#### **EMPLOYMENT VERIFICATIONS**

SERVICE DESCRIPTION OVERVIEW

## Parties to Verifications.

EWS is authorized by Customer to provide employment and income verification of Customer's employees. The Service is designed to assist (i) Customer, (ii) employees of Customer, and (iii) commercial, private, non-profit and governmental entities ("Verifiers") who wish to verify an employee's employment and/or income.

#### Customer Interests.

Customer provides Data to EWS on a regular basis and EWS provides employment and/or income verifications to Verifiers. For a Manual Verification, EWS, when requested by Verifiers and as Customer's sole agent, will request employment verifications via phone, fax or automated request as agreed upon by the parties, and Customer will provide Data to EWS upon request.

EWS does not guarantee the accuracy of Data provided by Customer. EWS will assure due diligence is taken to protect Customer Data in accordance with good industry practices.

EWS may use Customer's name in routine communications EWS undertakes to Verifiers, to inform Verifiers of participation by Customers in the Service in order to serve Customers more efficiently and to reduce calls to Customers from Verifiers.

## Employee Interests.

Employees of Customer may need verification of employment and/or income to qualify for home loans, automobile loans, chattel loans, social services programs, confirm immigration status or obtain worker's compensation payments. The Employment Verifications service provides the necessary verification on a timely basis.

#### Verifier Interests.

Verifiers may obtain different amounts of information and in different manners dependent on the nature of the Verifier and the nature of the relationship with EWS. Verifiers may be commercial verifiers such as mortgage lenders, pre-employment screeners, automobile lenders, property managers, parties to consumer lending and others; social service agencies seeking to qualify an employee for social service assistance; child support agencies providing support for dependent children; immigration officials needing confirmation of employment; insurers; law enforcement agencies; or other Verifiers with a need to verify employment or income.

EWS will serve the interests of Customer, employees of Customer and Verifiers (i) by providing verifications to relieve the employer of the burden of employment and income verification obligations as often as practicable; (ii) by providing verifications where the employee has applied for a benefit (such as a job application, qualification for social services assistance or a loan application) or has obtained a benefit and the Verifier is seeking to determine whether the employee is qualified to receive the benefit or is seeking to enforce obligations undertaken by the employee in connection with the benefit; (iii) by providing verifications where the employee is obligated by Federal, state or local law to provide the verification information to the Verifier; and (iv) by providing analytics, modeling and/or demographic studies that will not include any information that individually, or collectively, could be used to specifically identify either Customer or Customer's employees.

## Fair Credit Reporting Act.

EWS is a Consumer Reporting Agency ("CRA"), as defined by the FCRA. As such, EWS complies with the FCRA in providing the Service. EWS's FCRA compliance enhances the protections available to Customer's employees, with respect to the privacy and accuracy of the Data. Customer acknowledges that EWS has the responsibility to maintain Data accuracy as required under the FCRA, and grants EWS the authority necessary to fulfill this responsibility.

## **Modification of Service Description**

EWS reserves the right to modify the Service from time to time. If the modification shall be a substantial change from this Service Description Overview, EWS shall provide written notice of the change to Customer. A substantial change shall be a change which is inconsistent with this Service Description Overview. A change that does not alter functionality of the Service, such as a change for upgraded security of Data, is not a substantial change. Customer may terminate the Service by written notice to EWS within thirty (30) days after notice of a substantial change to the Service Description Overview. Such termination shall be effective ninety (90) days after notice is provided unless Customer provides for an earlier or later effective date of termination in the notice of termination. Absence of such termination shall constitute Customer's agreement to the modified Service Description Overview.

All furnishers of consumer reports must comply with all applicable regulations, including regulations promulgated after this notice was first prescribed in 2004. Information about applicable regulations currently in effect can be found at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's website, consumerfinance.gov/learnmore.

# NOTICE TO FURNISHERS OF INFORMATION: OBLIGATIONS OF FURNISHERS UNDER THE FCRA

The federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), 15 U.S.C. § 1681-1681y, imposes responsibilities on all persons who furnish information to consumer reporting agencies (CRAs). These responsibilities are found in Section 623 of the

FCRA, 15 U.S.C. § 1681s-2. State law may impose additional requirements on furnishers. All furnishers of information to CRAs should become familiar with the applicable laws and may want to consult with their counsel to ensure that they are in compliance. The text of the FCRA is set forth in full at the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection's website at **consumerfinance.gov/learnmore**. A list of the Sections of the FCRA cross-referenced to the U.S. Code is at the end of this document.

Section 623 imposes the following duties:

## **Accuracy Guidelines**

The banking and credit union regulators and the CFPB will promulgate guidelines and regulations dealing with the accuracy of information provided to CRAs by furnishers. The regulations and guidelines issued by the CFPB will be available at **consumerfinance.gov/learnmore** when they are issued. Section 623(e).

## General Prohibition on Reporting Inaccurate Information

The FCRA prohibits information furnishers from providing information to a CRA that they know or have reasonable cause to believe is inaccurate. However, the furnisher is not subject to this general prohibition if it clearly and conspicuously specifies an address to which consumers may write to notify the furnisher that certain information is inaccurate. Sections 623(a) (1) (A) and (a) (1) (C).

## **Duty to Correct and Update Information**

If at any time a person who regularly and in the ordinary course of business furnishes information to one or more CRAs determines that the information provided is not complete or accurate, the furnisher must promptly provide complete and accurate information to the CRA. In addition, the furnisher must notify all CRAs that received the information of any corrections and must thereafter report only the complete and accurate information. Section 623(a)(2).

# Duties After Notice of Dispute from Consumer

If a consumer notifies a furnisher, at an address specified by the furnisher for such notices, that specific information is inaccurate, and the information is, in fact, inaccurate, the furnisher must thereafter report the correct information to CRAs. Section 623(a) (1) (B).

