# #2019-065

# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY

# In the Matter of:

Synergy One Lending, Inc. San Diego, California, An operating subsidiary of

Mutual of Omaha Bank Omaha, Nebraska AA-WE-2019-84

## **CONSENT ORDER**

WHEREAS, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency ("OCC") has supervisory authority over Mutual of Omaha Bank, Omaha, Nebraska, including its operating subsidiary Synergy One Lending, Inc., San Diego, California (collectively, "Bank");

WHEREAS, the OCC intends to initiate civil money penalty proceedings against the Bank pursuant to section 102(f) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act, as amended ("Flood Act") (42 U.S.C. § 4012a(f)) for a pattern or practice of violation of the Flood Act and its implementing regulations, specifically 12 C.F.R. § 22.3, 12 C.F.R. § 22.9, and 12 C.F.R. § 22.10;

WHEREAS, in the interest of cooperation and to avoid additional costs associated with administrative and judicial proceedings with respect to the above matter, the Bank, by and through its duly elected and acting Board of Directors ("Board"), consents to the issuance of this Consent Order ("Order"), by the OCC through the duly authorized representative of the Comptroller of the Currency ("Comptroller"); and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the above premises, the Comptroller, through his duly authorized representative, and the Bank, through its duly elected and acting Board of Directors, stipulate and agree to the following:

### **ARTICLE I**

## **JURISDICTION**

(1) The Bank is a federal savings association, chartered and examined by the Comptroller pursuant to the Home Owners' Loan Act, as amended, 12 U.S.C. § 1461 *et seq.*Accordingly, the Bank is an "insured depository institution" as that term is defined in 12 U.S.C. § 1813(c)(2) and is a "regulated lending institution" as that term is defined in 42 U.S.C. § 4003(a)(10).

(2) Synergy One is an operating subsidiary of the Bank and, as such, is subject to regulation and supervision by the Comptroller. *See* 12 C.F.R. § 5.38(e)(3).

(3) Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§ 4003(a)(5) and 4012a(f), the Comptroller is the appropriate "Federal entity for lending regulation" to maintain an enforcement proceeding against the Bank and Synergy One for Flood Act violations.

#### **ARTICLE II**

#### **ORDER FOR A CIVIL MONEY PENALTY**

(1) The Bank shall make payment of a civil money penalty in the total amount of\$98,415, which shall be paid upon the execution of this Order.

(2) The Bank shall make payment in full by check made payable to the National Flood Insurance Program and shall deliver the payment to: Kevin Montgomery, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 400 C Street SW, 3rd Floor, Washington, D.C. 20472. The docket number of this action shall be entered on the check.

(3) The Bank shall submit a copy of the check to the attention of Jenny Small,
 Counsel, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Western District Office, 1225 17th Street,
 Suite 300, Denver, Colorado 80202.

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(4) This Order shall be enforced to the same extent and in the same manner as an effective and outstanding order that has been issued and has become final pursuant to
 12 U.S.C. § 1818(h) and (i) and 42 U.S.C. § 4012a.

## **ARTICLE III**

#### **WAIVERS**

- (1) The Bank, by executing and consenting to this Order, waives:
  - (a) any and all rights to the issuance of a Notice of Charges pursuant to
    12 U.S.C. § 1818 and 42 U.S.C. § 4012a(f)(4), and recognizes that the
    OCC Letter dated October 24, 2019, from Jolene Schack, Assistant
    Deputy Comptroller ("Notice Letter") constitutes a valid substitute notice;
  - (b) any and all procedural rights available in connection with the issuance of this Order;
  - (c) any and all rights to a hearing and a final agency decision pursuant to
    12 U.S.C. § 1818, 42 U.S.C. § 4012a(f)(4), and 12 C.F.R. Part 109;
  - (d) any and all rights to seek any type of administrative or judicial review of this Order;
  - (e) any and all claims for fees, costs, or expenses against the OCC, or any of its officers, employees, or agents related in any way to this enforcement matter or this Order, whether arising under common law or under the terms of any statute, including, but not limited to, the Equal Access to Justice Act, 5 U.S.C. § 504 and 28 U.S.C. § 2412;
  - (f) any and all rights to assert this proceeding, the consent to and/or the issuance of this Order, as the basis for a claim of double jeopardy in any

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pending or future proceeding brought by the United States Department of Justice or any other governmental entity; and

(g) any and all rights to challenge or contest the validity of this Order.

(2) The Bank declares that no separate promise or inducement of any kind has been made by the Comptroller, his agents or employees, to cause or induce the Bank to agree to consent to the issuance of this Order and/or to execute this Order.

(3) It is hereby agreed that the provisions of this Order constitute a settlement of the civil money penalty proceeding contemplated by the Comptroller on the basis of the Bank's violations of the Flood Act and regulations as described in this Order and in the Notice Letter. However, the specific violations described herein may be used by the Comptroller in future enforcement actions to establish a pattern or practice of misconduct or the continuation of a pattern or practice of misconduct.

(4) It is further agreed that the provisions of this Order shall not be construed as an adjudication on the merits and, except as set forth above in paragraph (3) of this Article, shall not inhibit, estop, bar, or otherwise prevent the Comptroller from taking any action affecting the Bank if, at any time, he deems it appropriate to do so to fulfill the responsibilities placed upon him by the several laws of the United States of America.

(5) The Bank understands that nothing herein shall preclude any proceedings brought by the Comptroller to enforce the terms of this Order, and that nothing herein constitutes, nor shall the Bank contend that it constitutes, a waiver of any right, power, or authority of any other representatives of the United States or agencies thereof, including the Department of Justice, to bring other actions deemed appropriate.

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IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the undersigned, authorized by the Comptroller as his

duly authorized representative, has hereunto set her signature on behalf of the Comptroller.

//s// Digitally Signed, Date: 2019.11.21

Jolene M. Schack Assistant Deputy Comptroller Omaha Field Office **IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF,** the undersigned, as the duly elected and acting Board of Directors of the Bank have hereunto set their signatures on behalf of the Bank.

/s/	11/22/2019
James T. Blackledge	Date
/s/	11/22/19
Frank L. Hayes	Date
/s/	11/21/19
George A. Little	Date
/s/	
Rodrigo Lopez	Date
/s/	11/21/19
Deborah J. Matz	Date
/s/	11/22/19
John E. Nahas	Date
/s/	11-22-2019
Jeffrey R. Schmid	Date