any swaps customer received to margin, guarantee, or secure a swap cleared by or through a derivatives clearing organization (including money, securities, or property accruing to the swaps customer as the result of such a swap) as belonging to the swaps customer.

(B) Commingling prohibited

Money, securities, and property of a swaps customer described in subparagraph (A) shall be separately accounted for and shall not be commingled with the funds of the futures commission merchant or be used to margin, secure, or guarantee any trades or contracts of any swaps customer or person other than the person for whom the same are held.

(3) Exceptions

(A) Use of funds

(i) In general

Notwithstanding paragraph (2), money, securities, and property of swap customers of a futures commission merchant described in paragraph (2) may, for convenience, be commingled and deposited in the same account or accounts with any bank or trust company or with a derivatives clearing organization.

(ii) Withdrawal

Notwithstanding paragraph (2), such share of the money, securities, and property described in clause (i) as in the normal course of business shall be necessary to margin, guarantee, secure, transfer, adjust, or settle a cleared swap with a derivatives clearing organization, or with any member of the derivatives clearing organization, may be withdrawn and applied to such purposes, including the payment of commissions, brokerage, interest, taxes, storage, and other charges, lawfully accruing in connection with the cleared swap.

(B) Commission action

Notwithstanding paragraph (2), in accordance with such terms and conditions as the

Commission may prescribe by rule, regulation, or order, any money, securities, or property of the swaps customers of a futures commission merchant described in paragraph (2) may be commingled and deposited in customer accounts with any other money, securities, or property received by the futures commission merchant and required by the Commission to be separately accounted for and treated and dealt with as belonging to the swaps customer of the futures commission merchant.

(4) Permitted investments

Money described in paragraph (2) may be invested in obligations of the United States, in general obligations of any State or of any political subdivision of a State, and in obligations fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States, or in any other investment that the Commission may by rule or regulation prescribe, and such investments shall be made in accordance with such rules and regulations and subject to such conditions as the Commission may prescribe.

(5) Commodity contract

A swap cleared by or through a derivatives clearing organization shall be considered to be a commodity contract as such term is defined in section 761 of title 11, with regard to all money, securities, and property of any swaps customer received by a futures commission merchant or a derivatives clearing organization to margin, guarantee, or secure the swap (including money, securities, or property accruing to the customer as the result of the swap).

(6) Prohibition

It shall be unlawful for any person, including any derivatives clearing organization and any depository institution, that has received any money, securities, or property for deposit in a separate account or accounts as provided in paragraph (2) to hold, dispose of, or use any such money, securities, or property as belonging to the depositing futures commission merchant or any person other than the swaps customer of the futures commission merchant.

(g) Introducing broker registration requirements

It shall be unlawful for any person to be an introducing broker unless such person shall have registered under this chapter with the Commission as an introducing broker and such registration shall not have expired nor been suspended nor revoked.

(h) Contracts held in portfolio margining accounts

Notwithstanding subsection (a)(2) or the rules and regulations thereunder, and pursuant to an exemption granted by the Commission under section 6(c) of this title or pursuant to a rule or regulation, a futures commission merchant that is registered pursuant to section 6f(a)(1) of this title and also registered as a broker or dealer pursuant to section 78(o)(b)(1) of title 15 may, pursuant to a portfolio margining program approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to section 78s(b) of title 15, hold in a portfolio margining account carried as a secu-

rities account subject to section 78(o)(c)(3) of title 15 and the rules and regulations thereunder, a contract for the purchase or sale of a commodity for future delivery or an option on such a contract, and any money, securities or other property received from a customer to margin, guarantee or secure such a contract, or accruing to a customer as the result of such a contract. The Commission shall consult with the Securities and Exchange Commission to adopt rules to ensure that such transactions and accounts are subject to comparable requirements to the extent practical for similar products.

(Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 369, §4d, as added June 15, 1936, ch. 545, §5, 49 Stat. 1494; amended Pub. L. 90-258, §6, Feb. 19, 1968, 82 Stat. 27; Pub. L. 93-463, title I, §103(a), Oct. 23, 1974, 88 Stat. 1392; Pub. L. 95-405, §4, Sept. 30, 1978, 92 Stat. 869; Pub. L. 97-444, title II, §207, Jan. 11, 1983, 96 Stat. 2302; Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(5) [title I, §123(a)(6), title II, §251(f)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-407, 2763A-443; Pub. L. 111-203, title VII, §§713(b), 724(a), 732, 749(a), July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 1646, 1682, 1712, 1746.)

