

**ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
INSURANCE REGULATION**

CHAPTER 482-1-077

**THE USE OF CLEARING CORPORATIONS AND FEDERAL RESERVE
BOOK ENTRY SYSTEM BY DOMESTIC INSURANCE COMPANIES**

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482-1-077-.01 Authority. This chapter is adopted pursuant to Section 27-2-17, Code of Alabama 1975.

Author: Commissioner of Insurance

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama 1975, § 27-2-17

History: New November 13, 1986, Effective February 14, 1987; Supplemented May 29, 1990, Effective July 1, 1990; Revised January 25, 1996, Effective February 5, 1996; Revised May 27, 2003, Effective June 9, 2003

482-1-077-.02 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to define the use of clearing corporations and Federal Reserve Book-Entry Systems by domestic insurance companies and set out requirements of custody agreements.

Author: Commissioner of Insurance

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama 1975, § 27-2-17

History: New November 13, 1986, Effective February 14, 1987; Supplemented May 29, 1990, Effective July 1, 1990; Revised January 25, 1996, Effective February 5, 1996; Revised May 27, 2003, Effective June 9, 2003

482-1-077-.03 Definitions. The following definitions shall apply for the purposes of this chapter:

(a) AGENT. A national bank, state bank or trust company that maintains an account in its name in a clearing corporation or that is a member of the Federal Reserve System and through which a custodian participates in a clearing corporation or the Federal Reserve book-entry system, except that with respect to securities issued by institutions organized or existing under the laws of a foreign country or securities used to meet the deposit requirements pursuant to the laws of a foreign country as a condition of doing business therein, "agent" may include a corporation that is organized or existing under the laws of a foreign country and that is legally qualified under those laws to accept custody of securities.

(b) CLEARING CORPORATION. A corporation as defined in Section 7-8-102 (a)(5), Code of Alabama 1975, that is organized for the purpose of effecting transactions in securities by computerized book-entry, except that with respect to securities issued by institutions organized or existing under the laws of a foreign country or securities used to meet the deposit requirements pursuant to the laws of a foreign country as a condition of doing business therein, "clearing corporation" may include a corporation that is organized

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or existing under the laws of a foreign country and which is legally qualified under those laws to effect transactions in securities by computerized book-entry.

(c) CUSTODIAN. A national bank, state bank or trust company that shall at all times during which it acts as a custodian pursuant to this chapter be no less than adequately capitalized as determined by the standards adopted by United States banking regulators and that is regulated by either state banking laws or is a member of the Federal Reserve System and that is legally qualified to accept custody of securities in accordance with the standards set forth below, except that with respect to securities issued by institutions organized or existing under the laws of a foreign country, or securities used to meet the deposit requirements pursuant to the laws of a foreign country as a condition of doing business therein, "custodian" may include a bank or trust company incorporated or organized under the laws of a country other than the United States that is regulated as such by that country's government or an agency thereof that shall at all times during which it acts as a custodian pursuant to this chapter be no less than adequately capitalized as determined by the standards adopted by international banking authorities and that is legally qualified to accept custody of securities.

(d) FEDERAL RESERVE BOOK-ENTRY SYSTEM. The computerized systems sponsored by the United States Department of the Treasury and certain agencies and instrumentalities of the United States for holding and transferring securities of the United States government and the agencies and instrumentalities, respectively, in Federal Reserve Banks through banks which are members of the Federal Reserve System or which otherwise have access to such computerized systems.

(e) SECURITIES. Certificated securities and uncertificated securities as defined in Sections 7-8-102 (a)(4) and 7-8-102(a)(18), Code of Alabama 1975.

Author: Commissioner of Insurance

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama 1975, § 27-2-17

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482-1-077-.04 Custody Agreement; Requirements.

(1) An insurance company may, by written agreement with a custodian, provide for the custody of its securities with a custodian. The securities may be held by the custodian or its agent or in a clearing corporation or in the Federal Reserve book-entry system. Securities so held, whether held by the custodian or its agent or in a clearing corporation or in the Federal Reserve book-entry system, are referred to herein as "custodied securities".

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(2) The agreement shall be in writing and shall be authorized by a resolution of the board of directors of the insurance company or of an authorized committee of the board. The terms of the agreement shall comply with all of the following:

(a) Certificated securities held by the custodian shall be held either separate from the securities of the custodian and of all of its other customers or in a fungible bulk of securities as part of a Filing of Securities by Issue (FOSBI) arrangement.

(b) Securities held in a fungible bulk by the custodian and securities in a clearing corporation or in the Federal Reserve book-entry system shall be separately identified on the custodian's official records as being owned by the insurance company. The records shall identify which custodied securities are held by the custodian or by its agent and which securities are in a clearing corporation or in the Federal Reserve book-entry system. If the securities are in a clearing corporation in book entry form or in the Federal Reserve book-entry system, the records shall also identify where the securities are and, if in a clearing corporation, the name of the clearing corporation and, if through an agent, the name of the agent.

(c) All custodied securities that are registered shall be registered in the name of the company or in the name of a nominee of the company or, if in a clearing corporation in the name of the clearing corporation or its nominee.

(d) Custodied securities shall be held subject to the instructions of the insurance company and shall be withdrawable upon the demand of the insurance company, except that custodied securities used to meet the deposit requirements set forth in Sections 27-3-11, 27-3-12, 27-3-13, 27-3-14, 27-3-15, 27-3-16, 27-21A-12, and 27-30-18, Code of Alabama 1975, shall, to the extent required by those sections, be under the control of the Commissioner of Insurance and shall not be withdrawn by the insurance company without the approval of the Commissioner of Insurance.

(e) The custodian shall agree in writing to submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Alabama upon a declaration of insolvency of the company, and the custodied securities shall be subject to the instructions of the Commissioner of Insurance for the benefit of policyholders and shall be withdrawn only upon the demand of the Commissioner of Insurance.

(f) The custodian shall be required to send or cause to be sent to the insurance company a confirmation of all transfers of custodied securities to or from the account of the insurance company. In addition, the custodian shall be required to furnish no less than monthly the insurance company with reports of holdings of custodied securities at times and containing information reasonably requested by the insurance company. The custodian's trust committee's annual reports of its review of the insurer's trust accounts shall also be provided to the insurer. Reports and verifications may be transmitted in electronic or paper form.

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(g) During the course of the custodian's regular business hours, an officer or employee of the insurance company, an independent accountant selected by the insurance company, and a representative of an appropriate regulatory body shall be entitled to examine, on the premises of the custodian, the custodian's records relating to custodied securities, but only upon furnishing the custodian with written instructions to that effect from an appropriate officer of the insurance company.

(h) The custodian and its agents shall be required to send to the insurance company both of the following:

1. All reports which they received from a clearing corporation or the Federal Reserve book-entry system on their respective systems of internal accounting control.

2. Reports prepared by outside auditors on the custodians or its agent's internal accounting control of custodied securities that the insurance company may reasonably request.

(i) The custodian shall maintain records sufficient to determine and verify information relating to custodied securities that may be reported in the insurance company's annual statement and supporting schedules and information required in an audit of the financial statements of the insurance company.

(j) The custodian shall provide, upon written request from an appropriate officer of the insurance company, the appropriate affidavits, substantially in the form set forth at the end of this chapter, with respect to custodied securities.

(k) The custodian shall be obligated to indemnify the insurance company for any loss of custodied securities occasioned by the negligence or dishonesty of the custodian's officers or employees, or burglary, robbery, holdup, theft, or mysterious disappearance, including loss by damage or destruction.

(l) In the event there is a loss of custodied securities for which the custodian shall be obligated to indemnify the insurance company as provided in Subparagraph (i) above, the custodian shall promptly replace the securities or the value thereof and the value of any loss of rights or privileges resulting from the loss of securities.

(m) The agreement may provide that the custodian will not be liable for a failure to take an action required under the agreement in the event and to the extent that the taking of the action is prevented or delayed by war (whether declared or not and including existing wars), revolution, insurrection, riot, civil commotion, act of God, accident, fire, explosion, stoppage of labor, strikes or other differences with employees, laws, regulations, orders or other acts of any governmental authority, or any other cause whatever beyond its reasonable control.

(n) In the event the custodian gains entry in a clearing corporation or in the Federal Reserve book-entry system through an agent, there shall be an agreement between the

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custodian and the agent under which the agent shall be subject to the same liability for loss of custodied securities as the custodian. However, if the agent shall be subject to regulation under the laws of a jurisdiction that is different from the jurisdiction the laws of which regulate the custodian, the Commissioner of Insurance of the state of domicile of the insurance company may accept a standard of liability applicable to the agent that is different from the standard of liability applicable to the custodian.

(o) The custody agreement is of no force and effect until the Commissioner approves, in writing, the custody agreement.

(p) The custodian shall secure and maintain insurance protection in an adequate amount covering the custodian's duties and activities as custodian for the insurer's assets, and shall state in the custody agreement that protection is in compliance with the requirements of the custodian's banking regulator. The commissioner may determine whether the type of insurance is appropriate and the amount of coverage is adequate.

(q) The custodian shall provide written notification to the insurer's domiciliary commissioner if the custodial agreement with the insurer has been terminated or if 100% of the account assets in any one custody account have been withdrawn. This notification shall be remitted to the insurance commissioner within three (3) business day of the receipt by the custodian of the insurer's written notice of termination or within three (3) business days of the withdrawal of 100% of the account assets.

(3) Any securities that are not held in compliance with this chapter shall be not admissible assets for financial reporting purposes.

Author: Commissioner of Insurance

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama 1975, § 27-2-17

History: New November 13, 1986, Effective February 14, 1987; Supplemented May 29, 1990, Effective July 1, 1990; Revised January 25, 1996, Effective February 5, 1996; Revised May 27, 2003, Effective June 9, 2003.

482-1-077-.05 Severability. If any portion of this chapter or its applicability to any person or circumstance is held invalid by a court, the remainder of the chapter or the applicability of the provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

Author: Commissioner of Insurance

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama 1975, § 27-2-17

History: New November 13, 1986, Effective February 14, 1987; Supplemented May 29, 1990, Effective July 1, 1990; Revised January 25, 1996, Effective February 5, 1996; Revised May 27, 2003, Effective June 9, 2003.

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482-1-077-.06 Effective date. This chapter shall be effective upon its approval by the commissioner of insurance and upon its having been on file as a public document in the office of the Secretary of State for ten days.

Author: Commissioner of Insurance

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama 1975, § 27-2-17

History: New November 13, 1986, Effective February 14, 1987; Supplemented May 29, 1990, Effective July 1, 1990; Revised January 25, 1996, Effective February 5, 1996; Revised May 27, 2003, Effective June 9, 2003.

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That, to the best of his knowledge and belief, unless otherwise shown on the schedule, said securities were the property of said insurance company and were free of all liens, claims or encumbrances whatsoever.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ____ day of _____, 19__.

Vice President [or other authorized officer]

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Subscribed and sworn to before me this ____ day of _____, 19__.

Vice President [or other authorized officer]

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Subscribed and sworn to before me this ____ day of _____, 19__.

Vice President [or other authorized officer]