# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BEFORE THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM WASHINGTON, D.C.

In the Matter of

Docket No. 11-112-B-HC 11-112-B-SM

THE GOLDMAN SACHS GROUP, INC. New York, New York

and

GOLDMAN SACHS BANK USA New York, New York

### **CONSENT ORDER**

WHEREAS, The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., New York, New York ("Goldman Sachs"), a registered bank holding company, owns and controls Goldman Sachs Bank USA, New York, New York (the "Bank"), a state-chartered bank that is a member of the Federal Reserve System, and the Bank until September 1, 2011 indirectly owned Litton Loan Servicing LP, Houston, Texas ("Litton");

WHEREAS, prior to September 1, 2011, Goldman Sachs engaged in the business of servicing residential mortgage loans in the United States through Litton. Goldman Sachs, through Litton, serviced residential mortgage loans that are held in the portfolios of (a) a subsidiary of the Bank; (b) the Federal National Mortgage Association, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and the Government National Mortgage Association (collectively, the "GSEs"); and (c) various investors, including securitization trusts pursuant to Pooling and Servicing Agreements and similar agreements (collectively, the "Servicing Portfolio"). Goldman Sachs, through Litton, had substantial responsibilities with respect to the Servicing Portfolio for the initiation and handling of foreclosure proceedings and loss mitigation activities ("Loss Mitigation" or "Loss Mitigation Activities" include activities related to special forbearances, repayment plans, modifications, short refinances, short sales, cash-for-keys, and deeds-in-lieu of foreclosure);

WHEREAS, by virtue of its indirect ownership of Litton, Goldman Sachs was the 23<sup>rd</sup> largest servicer of residential mortgages in the United States and serviced a portfolio of more than 280,309 residential mortgage loans. During the recent financial crisis, a substantially larger number of residential mortgage loans became past due than in earlier years. Many of the past due mortgages have resulted in foreclosure actions. From January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2010, Litton initiated 135,586 foreclosure actions;

WHEREAS, in connection with the process leading to certain foreclosures involving the Servicing Portfolio, Goldman Sachs, through Litton, allegedly:

(a) Filed or caused to be filed in state courts and in connection with bankruptcy proceedings in federal courts numerous affidavits executed by employees of Litton or employees of third-party providers making various assertions, such as the ownership of the mortgage note and mortgage, the amount of principal and interest due, and the fees and expenses chargeable to the borrower, in which the affiant represented that the assertions in the affidavit were made based on personal knowledge or based on a review by the affiant of the relevant books and records, when, in many cases, they were not based on such knowledge or review;

(b) Filed or caused to be filed in courts in various states and in connection with bankruptcy proceedings in federal courts or in the local land record offices, numerous

affidavits and other mortgage-related documents that were not properly notarized, including those not signed or affirmed in the presence of a notary;

(c) Litigated foreclosure and bankruptcy proceedings and initiated non-judicial foreclosures without always confirming that documentation of ownership was in order at the appropriate time, including confirming that the promissory note and mortgage document were properly endorsed or assigned and, if necessary, in the possession of the appropriate party;

(d) Failed to respond in a sufficient and timely manner to the increased level of foreclosures by increasing financial, staffing, and managerial resources to ensure that Litton adequately handled the foreclosure process, and failed to respond in a sufficient and timely manner to the increased level of Loss Mitigation Activities by increasing management and staffing levels to ensure timely, effective and efficient communication with borrowers with respect to Loss Mitigation Activities and foreclosure activities and full exploration of Loss Mitigation options or programs prior to completion of foreclosure activities; and

(e) Failed to have adequate internal controls, policies and procedures, compliance risk management, internal audit, training, and oversight of the foreclosure process, including sufficient oversight of outside counsel and other third-party providers handling foreclosure-related services with respect to the Servicing Portfolio.

WHEREAS, the practices set forth above allegedly constitute unsafe or unsound banking practices;

WHEREAS, in connection with a horizontal review of various major residential mortgage servicers conducted by the Board of Governors, the Federal Deposit Insurance

Corporation (the "FDIC"), the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and the Office of Thrift Supervision, examiners from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York (the "Reserve Bank") reviewed foreclosure-related processes at Litton;

WHEREAS, on September 1, 2011, Goldman Sachs sold Litton, including the Servicing Portfolio, to Ocwen Financial Corporation, West Palm Beach, Florida ("Ocwen") (the "Sale"). Ocwen is not owned or controlled by a banking organization. Goldman Sachs and the Bank are no longer in the business of residential mortgage loan servicing.

WHEREAS, it is the common goal of the Board of Governors, the Reserve Bank, Goldman Sachs, and the Bank to ensure that the consolidated organization operates in a safe and sound manner and to ensure that if Goldman Sachs, directly or through the Bank or any other subsidiary, engages in the business of residential mortgage loan servicing in the United States, the consolidated organization is in compliance with the terms of mortgage loan documentation and related agreements with borrowers, all applicable state and federal laws (including the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act), rules, regulations, and court orders, as well as the Membership Rules of MERSCORP, Inc. and MERS, Inc. (collectively, "MERS"), servicing guides with GSEs or investors, and other contractual obligations including those with the Federal Housing Administration and those required by the Home Affordable Modification Program ("HAMP"), and loss share agreements with the FDIC (collectively, "Legal Requirements");

WHEREAS, after the conduct set forth above became known and prior to the Sale, Goldman Sachs and the Bank have taken steps to remediate the filing of and reliance on inaccurate affidavits in foreclosure and bankruptcy proceedings;

WHEREAS, the boards of directors of Goldman Sachs and the Bank, at duly constituted meetings, authorized and approved Jeffrey Schroeder and Kevin Byrne to enter into this Consent Order to Cease and Desist (the "Order") on behalf of the Bank, respectively, and consenting to compliance with each and every applicable provision of this Order by Goldman Sachs and the Bank, and their institution-affiliated parties, as defined in sections 3(u) and 8(b)(3) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, as amended (the "FDI Act") (12 U.S.C. §§ 1813(u) and 1818(b)(3)), and waiving any and all rights that Goldman Sachs and the Bank may have pursuant to section 8 of the FDI Act (12 U.S.C. § 1818), including, but not limited to: (i) the issuance of a notice of charges; (ii) a hearing for the purpose of taking evidence on any matters set forth in this Order; (iii) judicial review of this Order; (iv) contest the issuance of this Order by the Board of Governors; and (v) challenge or contest, in any manner, the basis, issuance, validity, terms, effectiveness or enforceability of this Order or any provision hereof.