If a consumer notifies a furnisher that the consumer disputes the completeness or accuracy of any information reported by the furnisher, the furnisher may not subsequently report that information to a CRA without providing notice of the dispute. Section 623(a)(3).

The federal banking and credit union regulators and the CFPB will issue regulations that will identify when an information furnisher must investigate a dispute made directly to the furnisher by a consumer. Once these regulations are issued, furnishers must comply with them and complete an investigation within 30 days (or 45 days, if the consumer later provides relevant additional information) unless the dispute is frivolous or irrelevant or comes from a "credit repair organization." The CFPB regulations will be available at **consumerfinance.gov**. Section 623(a)(8).

## Duties After Notice of Dispute from Consumer Reporting Agency

If a CRA notifies a furnisher that a consumer disputes the completeness or accuracy of information provided by the furnisher, the furnisher has a duty to follow certain procedures. The furnisher must:

- Conduct an investigation and review all relevant information provided by the CRA, including information given to the CRA by the consumer. Sections 623(b)(1)(A) and (b)(1)(B).
- Report the results to the CRA that referred the dispute, and, if the investigation establishes that the information was, in fact, incomplete or inaccurate, report the results to all CRAs to which the furnisher provided the information that compile and maintain files on a nationwide basis. Sections 623(b)(1)(C) and (b)(1)(D).
- Complete the above steps within 30 days from the date the CRA receives the dispute (or 45 days, if the consumer later provides relevant additional information to the CRA). Section 623(b)(2).
- Promptly modify or delete the information or block its reporting. Section 623(b) (1) (E).

## Duty to Report Voluntary Closing of Credit Accounts

If a consumer voluntarily closes a credit account, any person who regularly and in the ordinary course of business furnishes information to one or more CRAs must report this fact when it provides information to CRAs for the time period in which the account was closed. Section 623(a) (4).

	15 U.S.C. 1681	Section 615	15 U.S.C. 1681m
Section 603	15 U.S.C. 1681a	Section 616	15 U.S.C. 1681n
Section 604	15 U.S.C. 1681b	Section 617	15 U.S.C. 1681o
Section 605	15 U.S.C. 1681c	Section 618	15 U.S.C. 1681p
Section 605A	15 U.S.C. 1681c-1	Section 619	15 U.S.C. 1681q
Section 605B	15 U.S.C. 1681c-2	Section 620	15 U.S.C. 1681r
Section 606	15 U.S.C. 1681d	Section 621	15 U.S.C. 1681s
Section 607	15 U.S.C. 1681e	Section 622	15 U.S.C. 1681s-1
Section 608	15 U.S.C. 1681f	Section 623	15 U.S.C. 1681s-2
Section 609	15 U.S.C. 1681g	Section 624	15 U.S.C. 1681t
Section 610	15 U.S.C. 1681h	Section 625	15 U.S.C. 1681u
Section 611	15 U.S.C. 1681i	Section 626	15 U.S.C. 1681v
Section 612	15 U.S.C. 1681j	Section 627	15 U.S.C. 1681w
Section 613	15 U.S.C. 1681k	Section 628	15 U.S.C. 1681x
Section 614	15 U.S.C. 1681I	Section 629	15 U.S.C. 1681y

## Duty to Report Dates of Delinquencies

If a furnisher reports information concerning a delinquent account placed for collection, charged to profit or loss, or subject to any similar action, the furnisher must, within 90 days after reporting the information, provide the CRA with the month and the year of the commencement of the delinquency that immediately preceded the action, so that the agency will know how long to keep the information in the consumer's file. Section 623(a) (5).

Any person, such as a debt collector, that has acquired or is responsible for collecting delinquent accounts and that reports information to CRAs may comply with the requirements of Section 623(a) (5) (until there is a consumer dispute) by reporting the same delinquency date previously reported by the creditor. If the creditor did not report this date, they may comply with the FCRA by establishing reasonable procedures to obtain and report delinquency dates, or, if a delinquency date cannot be reasonably obtained, by following reasonable procedures to ensure that the date reported precedes the date when the account was placed for collection, charged to profit or loss, or subjected to any similar action. Section 623(a) (5).

## Duties of Financial Institutions When Reporting Negative Information

Financial institutions that furnish information to "nationwide" consumer reporting agencies, as defined in Section 603(p), must notify consumers in writing if they may furnish or have furnished negative information to a CRA. Section 623(a)(7). The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has

prescribed model disclosures, 12 CFR Part 1022, App. B.

## **Duties When Furnishing Medical Information**

A furnisher whose primary business is providing medical services, products, or devices (and such furnisher's agents or assignees) is a medical information furnisher for the purposes of the FCRA and must notify all CRAs to which it reports of this fact. Section 623(a)(9). This notice will enable CRAs to comply with their duties under Section 604(g) when reporting medical information.

#### **Duties when ID Theft Occurs**

All furnishers must have in place reasonable procedures to respond to notifications from CRAs that information furnished is the result of identity theft, and to prevent refurnishing the information in the future. A furnisher may not furnish information that a consumer has identified as resulting from identity theft unless the furnisher subsequently knows or is informed by the consumer that the information is correct. Section 623(a) (6). If a furnisher learns that it has furnished inaccurate information due to identity theft, it must notify each consumer reporting agency of the correct information and must thereafter report only complete and accurate information. Section 623(a) (2). When any furnisher of information is notified pursuant to the procedures set forth in Section 605B that a debt has resulted from identity theft, the furnisher may not sell, transfer, or place for collection the debt except in certain limited circumstances. Section 615(f).

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau website, consumerfinance.gov/learnmore, has more information about the FCRA.

Citations for FCRA sections in the U.S. Code, 15 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.: