

# Non-Owner-Occupied Business Purpose Exemption Guide

Dated: July 14, 2020



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The following presentation is for educational and informational purposes and should not be construed as legal advice. Recipients should not construe the contents of this Program Guide as legal, tax, accounting, or investment advice; recipients should consult their own counsel, tax and financial advisors as to legal and related matters concerning any transaction. Further, this Program Guide does not purport to be all-inclusive or to contain all of the information that a recipient may require.



### 1. SUMMARY

Citadel Servicing Corporation ("CSC") has reviewed the Official Interpretations as provided by the CFPB in connection to Regulation X and Regulation Z. These Official Interpretations make the statement that any mortgage loan against a Non-Owner-Occupied ("NOO") investment property being used to "(i) acquire, (ii) improve, or (iii) maintain" a property (specifically not called out as the "subject" in "Comment 3(a)-3.ii.A.4" of "1026.3 – Exempt Transactions") can be considered specifically a "Business Purpose" loan. The identification of a mortgage as Business Purpose loan, compared to a consumer loan, allows for an exemption to the requirements of Regulation X and Regulation Z.

As advised and permitted in the Official Interpretation of §1026.3(a) of Regulation Z, CSC will rely primarily on the borrower's written statement of purpose for the loan request in order to determine whether or not the loan request is for a "Business Purpose". Each applicant will be provided with and allowed to review the CSC Business Purpose Loan Certification and Attestation form ("Attestation"). The Attestation form is attached hereto as Exhibit A. A completed Attestation must be received from the borrower as a condition for CSC to fund the loan.

With an executed Business Purpose Attestation from the borrower, CSC can originate or purchase non-owner-occupied loans without regard to compliance and conformance to Disclosure issuance, transaction timing, or fee tolerances required under Regulation X and / or Regulation Z. Further, as Regulation Z also incorporates the Ability-to-Repay eight-point test, CSC may also disregard the test and requisite documentation therein mandated.

# 2. BACKGROUND AND REGULATORY OVERVIEW

In general Regulation X is the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act ("RESPA") and covers the disclosure of a Good Faith Estimate ("GFE"), whereas Regulation Z is for Truth in Lending Act ("TILA") and covers the disclosure of a Truth-in-Lending form ("TIL").

Both Regulation X & Regulation Z allow for exemptions to compliance under certain circumstances, specifically loans for a Business Purpose:

# § 1026.3 – Exempt transactions.

The following transactions are not subject to this part or, if the exemption is limited to specified provisions of this part, are not subject to those provisions:



- a. Business, commercial, agricultural, or organizational credit.
  - 1. An extension of credit primarily for a business, commercial or agricultural purpose.

For consistency, Regulation X adopts the definition of "Business Purpose" via Regulation Z:

# § 1024.5 – Coverage of RESPA.

### b. BUSINESS PURPOSE LOANS.

An extension of credit primarily for a business, commercial, or agricultural purpose, as defined by 12 CFR 1026.3(a)(1) of Regulation Z. Persons may rely on Regulation Z in determining whether the exemption applies.

CSC has interpreted "Business Purpose" as found in the Official Interpretations to §1026.3(a):

# **OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION TO §1026.3(a)**

### 3. FACTORS.

In determining whether credit to finance an acquisition—such as securities, antiques, or art—is primarily for business or commercial purposes (as opposed to a consumer purpose), the following factors should be considered:

- i. GENERAL.
  - A. The relationship of the borrower's primary occupation to the acquisition. The more closely related, the more likely it is to be business purpose.
  - B. The degree to which the borrower will personally manage the acquisition. The more personal involvement there is, the more likely it is to be business purpose.
  - C. The ratio of income from the acquisition to the total income of the borrower. The higher the ratio, the more likely it is to be business purpose.
  - D. The size of the transaction. The larger the transaction, the more likely it is to be business purpose.
  - E. The borrower's statement of purpose for the loan.