WHEREAS, Goldman Sachs has undertaken measures to ensure that, following the Sale, it continues to have access to information, documents, and personnel of Ocwen and its subsidiaries (including Litton) with respect to the Servicing Portfolio sufficient to comply with the requirements of this Order.

NOW, THEREFORE, before the filing of any notices, or taking of any testimony or adjudication of or finding on any issues of fact or law herein, and without this Order constituting an admission by Goldman Sachs, the Bank, or their subsidiaries of any allegation made or implied by the Board of Governors in connection with this matter, and solely for the purpose of settling this matter without a formal proceeding being filed and without the necessity for protracted or extended hearings or testimony, it is hereby ordered by the Board of Governors that, pursuant to sections 8(b)(1) and (3) of the FDI Act (12 U.S.C. §§1818(b)(1)) and

1818(b)(3)), Goldman Sachs, the Bank, and their institution-affiliated parties shall cease and desist and take affirmative action as follows:

# Source of Strength

1. The board of directors of Goldman Sachs shall take appropriate steps to fully utilize Goldman Sachs's financial and managerial resources, pursuant to section 225.4(a) of Regulation Y of the Board of Governors (12 C.F.R. § 225.4(a)), to serve as a source of strength to the Bank, including, but not limited to, taking steps to ensure that the Bank complies with the applicable provisions of this Order.

# **Foreclosure Review**

2. (a) Within 45 days of this Order, Goldman Sachs and the Bank shall retain one or more independent consultant(s) acceptable to the Reserve Bank to conduct an independent review of certain residential foreclosure actions (including judicial and non-judicial foreclosures and related bankruptcy proceedings, and other related litigation) regarding individual borrowers with respect to the Servicing Portfolio. The review shall include actions or proceedings (including foreclosures that were in process or completed) for loans serviced by Goldman Sachs, through Litton, whether brought in the name of the Bank, Litton, the investor, or any agent for the mortgage note holder (including MERS) that have been pending at any time from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2010, as well as residential foreclosure sales that occurred during this time period ("Foreclosure Review"). The purpose of the Foreclosure Review shall be to determine, at a minimum:

(i) whether, at the time the foreclosure action was initiated or the pleading or affidavit filed (including in bankruptcy proceedings and in defending suits brought by borrowers), the foreclosing party or agent of the party had properly documented ownership of

the promissory note and mortgage (or deed of trust) under relevant state law, or was otherwise a proper party to the action as a result of agency or other similar status;

(ii) whether the foreclosure was in accordance with applicable stateand federal laws, including but not limited to, the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act and the U.S.Bankruptcy Code;

(iii) whether, with respect to non-judicial foreclosures, the procedures followed with respect to the foreclosure sale (including the calculation of the default period, the amounts due, and compliance with notice periods) and post-sale confirmation were in accordance with the terms of the mortgage loan and state law requirements;

(iv) whether a foreclosure sale occurred when the borrower had requested a loan modification or other loss mitigation and the request was under consideration; when the loan was performing in accordance with a trial or permanent loan modification; or when the loan had not been in default for a sufficient period to authorize foreclosure pursuant to terms of the mortgage loan documentation and related agreements;

(v) whether any delinquent borrower's account was charged fees or penalties that were not permissible under the terms of the borrower's loan documents, state or federal law, or were otherwise unreasonable. For purposes of this Order, a fee or penalty is "otherwise unreasonable" if it was assessed: (i) for the purpose of protecting the secured party's interest in the mortgaged property, and the fee or penalty was assessed at a frequency or rate, was of a type or amount, or was for a purpose that was in fact not needed to protect the secured party's interest; (ii) for services performed and the fee charged was substantially in excess of the fair market value of the service; (iii) for services performed, and the services were not actually performed; or (iv) at an amount or rate that exceeds what is customarily charged in the market

for such a fee or penalty, and the mortgage instruments or other documents executed by the borrower did not disclose the amount or rate that the lender or servicer would charge for such a fee or penalty;

(vi) whether Loss Mitigation Activities with respect to foreclosed loans were handled in accordance with the requirements of HAMP, if applicable, and consistent with the policies and procedures applicable to Litton's proprietary loan modifications or other Loss Mitigation programs, such that each borrower had an adequate opportunity to apply for a Loss Mitigation option or program, any such application was handled appropriately, and a final decision was made on a reasoned basis and was communicated to the borrower before the foreclosure sale; and

(vii) whether any errors, misrepresentations, or other deficiencies identified in the Foreclosure Review resulted in financial injury to the borrower or the owner of the mortgage loan.

(b) The independent consultant(s) shall prepare a written report detailing the findings of the Foreclosure Review (the "Foreclosure Report"). Goldman Sachs and the Bank shall provide to the Reserve Bank a copy of the Foreclosure Report at the same time that the report is provided to them.

(c) Within 45 days of receipt of the Foreclosure Report, Goldman Sachs and the Bank shall submit to the Reserve Bank an acceptable plan to:

(i) remediate, as appropriate, errors, misrepresentations, or other deficiencies in any foreclosure filing or other proceeding;

(ii) reimburse or otherwise provide appropriate remediation to the borrower for any impermissible or otherwise unreasonable penalties, fees or expenses, or for other financial injury identified in paragraph 2 of this Order;

(iii) make appropriate adjustments for the account of the Bank, the GSEs, or any investor; and

(iv) take appropriate steps to remediate any foreclosure sale where the foreclosure was not authorized as described in paragraph 2 of this Order.

(d) Within 90 days after the Reserve Bank accepts the plan described in paragraph 2(c), Goldman Sachs and the Bank shall make all reimbursement and remediation payments and provide all credits required by such plan, and provide the Reserve Bank with a report detailing such payments and credits.

(e) Goldman Sachs shall enforce (on behalf of itself and the Bank) contractual arrangements with Ocwen to ensure that the independent consultant shall have access to all documents and personnel of Ocwen and its subsidiaries (including Litton) necessary to carry out the review required by paragraph 2 of this Order.

3. Within 15 days of the engagement of the independent consultant(s) described in paragraph 2 of this Order, but prior to the commencement of the Foreclosure Review, Goldman Sachs and the Bank shall submit to the Reserve Bank for approval an engagement letter that sets forth:

(a) The methodology for conducting the Foreclosure Review, including: (i) a description of the information systems and documents to be reviewed, including the selection criteria for cases to be reviewed; (ii) the criteria for evaluating the reasonableness of fees and penalties under paragraph 2(a)(v); (iii) other procedures necessary to make the required

determinations (such as through interviews of employees and third parties and a process for the receipt and review of borrower claims and complaints); and (iv) any proposed sampling techniques. In setting the scope and review methodology, the independent consultant may consider any work already done by Goldman Sachs, the Bank, Litton or other third-parties on behalf of Goldman Sachs, the Bank, or Litton. With respect to sampling techniques, the engagement letter shall contain a full description of the statistical basis for the sampling methods chosen, as well as procedures to increase the size of the sample depending on the results of initial sampling;

(b) the expertise and resources to be dedicated to the Foreclosure Review;

(c) completion of the Foreclosure Review and the Foreclosure Report within120 days of the start of the engagement; and

(d) a written commitment that any workpapers associated with the Foreclosure Review will be made available to the Reserve Bank upon request.

# **Third Party Management**

4. Within 60 days of this Order, Goldman Sachs and the Bank shall submit to the Reserve Bank acceptable policies and procedures for the outsourcing of any residential mortgage servicing, Loss Mitigation, or foreclosure functions, by Goldman Sachs or the Bank (including any subsidiary or affiliate of Goldman Sachs or the Bank) to any independent contractor, consulting firm, law firm, property manager, or other third party (including any subsidiary or affiliate of Goldman Sachs or the Bank) (collectively, "Third-Party Providers"). Third-Party Providers include local counsel in foreclosure or bankruptcy proceedings retained to represent the interests of owners of mortgages in the Servicing Portfolio ("Foreclosure Counsel"). The policies and procedures shall, at a minimum, address, consider, and include:

(a) Appropriate oversight of Third-Party Providers to ensure that they comply with the Legal Requirements, supervisory guidance of the Board of Governors, and Goldman Sachs's and the Bank's policies and procedures;

(b) processes to prepare contingency and business continuity plans that ensure the continuing availability of critical third-party services and business continuity of Goldman Sachs and the Bank, consistent with supervisory guidance of the Board of Governors, both to address short-term and long-term service disruptions and to ensure an orderly transition to new service providers should that become necessary;

(c) measures to ensure that all original records transferred by Goldman Sachs or the Bank to Third-Party Providers (including the originals of promissory notes and mortgage documents) remain within the custody and control of the Third-Party Provider (unless filed with the appropriate court or the loan is otherwise transferred to another party), and are returned to Goldman Sachs, the Bank, or designated custodians at the conclusion of the performed service, along with all other documents necessary for Goldman Sachs's or the Bank's files;

(d) measures to ensure the accuracy of all documents filed or otherwise utilized by Third-Party Providers on behalf of Goldman Sachs or the Bank (including any subsidiary or affiliate of Goldman Sachs or the Bank), in any judicial or non-judicial foreclosure proceeding, related bankruptcy proceeding, or in other foreclosure-related litigation, including, but not limited to, documentation sufficient to establish ownership of the note and right to foreclose at the time the foreclosure action is commenced;

(e) processes to perform appropriate due diligence on potential and current Third-Party Provider qualifications, expertise, capacity, reputation, complaints, information security, document custody practices, business continuity, and financial viability; and measures

to ensure the adequacy of Third-Party Provider staffing levels, training, work quality, and workload balance;

(f) processes to ensure that contracts provide for adequate oversight, including requiring Third-Party Provider adherence to Goldman Sachs's and the Bank's foreclosure processing standards, measures to enforce Third-Party Provider contractual obligations, and processes to ensure timely action with respect to Third-Party Provider performance failures;

(g) processes to ensure periodic reviews of Third-Party Provider work for
 timeliness, competence, completeness, and compliance with all applicable Legal Requirements,
 Goldman Sachs's or the Bank's contractual obligations to GSEs and investors, and to ensure that
 foreclosures are conducted in a safe and sound manner;

(h) processes to review customer complaints about Third-Party Provider services;

(i) a review of fee structures for Third-Party Providers to ensure that the method of compensation considers the accuracy, completeness, and legal compliance of foreclosure filings and is not based solely on increased foreclosure volume or meeting processing timelines; and

(j) a periodic certification process for law firms (and recertification of existing law firm providers) that provide residential mortgage foreclosure and bankruptcy services, directly or indirectly, for Goldman Sachs or the Bank as qualified to serve as Third-Party Providers to Goldman Sachs or the Bank, including that attorneys are licensed to practice in the relevant jurisdiction and have the experience and competence necessary to perform the services requested.

### **Approval, Implementation, and Progress Reports**

5. (a) Goldman Sachs and the Bank, as applicable, shall submit the written plan, policies and procedures and engagement letter acceptable to the Reserve Bank within the applicable time periods set forth in paragraphs 2(c), 3, and 4 of this Order. An independent consultant acceptable to the Reserve Bank shall be retained by Goldman Sachs and the Bank within the applicable period set forth in paragraph 2(a) of this Order.

(b) Within 10 days of approval by the Reserve Bank, Goldman Sachs and the Bank, as applicable, shall adopt the approved plan and policies and procedures. Upon adoption, Goldman Sachs and the Bank, as applicable, shall implement the approved plan and policies and procedures, and thereafter fully comply with them;

(c) During the term of this Order, the approved plan, policies and procedures, and engagement letter shall not be amended or rescinded without the prior written approval of the Reserve Bank.

(d) During the term of this Order, Goldman Sachs and the Bank, as applicable, shall revise the approved plan and policies and procedures as necessary to incorporate new or changes to the Legal Requirements and supervisory guidance of the Board of Governors. The revised plan and policies and procedures shall be submitted to the Reserve Bank for approval at the same time as the progress reports described in paragraph 6 of this Order.

6. Within 30 days after the end of each calendar quarter following the date of this Order, Goldman Sachs's and the Bank's boards of directors (or a committee thereof) shall jointly submit to the Reserve Bank written progress reports detailing the form and manner of all actions taken to secure compliance with the provisions of this Order and the results thereof. The

Reserve Bank may, in writing, discontinue the requirement for progress reports or modify the reporting schedule.

7. Within 15 months after the date of this Order, Goldman Sachs and the Bank shall submit a validation report prepared by an independent third-party consultant with respect to compliance with the Order during the first year after the Order becomes effective. The independent third-party consultant shall be acceptable to the Reserve Bank, and shall be engaged not more than nine months after the effective date of this Order. The engagement letter retaining the independent third-party consultant shall be subject to the Reserve Bank's approval. At a minimum the validation report shall include the results of a testing program acceptable to the Reserve Bank that, among other things, will evaluate the effectiveness of the plan and policies and procedures implemented as a result of this Order.

#### **Future Residential Mortgage Loan Servicing**

8. So long as this Order is outstanding, paragraphs 9 through 21 of this Order shall be effective only if Goldman Sachs, directly or through the Bank or other subsidiary (the "Servicing Entity"), engages in the business of residential mortgage loan servicing in the United States. Prior to engaging in the business of residential mortgage loan servicing, Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity shall submit acceptable plans, programs, policies, and procedures required by paragraphs 9 through 21 of this Order. Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity must adopt and must be in full compliance with the approved plans, programs, policies and procedures, and engagement letter while Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity engage in the business of residential mortgage loan servicing so long as this Order is outstanding. For purposes of this Order, a Servicing Entity shall include the Bank, if servicing operations are conducted by the Bank or by a subsidiary of the Bank.

### **Board Oversight**

9. The boards of directors of Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity shall submit to the Reserve Bank an acceptable written plan to establish strong board oversight of residential mortgage loan servicing, including the boards' oversight of risk management, internal audit, and compliance programs concerning residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities to be conducted by Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity. The plan shall also describe the actions that the boards of directors will take to establish appropriate residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities and operations, and a timeline for actions to be taken. The plan shall, at a minimum, address, consider, and include:

(a) Policies to be adopted by the board of directors of Goldman Sachs that are designed to ensure that Goldman Sachs's enterprise-wide risk management ("ERM") program provides proper risk management with respect to residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities particularly with respect to compliance with the Legal Requirements, and supervisory standards and guidance of the Board of Governors as they develop;

(b) policies and procedures to be adopted by Goldman Sachs to ensure that the ERM program provides proper risk management of independent contractors, consulting firms, law firms, or other third parties who are engaged to support residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, or foreclosure activities or operations, including their compliance with the Legal Requirements and Goldman Sachs's and the Bank's internal policies and procedures, consistent with supervisory guidance of the Board of Governors;

(c) steps to ensure that Goldman Sachs's ERM, audit, and compliance programs have adequate levels and types of officers and staff dedicated to overseeing residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities, and that these programs will have officers and staff with the requisite qualifications, skills, and ability to comply with the requirements of this Order;

(d) steps to be taken for the purpose of ensuring that appropriate information and reports will be provided to and regularly reviewed by the boards of directors of Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity or authorized committees of the boards of directors regarding residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities and operations, including, compliance risk assessments, and the status and results of measures taken, or to be taken, to remediate deficiencies in residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities, and to comply with this Order;

(e) funding for personnel, systems, and other resources as are needed to carry out residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities and operations in full compliance with the Legal Requirements and the requirements of this Order, taking into consideration the current and expected volume of past due loans at that time;

(f) funding for personnel, systems, and other resources as are needed to operate risk management and compliance programs that are safe and sound and that are commensurate with the risk profile of the residential mortgage loan servicing activities at that time;

(g) steps to ensure that the residential mortgage loan servicing operations have
 adequate levels and types of officers and staff to carry out residential mortgage loan servicing,
 Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities in compliance with Legal Requirements and the

requirements of this Order, and taking into account the size and complexity of the servicing portfolio at that time; that the residential mortgage loan servicing operations have officers and staff with the requisite qualifications, skills, and ability to comply with the requirements of this Order; and a timetable for hiring any necessary additional officers and staff.