AMENDMENTS

2010—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 111-203, §749(a)(1)(A), in introductory provisions, substituted “be a” for “engage as” and struck out “or introducing broker in soliciting orders or accepting orders for the purchase or sale of any commodity for future delivery, or involving any contracts of sale of any commodity for future delivery, on or subject to the rules of any contract market or derivatives transaction execution facility” after “merchant”.

Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 111-203, §749(a)(1)(B), struck out “or introducing broker” after “merchant”.

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 111-203, §749(a)(1)(C), struck out “if a futures commission merchant,” after “such person shall.”.

Subsecs. (c) to (e). Pub. L. 111-203, §732, added subsecs. (c) and (d) and redesignated former subsec. (c) as (e).

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 111-203, §724(a), which directed amendment of section by adding subsec. (f) at end, was executed by making the addition after subsec. (e) to reflect the probable intent of Congress and the addition of subsec. (h) by section 713(b) of Pub. L. 111-203.

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 111-203, §749(a)(2), which directed amendment of section by adding subsec. (g) at end, was executed by making the addition after subsec. (f) to reflect the probable intent of Congress and the addition of subsec. (h) by section 713(b) of Pub. L. 111-203.

Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 111-203, §713(b), added subsec. (h). 2000—Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(5) [title II, §251(f)], designated first undesignated par. as subsec. (a), designated second undesignated par. as subsec. (b), and added subsec. (c).

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(5) [title I, §123(a)(6)], inserted “or derivatives transaction execution facility” after “contract market” wherever appearing.

1983—Pub. L. 97-444, §207(1), inserted reference to introducing brokers in provisions preceding par. (1).

Par. (1). Pub. L. 97-444, §207(2), inserted “or introducing broker” after “futures commission merchant”.

Par. (2). Pub. L. 97-444, §207(3), inserted “if a futures commission merchant,” after “such person shall.”.

1978—Pub. L. 95-405 in par. (2) inserted provisions authorizing Commission to prescribe terms and conditions under which funds and property commingled and deposited as permitted by par. (2) may be commingled and deposited with other funds and property received by a futures commission merchant and required by Commission to be separately accounted for and treated as belonging to its customers.

1974—Pub. L. 93-463 substituted “Commission” for “Secretary of Agriculture” in pars. (1) and (2).

1968—Pub. L. 90-258 struck out from second proviso of first par. authorization for investment of customer funds in investment securities of the kind national banking associations may buy or in loans secured by negotiable warehouse receipts conveying or securing title to readily marketable commodities to the extent of the current loan value of such receipts and added second par., making it unlawful for any person, including a clearing agency of a contract market or any depository, to treat customer funds as belonging to any person other than the customer, respectively.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-203 effective on the later of 360 days after July 21, 2010, or, to the extent a provision of subtitle A (§§711-754) of title VII of Pub. L. 111-203 requires a rulemaking, not less than 60 days after publication of the final rule or regulation implementing such provision of subtitle A, see section 754 of Pub. L. 111-203, set out as a note under section 1a of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1983 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-444 effective 120 days after Jan. 11, 1983, or such earlier date as the Commission shall prescribe by regulation, see section 239 of Pub. L. 97-444, set out as a note under section 2 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1978 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 95-405 effective Oct. 1, 1978, see section 28 of Pub. L. 95-405, set out as a note under section 2 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1974 AMENDMENT

For effective date of amendment by Pub. L. 93-463, see section 418 of Pub. L. 93-463, set out as a note under section 2 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1968 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 90-258 effective 120 days after Feb. 19, 1968, see section 28 of Pub. L. 90-258, set out as a note under section 2 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

For effective date of section, see section 13 of act June 15, 1936, set out as an Effective Date of 1936 Amendment note under section 1 of this title.

§ 6e. Dealings by unregistered floor trader or broker prohibited

It shall be unlawful for any person to act as floor trader in executing purchases and sales, or as floor broker in executing any orders for the purchase or sale, of any commodity for future delivery, or involving any contracts of sale of any commodity for future delivery, on or subject to the rules of any contract market or derivatives transaction execution facility unless such person shall have registered, under this chapter, with the Commission as such floor trader or floor broker and such registration shall not have expired nor been suspended nor revoked.

(Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 369, §4e, as added June 15, 1936, ch. 545, §5, 49 Stat. 1495; amended Pub. L. 93-463, title I, §103(a), Oct. 23, 1974, 88 Stat. 1392; Pub. L. 102-546, title II, §207(a), Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 3604; Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(5) [title I, §123(a)(6)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-407.)

AMENDMENTS

2000—Pub. L. 106-554 inserted “or derivatives transaction execution facility” after “contract market”.

1992—Pub. L. 102-546 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows: “It shall be un-