

MidSouth Bank
Audit Committee of the Board of Directors Charter
November 30, 2011

I. Purpose and authority

The audit committee is established by and among the board of directors for the primary purpose of assisting the board in:

- Overseeing the integrity of the bank's financial statements and the bank's accounting and financial reporting processes and financial statement audits
- Overseeing the bank's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements
- Overseeing the independent auditor's qualifications and independence
- Overseeing the performance of the bank's independent auditor and internal audit function
- Overseeing the bank's systems of disclosure controls and procedures, internal controls over financial reporting, and compliance with ethical standards adopted by the bank.

Consistent with this function, the audit committee should encourage continuous improvement of, and should foster adherence to, the bank's policies, procedures, and practices at all levels. The audit committee should also provide for open communication among the independent auditor, financial and senior management, the internal audit function, and the board of directors. The audit committee has the authority to conduct investigations into any matters within its scope of responsibility and obtain advice and assistance from outside legal, accounting, or other advisors, as necessary, to perform its duties and responsibilities.

In carrying out its duties and responsibilities, the audit committee shall also have the authority to meet with and seek any information it requires from employees, officers, directors, or external parties. The bank will provide appropriate funding, as determined by the audit committee, for compensation to the independent auditor, to any advisers that the audit committee chooses to engage, and for payment of ordinary administrative expenses of the audit committee that are necessary or appropriate in carrying out its duties.

The audit committee will primarily fulfill its responsibilities by carrying out the activities enumerated in Section III of this charter.

II. Composition and meetings

The audit committee will comprise three or more directors as determined by the board. Each audit committee member will meet the NASDAQ standards of independence and the determination of independence will be made by the board.

All members of the committee must comply with all financial-literacy requirements of the securities exchange(s) on which the bank is listed. To help meet these requirements, the audit committee will provide its members with annual continuing education opportunities as needed in

financial reporting and other areas relevant to the audit committee. At least one member will qualify as an “audit committee financial expert” as defined by the SEC and determined by the board.

Committee members will be approved by the board at the annual organizational meeting of the board to serve until their successors are approved. Unless a chairperson is elected by the full board, the members of the committee may designate a chairperson by majority vote.

The committee will meet at least quarterly, or more frequently as circumstances dictate. The committee chairperson will approve the agenda for the committee’s meetings and any member may suggest items for consideration. Briefing materials will be provided to the committee as far in advance of meetings as practicable. Each regularly scheduled meeting will conclude with an executive session of the committee absent members of management. As part of its responsibility to foster open communication, the committee will meet periodically with management, the internal auditor, and the independent auditor in separate executive sessions. In addition, the committee will meet with the independent auditor and management to discuss the annual audited financial statements and quarterly financial statements, including the bank’s disclosures under “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.”

III. Responsibilities and duties

To fulfill its responsibilities and duties, the audit committee will:

Documents/reports/accounting information review

1. Review this charter at least annually and recommend to the board of directors any necessary amendments.
2. Review the bank’s annual financial statements and quarterly financial statements (prior to the bank’s Form 10-Q filings or release of earnings), as well as all internal control reports (or summaries thereof). Review other relevant reports or financial information submitted by the bank to any governmental body or the public, including management certifications as required by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and relevant reports rendered by the independent auditor (or summaries thereof).
3. Recommend to the board whether the financial statements should be included in the annual report on Form 10-K.
4. Discuss earnings press releases, including the type and presentation of information, paying particular attention to any pro forma or adjusted non-GAAP information. Such discussions may be in general terms (i.e., discussion of the types of information to be disclosed and the type of presentations to be made).

5. Discuss financial information and earnings guidance provided to analysts and ratings agencies. Such discussions may be in general terms (i.e., discussion of the types of information to be disclosed and the type of presentations to be made).
6. Review the regular internal reports to management (or summaries thereof) prepared by the internal audit function, as well as management's response.

Independent auditor

7. Appoint (and recommend that the board submit for shareholder ratification, if applicable), compensate, retain, and oversee the work performed by the independent auditor retained for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or related work. Review the performance and independence of the independent auditor and remove the independent auditor if circumstances warrant. The independent auditor will report directly to the audit committee and the audit committee will oversee the resolution of disagreements between management and the independent auditor if they arise.
8. Consider whether the auditor's provision of permissible nonaudit services is compatible with the auditor's independence. Discuss with the independent auditor the matters required to be discussed under AU Section 380, as adopted by the PCAOB.
9. Review with the independent auditor any problems or difficulties and management's response.
10. Hold timely discussions with the independent auditor regarding the following:
 - All critical accounting policies and practices
 - All alternative treatments of financial information within generally accepted accounting principles related to material items that have been discussed with management, ramifications of the use of such alternative disclosures and treatments, and the treatment preferred by the independent auditor
 - Other material written communications between the independent auditor and management, including, but not limited to, the management letter and schedule of unadjusted differences
11. At least annually, obtain and review a report by the independent auditor describing:
 - The independent auditor's internal quality-control procedures
 - Any material issues raised by the most recent internal quality-control review or peer review, or by any inquiry or investigation conducted by governmental or professional authorities during the preceding five years with respect to independent audits carried out by the independent auditor, and any steps taken to deal with such issues
 - All relationships between the independent auditor and the bank addressing the matters set forth in PCAOB Rule 3526.