(h) periodic reviews of the adequacy of the levels and types of officers and staff to carry out residential mortgage servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities in light of changes in the servicing portfolio or the Legal Requirements. To conduct this review, the plan shall establish metrics to measure and ensure the adequacy of staffing levels relative to then existing and future Loss Mitigation and foreclosure activities, such as limits for the number of loans assigned to a Loss Mitigation employee, including the single point of contact as hereinafter defined, and deadlines to review loan modification documentation, make loan modification decisions, and provide responses to borrowers;

(i) steps to ensure that the risk management, audit, and compliance programs for the residential mortgage loan servicing activities have adequate levels and types of officers and staff and that they have officers and staff with the requisite qualifications, skills, and ability to comply with the requirements of this Order, and a timetable for hiring any necessary additional officers and staff;

(j) workload reviews of residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure personnel who are responsible for handling individual loan issues (including single point of contact personnel), including an initial review within 90 days of acceptance of the plan, and then annual reviews thereafter. Such reviews, at a minimum, shall assess whether the workload levels are appropriate to ensure compliance with the requirements of paragraphs 9(g) and 10 of this Order. Promptly following completion of such reviews, the Servicing Entity shall

adjust workload levels to ensure compliance with the requirements of paragraphs 9(g) and 10 of this Order;

(k) policies to ensure that the risk management, audit, and compliance programs have the requisite authorities and status within the organization to effectively operate the programs, and that there is adequate coordination with respect to these programs to ensure that any problems or deficiencies that are identified in residential mortgage servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities and operations are comprehensively reviewed and remedied; and

(1) steps to be taken for the purpose of establishing appropriate information and reports will be provided to and regularly reviewed by Goldman Sachs's and the Servicing Entity's boards of directors to assess the performance of mortgage servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities and operations, as well as the risk management and compliance programs and associated functions, including compliance risk assessments, and the status and results of measures taken, or to be taken, to remediate mortgage servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure deficiencies, and to comply with this Order.

### **Single Point of Contact**

Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity shall submit to the Reserve Bank an acceptable plan, along with a timeline for actions to be taken, for establishing appropriate coordination of communications between the residential mortgage loan servicing operations and borrowers, both oral and written, related to Loss Mitigation and foreclosure activities to ensure:

 (i) that communications are timely and effective, and are designed to avoid confusion to borrowers;
 (ii) continuity in the handling of borrowers' loan files during the Loss Mitigation and foreclosure processes by personnel knowledgeable about the borrower's situation; and (iii) that

decisions concerning Loss Mitigation options or programs are made and communicated in a timely fashion. The plan shall provide that Goldman Sachs's and the Servicing Entity's processes involving past due mortgage loans or foreclosures do not overlap in such a way that they may impair or impede a borrower's efforts to effectively pursue a Loss Mitigation option or program, and (ii) employee incentive compensation practices do not discourage Loss Mitigation. The plan shall, at a minimum, provide for:

 (a) Measures to ensure that staff processing a borrower's Loss Mitigation request routinely communicates and coordinates with staff processing the foreclosure on the borrower's property;

(b) appropriate deadlines for responses to borrower communications and requests for consideration of Loss Mitigation, including deadlines for decision making on Loss Mitigation Activities, with the metrics established not being less responsive than the timelines in HAMP;

(c) establishment of an accessible and reliable single point of contact for the borrower so that the borrower has access to an employee of the residential mortgage loan servicing operations to obtain information throughout the Loss Mitigation and foreclosure processes;

(d) a requirement that written communications with the borrower identify by name the primary single point of contact along with one or more direct means of communication with the primary single point of contact, together with information about secondary points of contact in the event that the primary single point of contact is unavailable;

(e) measures to ensure that the single point of contact has access to current information and personnel (in-house or third-party) sufficient to timely, accurately, and

adequately inform the borrower of the current status of the Loss Mitigation and foreclosure activities;

(f) procedures and controls to ensure that a final decision regarding a borrower's Loss Mitigation request (whether on a trial or permanent basis) is made and communicated to the borrower in writing, including the reason(s) why the borrower did not qualify for the trial or permanent modification and, if applicable, the net present value calculations utilized by the residential mortgage loan servicing operations, and that involve the single point of contact within a reasonable time before any foreclosure sale occurs;

(g) procedures and controls to ensure that when the borrower's loan has been approved for modification on a trial or permanent basis, (i) no foreclosure or further legal action predicate to foreclosure occurs, unless the borrower is past due on two or more payments postdating the trial or permanent modification; and (ii) the single point of contact remains available to the borrower and continues to be referenced on all written communications with the borrower;

(h) policies and procedures to enable borrowers to make complaints regarding the Loss Mitigation process, denial of Loss Mitigation requests, the foreclosure process, or foreclosure activities that prevent a borrower from pursuing Loss Mitigation options, and a process for making borrowers aware of the complaint procedures;

(i) procedures for the prompt review, escalation, and resolution of borrower complaints, including a process to communicate the results of the review to the borrower on a timely basis;

(j) policies and procedures to consider loan modification or other Loss
 Mitigation Activities with respect to junior liens owned by Goldman Sachs, a subsidiary or
 affiliate of Goldman Sachs, or the Bank, where the residential mortgage loan servicing

operations service the associated first lien mortgage and become aware that such first lien mortgage is delinquent or has been modified;

(k) policies and procedures to ensure that timely information about Loss
 Mitigation options is sent to the borrower in the event of a delinquency or default, including
 plain language notices about the pendency of loan modification and foreclosure proceedings; and

(1) policies and procedures to ensure that foreclosure and related documents provided to borrowers and third parties are appropriately maintained and tracked, and that borrowers generally will not be required to resubmit the same documented information that has already been provided, and that borrowers are notified promptly of the need for additional information.

### **Compliance Program**

11. Goldman Sachs shall submit to the Reserve Bank an acceptable written plan regarding its enterprise-wide compliance program ("ECP") with respect to its oversight of residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities and operations. The plan shall, at a minimum, be designed to:

(a) Ensure that the fundamental elements of the ECP, including a
 comprehensive annual risk assessment, encompass residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss
 Mitigation, and foreclosure activities;

(b) ensure compliance with the Legal Requirements and supervisory guidance of the Board of Governors; and

(c) ensure that policies, procedures, and processes are updated on an ongoing basis as necessary to incorporate new or changes to the Legal Requirements and supervisory guidance of the Board of Governors.

12. Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity shall submit to the Reserve Bank an acceptable compliance program and timeline for implementation to ensure that the residential mortgage loan servicing operations, including, but not limited to, residential mortgage servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure, comply with the Legal Requirements, as well as internal policies, procedures, and processes, and are conducted in a safe and sound manner. The program shall, at a minimum, address, consider, and include:

(a) The duties and responsibilities of line of business staff, other staff, andThird-Party Providers regarding compliance;

(b) policies for developing and communicating compliance-related roles and responsibilities across the residential mortgage loan servicing operations' organization and to Third-Party Providers;

(c) policies, procedures, and processes to ensure that the residential mortgage loan servicing operations have the ability to locate and secure all documents, including original promissory notes, necessary to perform mortgage servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure functions and to comply with contractual obligations;

(d) compliance with supervisory guidance of the Board of Governors,
 including, but not limited to the guidance entitled, "Compliance Risk Management Programs and
 Oversight at Large Banking Organizations with Complex Compliance Profiles," dated October
 16, 2008 (SR 08-08/CA 08-11);

(e) compliance with Legal Requirements, including:

(i) processes to ensure that all factual assertions made in pleadings,
 declarations, affidavits, or other sworn statements filed by or on behalf of Goldman Sachs or the
 Servicing Entity are accurate, complete, and reliable; and that affidavits and declarations are

based on personal knowledge or a review of the residential mortgage loan servicing operations' books and records when the affidavit or declaration so states;

(ii) processes to ensure that affidavits filed in foreclosure proceedings
 and other foreclosure-related documents are executed and notarized in accordance with
 applicable state legal requirements, including jurat requirements;

(iii) processes to ensure that Goldman Sachs or the Servicing Entity, as applicable, have properly documented ownership of the promissory note and mortgage (or deed of trust) under applicable state law, or is otherwise a proper party to the action (as a result of agency or other similar status) at all stages of foreclosure and bankruptcy litigation; and

(iv) processes to ensure that a clear and auditable trail exists for all factual information contained in each affidavit or declaration, in support of each of the charges that are listed, including whether the amount is chargeable to the borrower or claimable by the investor;

(f) policies and procedures to ensure that payments are credited in a prompt and timely manner; that payments, including partial payments to the extent permissible under the terms of applicable legal instruments, are applied to scheduled principal, interest, and escrow before fees, and that any misapplication of borrower funds is corrected in a prompt and timely manner;

(g) compliance with contractual obligations to the owners of the mortgages in the servicing portfolio;

(h) compliance with the contractual limitations in the underlying mortgage note, mortgage, or other customer authorization with respect to the imposition of fees, charges

and expenses, and compliance with Legal Requirements concerning the imposition of fees, charges, and expenses;

(i) processes to ensure that foreclosure sales (including the calculation of the default period, the amounts due, and compliance with notice requirements) and post-sale confirmation are in accordance with the terms of the mortgage loan and applicable state and federal law requirements;

(j) procedures to ensure compliance with bankruptcy law requirements,
 including a prohibition on collection of fees in violation of bankruptcy's automatic stay
 (11 U.S.C. § 362), the discharge injunction (11 U.S.C. § 524), or any applicable court order;

(k) the scope and frequency of independent testing for compliance with the Legal Requirements, supervisory guidance of the Board of Governors, and the requirements of the residential mortgage loan servicing operations' internal policies, procedures, and processes by qualified parties with requisite knowledge and ability (which may include internal audit) who are independent of the residential mortgage loan servicing operations' business lines and compliance function;

(1) measures to ensure that policies, procedures, and processes are updated on an ongoing basis as necessary to incorporate new or changes to Legal Requirements and supervisory guidance of the Board of Governors; and

(m) the findings and conclusions of the independent consultants that were engaged by Goldman Sachs and the Bank under paragraph 2 of this Order.

# Mortgage Electronic Registration System

13. Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity shall submit an acceptable plan to ensure appropriate controls and oversight of the residential mortgage loan servicing activities with

respect to the Mortgage Electronic Registration System and compliance with MERS' membership rules, terms, and conditions ("MERS Requirements") ("MERS Plan"), if applicable. The MERS Plan shall include, at a minimum:

 (a) Processes to ensure that all mortgage assignments and endorsements with respect to mortgage loans serviced or owned by the residential mortgage loan servicing operations out of MERS' name are executed only by a certifying officer authorized by MERS and approved by the Servicing Entity;

(b) processes to ensure that all other actions that may be taken by MERS certifying officers (with respect to mortgage loans serviced or owned by the residential mortgage loan servicing operations) are executed by a certifying officer authorized by MERS and approved by the residential mortgage loan servicing operations;

(c) processes to ensure that the residential mortgage loan servicing operations maintain up-to-date corporate resolutions from MERS for all the residential mortgage loan servicing operations' employees and third-parties who are certifying officers authorized by MERS, and up-to-date lists of MERS certifying officers;

(d) processes to ensure compliance with all MERS Requirements and with the requirements of the MERS Corporate Resolution Management System;

(e) processes to ensure the accuracy and reliability of data reported to MERS, including monthly system-to-system reconciliations for all MERS mandatory reporting fields, and daily capture of all rejects/warnings reports associated with registrations, transfers, and status updates on open-item aging reports. Unresolved items must be maintained on open-item aging reports and tracked until resolution. The residential mortgage loan servicing operations shall determine and report whether the foreclosures for loans serviced by the residential

mortgage loan servicing operations that are currently pending in MERS' name are accurate and how many are listed in error, and describe how and by when the data on the MERS system will be corrected;

(f) an appropriate MERS quality assurance workplan, which clearly describes all tests, test frequency, sampling methods, responsible parties, and the expected process for open-item follow-up, and includes an annual independent test of the control structure of the system-to-system reconciliation process, the reject/warning error correction process, and adherence to the MERS Plan; and

(g) inclusion of MERS in the residential mortgage loan servicing operations' third-party vendor management process, which shall include a detailed analysis of potential vulnerabilities, including information security, business continuity, and vendor viability assessments.

#### **Management Information Systems**

14. Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity shall submit to the Reserve Bank an acceptable plan and timeline for the review and remediation, as necessary, of the residential mortgage loan servicing operations' management information systems ("MIS") for residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities to ensure the timely delivery of complete and accurate information to permit effective decision-making. The plan shall, at a minimum, provide for:

(a) A description of the various MIS to be used by the residential mortgage loan servicing operations;

- (b) a timetable for completion of the review;
- (c) a timetable for the remediation of any identified deficiencies; and

(d) new systems or enhancements to the MIS to:

(i) monitor compliance with the Legal Requirements, supervisory guidance of the Board of Governors, and the requirements of this Order;

(ii) ensure the ongoing accuracy of records for all serviced mortgages, including, but not limited to, records necessary to establish ownership and the right to foreclose by the appropriate party for all serviced mortgages, outstanding balances, and fees assessed to the borrower;

(iii) ensure that the Loss Mitigation and foreclosure staffs have sufficient and timely access to information provided by the borrower regarding Loss Mitigation and foreclosure activities; and

(iv) ensure that the single point of contact has sufficient and timely access to information provided by the borrower regarding Loss Mitigation and foreclosure activities; and

(e) testing the integrity and accuracy of the new or enhanced MIS to ensure that reports generated by the system provide necessary information for adequate monitoring and quality controls.

# Training

15. Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity shall submit to the Reserve Bank an acceptable written plan, and timeline for implementation, for the training of all appropriate officers and staff of the residential mortgage loan servicing operations regarding the Legal Requirements, supervisory guidance of the Board of Governors, and the residential mortgage loan servicing operations' internal policies and procedures regarding residential mortgage

servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure, and the policies and procedures adopted regarding a single point of contact described in paragraph 10 of this Order. The plan shall also include:

(a) A requirement that training be conducted and documented no less frequently than annually; and

(b) procedures to timely inform appropriate officers and staff of any new or changes to the Legal Requirements and supervisory guidance of the Board of Governors related to residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, or foreclosure.

#### **Risk Management**

16. Goldman Sachs shall submit to the Reserve Bank an acceptable written plan to establish an appropriate ERM program with respect to its oversight of residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities and operations. The plan shall, at a minimum, be designed to:

(a) Ensure that the fundamental elements of the risk management program,
 including a comprehensive annual risk assessment, encompass residential mortgage loan
 servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities;

(b) ensure that the risk management program complies with supervisory guidance of the Board of Governors, including, but not limited to, the Board of Governors' guidance entitled, "Compliance Risk Management Programs and Oversight at Large Banking Organizations with Complex Compliance Profiles," dated October 16, 2008 (SR 08-08/CA 08-11); and

(c) establish limits for compliance, legal, and reputational risks and provide for regular review of risk limits by appropriate senior management and the board of directors or an authorized committee of the board of directors.

17. Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity shall submit to the Reserve Bank an acceptable, comprehensive risk management program for the residential mortgage loan servicing operations. The program shall provide for the oversight by the Servicing Entity's board of directors and senior management, including senior risk managers, of the development and implementation of formalized policies and mitigation processes for all identified risks to the residential mortgage loan servicing operations. The program shall, at a minimum, address, consider, and include:

(a) The structure and composition of the Servicing Entity's board risk
 management committee and a determination of the optimum structure and composition needed to
 provide adequate oversight of the mortgage loan servicing operations' firm-wide risk
 management;

(b) a detailed description of the responsibilities of the line-of-business staff, legal department, and internal audit department regarding risk assessment and management, including, but not limited to, compliance and legal risks;

(c) written policies, procedures, and risk management standards;

(d) processes to adequately identify risk levels and trends;

(e) processes to adequately identify and control risks arising from incentive compensation programs;

(f) processes to document, measure, assess, and report key risk indicators;

(g) controls to mitigate risks;

(h) procedures for the escalation of significant matters related to risks to appropriate senior officers and board committees;

(i) the scope and frequency of comprehensive risk assessments;

(j) a formal method to ensure effective communication of established risk management policies, procedures, and standards to all appropriate business line and other staff;

(k) periodic testing of the effectiveness of the risk management program; and

(1) the findings and recommendations of the independent consultant describedin paragraph 20 of this Order regarding risk management.

# Audit

18. Goldman Sachs shall submit to the Reserve Bank an acceptable written plan to establish an appropriate internal audit program with respect to residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities and operations. The plan shall, at a minimum, be designed to:

(a) Ensure that the internal audit program encompasses residential mortgageloan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities;

(b) periodically review the effectiveness of the ECP and ERM with respect to residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities, and compliance with the Legal Requirements and supervisory guidance of the Board of Governors;

(c) ensure that adequate qualified staffing of the audit function is provided for residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities;

(d) ensure timely resolution of audit findings and follow-up reviews to ensure completion and effectiveness of corrective measures;

(e) ensure that comprehensive documentation, tracking, and reporting of the status and resolution of audit findings are submitted to the audit committee; and

(f) establish escalation procedures for resolving any differences of opinion between audit staff and management concerning audit exceptions and recommendations, with any disputes to be resolved by the audit committee.

19. Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity shall submit to the Reserve Bank an acceptable written internal audit program to periodically review compliance with applicable Legal Requirements and supervisory guidance of the Board of Governors that shall, at a minimum, provide for:

(a) An annual written, risk-based audit plan approved by the boards of directors of Goldman Sachs and the Bank, or authorized committees of those boards, that encompasses all appropriate areas of audit coverage;

- (b) the scope and frequency of audits;
- (c) the independence of the internal auditor, audit staff, and audit committee;

(d) inclusion in the audit scope of reviews of internal controls, MIS, and
 compliance with the residential mortgage loan servicing operations' internal policies, procedures,
 and processes, including, but not limited to, the Loss Mitigation and foreclosure processes;

(e) adequate testing and review of MIS used in servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure activities to ensure compliance with the Legal Requirements;

(f) controls to ensure that audits are completed on a timely basis in accordance with the approved audit plan;

(g) adequate staffing of the audit function by qualified staff;

(h) timely resolution of audit findings and follow-up reviews to ensure completion and effectiveness of corrective measures;

(i) comprehensive documentation, tracking, and reporting of the status and resolution of audit findings to the audit committee, at least quarterly; and

(j) establishment of escalation procedures for resolving any differences ofopinion between audit staff and management concerning audit exceptions and recommendations,with any disputes to be resolved by the audit committee.

### **Risk Assessment**

20. Before submitting the acceptable plans, programs, policies, and procedures specified in paragraph 8 of this Order, Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity shall retain an independent consultant acceptable to the Reserve Bank to conduct a comprehensive assessment of residential mortgage loan servicing risks, including, but not limited to, operational, compliance, transaction, legal, and reputational risks particularly in the areas of residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure. The independent consultant shall prepare a written risk assessment and provide it to Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity at least 120 days before they submit the acceptable plans, programs, policies, and procedures specified in paragraph 8 of this Order, and Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity shall provide the assessment to the Reserve Bank at the same time that it is provided to Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity. The risk assessment shall, at a minimum, address, consider, and include:

 (a) The scope and complexity of the anticipated activities and operations regarding residential mortgage loan servicing, Loss Mitigation, and foreclosure, including functions outsourced to Third-Party Providers;

(b) an evaluation of risk exposures, taking into account risks inherent in the residential mortgage loan servicing operations' business activities and in outsourcing to Third-Party Providers;

(c) an assessment of the effectiveness of controls designed to mitigate each type of risk and identify residual risks; and

(d) recommendations for appropriate risk management.

21. Within 45 days of the engagement of the independent consultant described in paragraph 20 of this Order, but prior to the commencement of the comprehensive risk assessment, Goldman Sachs and the Servicing Entity shall submit to the Reserve Bank for approval an engagement letter that sets forth:

(a) The scope and methodology for conducting the risk assessment, including a detailed description of the areas to be reviewed;

(b) the expertise and resources to be dedicated to the risk assessment; and

(c) a commitment that any or workpapers associated with the risk assessment will be made available to the Reserve Bank upon request.

# **Responsibility for Future Civil Money Penalty**

22. Goldman Sachs and the Bank shall be responsible for the payment of any civil money penalties assessed by the Board of Governors for the conduct described above that Goldman Sachs, through Litton, allegedly engaged in in connection with the process leading to certain foreclosures involving the Servicing Portfolio.

# Notices

- 23. All communications regarding this Order shall be sent to:
  - (a) Michael F. Silva Senior Vice President
     Financial Institution Supervision Group Federal Reserve Bank of New York
     33 Liberty Street
     New York, New York 10045

(b) Alan Cohen
 Global Head of Compliance
 The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.
 200 West Street
 New York, New York 10281

(c) Esta Stecher
 Chief Executive Officer
 Goldman Sachs Bank USA
 200 West Street
 New York, New Yor, 10281

# Miscellaneous

24. The provisions of this Order shall be binding on Goldman Sachs and the Bank, and each of their institution-affiliated parties in their capacities as such, and their successors and assigns.

25. Each provision of this Order shall remain effective and enforceable until stayed, modified, terminated, or suspended in writing by the Reserve Bank.

26. Notwithstanding any provision of this Order, the Reserve Bank may, in its sole discretion, grant written extensions of time to Goldman Sachs and the Bank to comply with any provision of this Order.

27. If Goldman Sachs, the Bank, or the Servicing Entity believes that compliance with any provision of paragraphs 4, 10, 12, or 13 of this Order would not be legally permissible or would require it to breach any existing contractual obligation to an investor, Goldman Sachs, the Bank, or the Servicing Entity as applicable, may make a written submission to the Board of Governors and the Reserve Bank. The written submission shall include the following: (1) specific identification of the legal requirement or contractual or obligation that would be breached, and the likely consequences of any such breach; (2) a complete description of all good faith efforts undertaken by it to secure a modification of the contractual obligation or a waiver of

its applicability in order to avoid any conflict between the requirements of this Order and the contractual obligation; and (3) any alternative approaches to satisfying the intent of the provision of the Order involved that would not cause a breach of the legal requirement or contractual obligation. Any such submission shall include a detailed opinion of experienced counsel with respect to the asserted conflict between compliance with this Order and the legal requirement or contractual obligation, a copy of the contract involved, and such other information as is necessary to evaluate the submission. A submission pursuant to this paragraph shall be made no later than 30 days before the deadline for submitting an otherwise acceptable plan, policies and procedures, or program with respect to the applicable paragraph. Such a submission in no way relieves Goldman Sachs, the Bank or the Servicing Entity from the obligation to fully comply with this Order, including the applicable paragraph. Following review of the submission, the Board of Governors, in its discretion, pursuant to authority delegated to the Director of the Division of Banking Supervision and Regulation, and the General Counsel, may modify this Order or may require that Goldman Sachs or the Bank, as applicable, comply with this Order.

28. The provisions of this Order shall not bar, estop, or otherwise prevent the Board of Governors, the Reserve Bank, or any other federal or state agency from taking any further or other action affecting Goldman Sachs, the Bank, or any of their current or former institution-affiliated parties or their successors or assigns.

29. Nothing in this Order, express or implied, shall give to any person or entity, other than the parties hereto, and their successors hereunder, any benefit or any legal or equitable right, remedy, or claim under this Order.

By Order of the Board of Governors effective this 1st day of September, 2011.

THE GOLDMAN SACHS GROUP, INC.

# BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

By: <u>/s/</u> Jeffrey Schroeder Chief Administrative Officer

By: /s/ Jennifer J. Johnson

Secretary of the Board

GOLDMAN SACHS BANK USA

By: /s/ Kevin Byrne Chief Financial Officer