



November 21, 2019

Meliss Safara

REDACTED

Newport, Rhode Island 02840

Re: Pretrial Diversion - Prohibition from Banking Industry

Dear Ms. Safara:

The Federal Reserve Bank of Boston has become aware that you entered into a pretrial diversion or similar program in connection with the resolution of an information that charged you with embezzlement and fraudulent conversion in connection with your employment at BankNewport. A copy of the Case Information reflecting your acceptance into the program is attached. Because you have agreed to enter into a pretrial diversion or similar program in connection with the prosecution of a crime involving dishonesty or breach of trust, you are automatically subject to the prohibitions set forth in Section 19 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, 12 U.S.C. § 1829 ("Section 19"), for financial organizations and in Section 205 of the National Credit Union Act, 12 U.S.C. § 1785(d) ("Section 205(d)"), for insured credit unions.

Section 19 and Section 205(d) prohibit you from becoming or continuing as an institution-affiliated party with respect to any of the financial organizations described below. That means that you may not, among other things, act as an employee, officer, director, or agent of these banking organizations or credit unions. Nor may you otherwise participate, directly or indirectly, in the conduct of the affairs of any of these organizations. You are also prohibited from directly or indirectly owning or controlling any insured depository institution or holding company. These statutes do not prohibit you from being a normal, arms-length customer of a banking organization or credit union, such as having a loan, checking or savings account.

The prohibitions of Section 19 and Section 205(d) cover all insured depository institutions, including, but not limited to, any bank, savings association or credit union, and their holding companies, as well as Edge Act corporations and Agreement corporations. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation may grant written consent for you to engage in otherwise prohibited conduct with respect to insured depository institutions, and the Federal Reserve may grant written consent with respect to bank and savings and loan holding companies and Edge Act and Agreement corporations. The National Credit Union Administration Board may grant consent for insured credit unions. The automatic prohibition does not cover affiliation with a subsidiary of a bank holding company that is not itself a bank holding company, or a subsidiary of a savings and loan holding company that is not itself a savings and loan holding company, or uninsured branches or agencies of foreign banks, unless the appropriate federal banking agency takes further action against you.

Should you engage in prohibited conduct without obtaining the required consent from the appropriate agency, you could be subject to daily criminal fines of up to \$1,000,000 or up to five years' imprisonment.

This letter will be posted on the public website of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. If you believe that the prohibitions of Section 19 and Section 205(d) do not apply to you, because, for example, your conviction has been reversed on appeal, or for any other reason, please contact the undersigned in writing at this Reserve Bank.

Sincerely,
REDACTED

Ronald J. Adams
Assistant Vice President
Regional & Community Unit
Supervision, Regulation & Credit Department

cc: Gary Pelletier
Pelletier Clarke & Caley
35 Touro St
Newport, RI 02840

Legal-Section 19Letters@ffb.gov

Special Activities Section, Division of Supervision
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
550 17th Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20249

Superintendent of Banking
Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation, Division of Banking
1511 Pontiac Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920

Director
Department of Supervision
National Credit Union Administration
1900 Duke Street, Suite 300
Alexandria, VA 22314

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Sandra J. Pattie, President and Chief Executive Officer
BankNewport
184 John Clarke Road
Middletown, RI 02842

Case Information, dated November 21, 2019, concerning *State of Rhode Island v. Meliss Safara*, Case No. N2-2017-0011A, in the Superior Court of Newport County on file.