This report should be used to evaluate the independent auditor's qualifications, performance, and independence. Further, the committee will review the experience and

qualifications of the lead partner each year and determine that all partner rotation requirements, as promulgated by applicable rules and regulations, are executed.

12. Actively engage in dialogue with the independent auditor with respect to any disclosed relationships or services that may affect the independence and objectivity of the auditor and take appropriate actions to oversee the independence of the outside auditor.
13. Review and preapprove (which may be pursuant to preapproval policies and procedures) both audit and nonaudit services to be provided by the independent auditor. The authority to grant preapprovals may be delegated to one or more designated members of the audit committee, whose decisions will be presented to the full audit committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting.
14. Set policies, consistent with governing laws and regulations, for hiring personnel of the independent auditor

Financial reporting processes, accounting policies, and internal control structure

15. In consultation with the independent auditor and the internal audit function, review the integrity of the bank's financial reporting processes (both internal and external).
16. Periodically review the adequacy and effectiveness of the bank's disclosure controls and procedures and the bank's internal control over financial reporting, including any significant deficiencies and or material weaknesses and significant changes in internal controls
17. Understand the scope of the internal and independent auditors' review of internal control over financial reporting and obtain reports on significant findings and recommendations, together with management responses
18. Receive and review any disclosure from the bank's CEO or CFO made in connection with the certification of the bank's quarterly and annual reports filed with the SEC of: a) significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the bank's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data; and b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the bank's internal controls
19. Review major issues regarding accounting principles and financial statement presentations, including any significant changes in the bank's selection or application of accounting principles; major issues as to the adequacy of the bank's internal controls; and any special audit steps adopted in light of material control deficiencies
20. Review analyses prepared by management (and the independent auditor as noted in item 11 above) setting forth significant financial reporting issues and judgments made in

connection with the preparation of the financial statements, including analyses of the effects of alternative GAAP methods on the financial statements, if applicable.

21. Review the effect of regulatory and accounting initiatives, as well as off-balance-sheet structures, on the financial statements of the bank
22. Review all related-party transactions, defined as those transactions required to be disclosed under Item 404 of Regulation S-K
23. Establish and oversee procedures for the receipt, retention, and treatment of complaints regarding accounting, internal accounting controls, or auditing matters, including procedures for confidential, anonymous submissions by bank employees regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters

Internal audit

24. Review and advise on the selection and removal of the internal auditor.
25. Review the activities and organizational structure of the internal audit function, as well as the qualifications of its personnel.
26. Periodically review, with the internal auditor, any significant difficulties, disagreements with management, or scope restrictions encountered in the course of the function's work.
27. Periodically review, with the independent auditor, the internal audit function's responsibility, budget, and staffing.

Ethical compliance, legal compliance, and risk management

28. Oversee and review the bank's system for receipt, retention and treatment of complaints to the company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters and for the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of accounting or auditing issues.
29. Review, with the bank's counsel, legal compliance and legal matters that could have a significant impact on the bank's financial statements.
30. Discuss policies with respect to risk assessment and risk management, including appropriate guidelines and policies to govern the process, as well as the bank's major financial risk exposures and the steps management has undertaken to control them.
31. Consider the risk of management's ability to override the bank's internal controls.

Reporting

32. Report regularly to the board regarding the execution of the audit committee's duties and responsibilities, activities, any issues encountered, and related recommendations.
33. Review and approve reports required to be included in the bank's annual proxy statement.

Other responsibilities

34. Review, with the independent auditor, the internal audit function, and management, the extent to which changes or improvements in financial or accounting practices have been implemented.
35. Review, with management, the bank's accounting function, including its budget, organization, and quality of personnel.
36. Conduct an annual performance assessment relative to the audit committee's purpose, duties, and responsibilities outlined herein.
37. Perform any other activities consistent with this charter, the bank's bylaws, and governing laws that the board or audit committee determines are necessary or appropriate.