However, the preceding Official Interpretation has been supplemented further, marking a change in stance for the direct discussion of an investment property:

## **OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION TO §1026.3(a)**

### 4. NON-OWNER-OCCUPIED RENTAL PROPERTY.

Credit extended to acquire, improve, or maintain rental property (regardless of the number of housing units) that is not owner-occupied is deemed to be for business purposes. This includes, for example, the acquisition of a warehouse that will be leased or a



single-family house that will be rented to another person to live in. If the owner expects to occupy the property for more than 14 days during the coming year, the property cannot be considered non-owner-occupied and this special rule will not apply. For example, a beach house that the owner will occupy for a month in the coming summer and rent out the rest of the year is owner occupied and is not governed by this special rule. (See comment 3(a)-5, however, for rules relating to owner-occupied rental property.)

Even so, both Regulation X and Regulation Z are clear not to overstep State laws for disclosure:

# §1024. 5 – Coverage of RESPA.

- c. Relation to State laws.
  - State laws that are inconsistent with RESPA or this part are preempted to the extent of the inconsistency. However, RESPA and these regulations do not annul, alter, affect, or exempt any person subject to their provisions from complying with the laws of any State with respect to settlement practices, except to the extent of the inconsistency.

# OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION TO 5(c)(1)

State laws that are inconsistent with the requirements of RESPA or Regulation X may be preempted by RESPA or Regulation X. State laws that give greater protection to consumers are not inconsistent with and are not preempted by RESPA or Regulation X. In addition, nothing in RESPA or Regulation X should be construed to preempt the entire field of regulation of the practices covered by RESPA or Regulation X, including the regulations in Subpart C with respect to mortgage servicers or mortgage servicing.

# 3. PROGRAM

CSC relies upon the NMLS and State Regulators to provide background diligence on mortgage originators as considered in CSC's Know Your Customer Policy. CSC has therefore taken the stance that an MLO, Broker, and / or Lender / Seller will need to be appropriately licensed through the NMLS and State Regulator, where appropriate, without consideration to an exemption thereto. Each counter-party, as consistent with CSC's current policies and procedures in connection to Vendor Management, should have completed CSC's internal approval process in advance of submitting a loan file to CSC.



All loans made against Non-Owner-Occupied properties will utilize CSC's Non-Prime Program. In all instances, income will be documented via a Debt Service Coverage Ratio ("DSCR"). DSCR is calculated by dividing reconciled property rents from actual PITIA payments.

Loans made against Non-Owner-Occupied properties will:

- Conform to the applicable Pricing Matrix (See Exhibit B);
- Have a \$100k minimum loan amount;
- Have impounds;
- Have a term of 30-years that can be (i) either fully amortized or have an interest only term and (ii) be a Fixed Rate Mortgage or hybrid-ARM with a 5- or 7year initial fixed term;
- Be subject to a 2-year Prepayment Penalty or the maximum allowable by state law as described in the Rate Matrix;
- Be limited to a set maximum LTV / CLTV for both Purchase & Refinance transactions as described on the Rate Matrix;
- Not be subject to disclosures required under TRID, RESPA or TILA;
- Not be tested for ATR, TILA, RESPA or TRID compliance; and / or
- Be subject to any other applicable Federal and State regulation.

### 4. GUIDELINES

The following are excerpts from the CSC Underwriting Guide pertaining to NOO loans:

# 3.37 INVESTMENT PROPERTY (NON-OWNER OCCUPIED)

An Investment property is a one-to-four-unit residential dwelling or a unit in a condominium complex or a PUD owned by an individual who does not occupy the dwelling. The dwelling is leased and occupied as a principal year-round residence to individuals other than the owner.

- Vacant investment properties are not eligible for a refinance transaction.
  - CSC limits the number of investment properties a borrower may own including subject to 20 properties, whether mortgaged or not.



All borrowers purchasing or refinancing a one-to-four-family investment property must execute a One-to-Four-Family Rider with loan documents and provide rent-loss insurance coverage. If the subject is qualified with the full PITIA payment, then no rent loss coverage will be required.

# VI. RENTAL INCOME REQUIREMENTS

## DEBT SERVICE COVERAGE RATIO ("DSCR")

CSC calculates the DSCR by dividing the sum of annual principal, interest, real estate taxes, property insurance, and homeowner's / condominium association fees (collectively, "PITIA") by the lesser of (i) annual in-place rent or (ii) market rent. Tenant occupied properties will require documentation of timely receipt for the prior two (2) months rental payments.

The minimum rental income required is 1.15 times greater than the subject's PITIA (DSCR of 1.15 : 1.00).

# 5. **DEFINITIONS**

Ability-to-Repay ("ATR"): An eight-point test as provided under §1026.43(c)(2) for measuring and determining of a mortgagor's reasonably expected ability to repay a mortgage according to its terms as documented by third-party records.

<u>Business Purpose Loan(s)</u>: Loans made that are exempt to Regulation X and / or Regulation Z as defined in the CFPB's Official Interpretation(s) thereto.

<u>CFPB</u>: The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau or any successor thereto.

<u>Debt Service Coverage Ratio ("DSCR")</u>: The ratio of current or anticipated market rents compared to the monthly debt obligations for an investment property (rent divided by PITIA payments).

<u>Disclosures</u>: Documents required to be provided to a mortgagor under Regulation X and Regulation Z including but not limited to a Closing Disclosure, Good Faith Estimate, Loan Estimate, or Truth-in-Lending form.

Official Interpretation: Supplemental commentary published by the CFPB provided to add clarification and explanation to specific provisions and subsections of to a denoted or referenced Act.



Regulation X: Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act ("RESPA") of 1974, as amended, 12 CFR, Part 1024.

Regulation Z: Truth in Lending Act ("TILA"), as amended, 12 CFR, Part 1026.

<u>SAFE Act</u>: The Secure and Fair Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008 enacted on July 30, 2008, and mandates a nationwide licensing and registration system for residential mortgage loan originators (MLOs).



# Exhibit A

| Business Purpose Loan Certification and Attestation |
|---|
|---|

| Date:   |  |
|---|--|
| Borrower Name(s):   |  |
| Loan#:  |  |
| Mailing Address:  |  |
| Property Address:   |  |
| By signing this document, I am confirming that my purposes and not household purposes, and that the be used and will in fact be used for business purpose use. I also represent that I do not occupy the proper as a Second Home. I intend to lease or rent the projunderstand that because the loan will be made excl laws applicable to consumer purpose transactions, following, are not applicable to this loan:  Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. § 1601 et a Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (12 Gramm-Leach Bliley Act (15 u.s.c. § 6802-1 Secure and Fair Enforcement Mortgage Lice et seq.); and / or Homeowners Protection Act (12 U.S.C. § 4 By signing below, I confirm I have read and undersaffirm that the Property to is to be a non-owner-occurrence. | loan proceeds are intended to ses only, and not my personal rty as my Primary Residence or perty to a third party. I usively for business purposes, including but not limited to the seq.); U.S.C. § 2601 et seq.); ensing Act (12 U.S.C. § 5101 901 et seq.). |
|   |  |
| Borrower 2  | Date   |



### Exhibit B



## NON PRIME WHOLESALE CITADEL NON PRIME WHOLESALE RESIDENTIAL RATE SHEET & MATRIX

| <b>~</b> | BENTICING | CORPORA |
|----------|-----------|---------|
|          |           |         |

| Credit Tier   | "AAA"  | "AA"      | "A"           | ÷         | -8-    |
|---------------|--------|-----------|---------------|-----------|--------|
| Minimum FICO  | a 750  | a 725     | a 700         | > 650     | > 600  |
| LTV Threshold |        | Primary I | tesidence Tra | nsactions |        |
| £50% LTV      | 4.875% | 5.000%    | 5,250%        | 6,000%    | 7.250% |
| € 60% LTV     | 5.125% | 5.250%    | 5.375%        | 6.250%    | 7.625% |
| 6 65% LTV     | 5.250% | 5.375%    | 5.500%        | 6.375%    | 8.000% |
| € 70% LTV     | 5.375% | 5.500%    | 5.750%        | 6,500%    | 8.500% |
| € 75% LTV     | 5.500% | 5.625%    | 5.875%        | 7.000%    |        |
| € 80% LTV     | 6.000% | 6.125%    | 6.375%        |           |        |
| Max LTVs      | "MM"   | "AA"      | "A"           | ÷         | -91    |
| Purchase      | 90%    | 90%       | 90%           | 75%       | 70%    |
| Refinance     | 75%    | 75%       | 75%           | 70%       | 65%    |
| CLTV**        | 90%    | 90%       | 90%           | 75%       | 70%    |

| Credit Tier   | "MM"  | "AA"   | "A"    | 2047   | -8-   |  |
|---------------|---|--------|--------|--------|-------|--|
| Minimum FICO  | b 750   | ≥ 725  | ≥ 700  | > 650  | > 600 |  |
| LTV Threshold | Investor Property (DSCR) or Secondary Home Transactions |        |        |        |       |  |
| K SON LTV     | 5.750%  | 6.000% | 6.125% | 6,750% |       |  |
| 6 60% LTV     | 6.000%  | 6,250% | 6.375% | 7.000% | l     |  |
| ≤ 65% LTV     | 6.125%  | 6.375% | 6.500% | 7.250% | l     |  |
| £70% LTV      | 6.250%  | 6,500% | 6.750% | 8.000% |       |  |
| Max LTVs      | "MM"  | "AA"   | "A"    | 200    | -91   |  |
| Purchase      | 70%   | 70%    | 70%    | 70%    | N/A   |  |
| Refinance     | 70%   | 70%    | 70%    | 70%    | N/A   |  |
| arv**         | 70%   | 70%    | 70%    | 70%    | N/A   |  |

| Credit Tier  | "^^       | "AA"      | "A"       | ţ         | -8-       |  |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|
| Margin   | 3.000%    | 3.250%    | 3.500%    | 4.000%    | 4.250%    |  |
| Max Mtg Late (12-mth)  | 0 x 30    | 0 x 30    | 0 x 30    | 1 x 30    | 0 x 60    |  |
| Seasoning  | "AAA"     | "AA"      | "A"       | 78+**     | -9"       |  |
| Bankruptcy   | a 3 Years | > 3 Years | 2 3 Years | 2 2 Years | à 2 Years |  |
| Foreclosure  | à 3 Years | à 3 Years | a 3 Years | a 2 Years | à 2 Years |  |
| Short Sales  | 2 2 Years | > 2 Years | 2 2 Years | a 1 Year  | Settled   |  |
| Deed-In-Lieu   | a 2 Years | > 2 Years | a 2 Years | a 1 Year  | Settled   |  |
| ** CLTV +5% for LTV -5%, Can not exceed 80% MAX CLTV,                |           |           |           |           |           |  |
| Max Adjustment is 5% CLTV increase                                   |           |           |           |           |           |  |
| BATE LOCK FLOATS UNTIL LOAN APPLICATION IS CLEARED OF ALL CONDITIONS |           |           |           |           |           |  |

Bate

Note

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Credit Grades ANA to 16 [or Asset Depletion as additional source]

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Pricing Only, Purch - ON B. Bert-1,000% TV/CLTV, ANA to 8+ Coly

May Case - Head - 500% TV | 500,000

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Purch - ON B. Bert - GIN May CTV/CLTV

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AND AND - Head - 500% TV | 500,000

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### CONTACT YOUR LOCAL ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

NO FEDERAL OR STATE HIGH COST LOANS ne Documentation Jubs indistribution of the state of the stat Loan Amounts >\$1.0M Require Senior Management A Loan Amounts >\$1.5M require Two [2] Appraisals party Types SFR / Condox / Townhouse / 2-4 Units Non-Warrantable Condox - Reference CSC Guidelines MAI, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MT, MC, ME, MI, SL, NY, CK, GR, FA, SC, TN, TD, UT, VA, VT, WA, MI, S. MY Texas - Primary: Purch S. N/T. S. INV or 2 nd Home: Purch S. Refl