

Table of Contents for Debt Collection Practices (Regulation F) Final Rule

Final rule to revise Regulation F, 12 CFR part 1006, to prescribe Federal rules governing the activities of debt collectors

(Docket No. CFPB-2019-0022, RIN 3170-AA41)

I. Summary of the Final Rule.....	2
A. Coverage and Organization of the Final Rule	3
B. Scope of the Final Rule.....	3
II. Background	5
A. Debt Collection Market Background	5
B. Debt Collection Methods.....	6
C. Consumer Protection Concerns	8
D. FDCPA and Dodd-Frank Act Protections for Consumers.....	9
III. Summary of the Rulemaking Process.....	10
A. The November 2020 Final Rule	10
B. The 2019 Proposal and 2020 Supplemental Proposal.....	11
C. Consumer Testing.....	12
D. Other Outreach.....	15
IV. Legal Authority	17
A. FDCPA Sections 806 through 808	18
B. Dodd-Frank Act Section 1032.....	21
C. Other Authorities Under the Dodd-Frank Act	21
V. Section-by-Section Analysis	22
Subpart A—General.....	22
Section 1006.1 Authority, Purpose, and Coverage	22
1(c) Coverage	22
Section 1006.2 Definitions	23
2(e) Consumer.....	23
2(f) Consumer Financial Product or Service.....	35

Subpart B—Rules for FDCPA Debt Collectors.....	36
Section 1006.26 Collection of Time-Barred Debts.....	36
26(a) Definitions	37
26(a)(1) Statute of Limitations	37
26(a)(2) Time-Barred Debt	40
26(b) Legal Actions and Threats of Legal Actions Prohibited	42
Section 1006.30 Other Prohibited Practices	63
30(a) Required Actions Prior to Furnishing Information.....	63
30(a)(1) In General	64
30(a)(2) Special Rule—Information Furnished to Certain Specialty Consumer Reporting Agencies	72
Section 1006.34 Notice for Validation of Debts	76
34(a) Validation Information Required.....	78
34(a)(1) In General.....	78
34(a)(2) Exception	84
34(b) Definitions	85
34(b)(1) Clear and Conspicuous.....	86
34(b)(2) Initial Communication.....	89
34(b)(3) Itemization Date.....	95
34(b)(4) Validation Notice	112
34(b)(5) Validation Period.....	112
34(c) Validation Information	119
34(c)(1) Debt Collector Communication Disclosure	120
34(c)(2) Information About the Debt	122
34(c)(3) Information About Consumer Protections.....	158
34(c)(4) Consumer-Response Information	178
34(c)(5) Special Rule for Certain Residential Mortgage Debt	192

34(d) Form of Validation Information.....	196
34(d)(1) In General	196
34(d)(2) Safe Harbor	199
34(d)(3) Optional Disclosures.....	217
34(d)(4) Validation Notices Delivered Electronically	243
34(e) Translation into Other Languages.....	246
 Section 1006.38 Disputes and Requests for Original-Creditor Information.....	 251
38(a) Definitions	253
38(a)(2) Validation Period.....	253
38(b) Overshadowing of Rights to Dispute or Request Original-Creditor Information	253
38(c) Requests for Original-Creditor Information	256
 Section 1006.42 Sending Required Disclosures.....	 261
42(a) Sending Required Disclosures.....	261
42(a)(2) Exceptions	261
42(b) Requirements for Certain Disclosures Sent Electronically	262
Subpart C—Reserved.....	263
Subpart D—Miscellaneous	263
 Section 1006.100 Record Retention	 263
100(a) In General.....	263
 Section 1006.104 Relation to State Laws.....	 263
 VI. Effective Date.....	 265
 VII. Dodd-Frank Act Section 1022(b) Analysis	 267

A. Overview.....	267
B. Provisions to Be Analyzed.....	270
C. Data Limitations and Quantification of Benefits, Costs, and Impacts.....	270
D. Baseline for Analysis.....	272
E. Goals of the Rule.....	273
F. Coverage of the Rule.....	274
G. Potential Benefits and Costs to Consumers and Covered Persons.....	274
1. Time-barred debt: prohibiting suits and threats of suit.....	275
2. Notice for validation of debts	278
3. Required actions prior to furnishing information	298
H. Potential Reduction of Access by Consumers to Consumer Financial Products and Services.....	305
I. Potential Specific Impacts of the Rule.....	306
1. Depository Institutions and Credit Unions With \$10 Billion or Less in Total Assets, as Described in Section 1026	306
2. Impact of the Final Rule on Consumers in Rural Areas.....	306
VIII. Final Regulatory Flexibility Act Analysis	307
A. Statement of the Objectives of, and Legal Basis for, the Final Rule.....	308
B. Significant Issues Raised by the Public Comments in Response to the Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis	309
C. Response to Any Comments Filed by the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration.....	309
D. Description and, Where Feasible, Provision of an Estimate of the Number of Small Entities to which the Final Rule Will Apply	311
E. Projected Reporting, Recordkeeping, and other Compliance Requirements of the Rule, Including an Estimate of Classes of Small Entities that Will	

Be Subject to the Requirements and the Type of Professional Skills Necessary for the Preparation of the Report or Record.....	315
F. Description of Any Significant Alternatives to the Rule that Accomplish the Stated Objectives of the Applicable Statutes and Minimize Any Significant Economic Impact of the Rule on Small Entities.....	316
G. Discussion of Impact on Cost of Credit for Small Entities.....	316
IX. Paperwork Reduction Act	318
X. Congressional Review Act	320
XI. Signing Authority	321
List of Subjects in 12 CFR Part 1006	321
Authority and Issuance.....	321
PART 1006—DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES (REGULATION F).....	321
Subpart A—General.....	321
§ 1006.1 Authority, purpose, and coverage.....	321
§ 1006.2 Definitions.	322
Subpart B—Rules for FDCPA Debt Collectors.....	322
§ 1006.26 Collection of time-barred debts.	322
§ 1006.30 Other prohibited practices.....	323
§ 1006.34 Notice for validation of debts.....	324
§ 1006.38 Disputes and requests for original-creditor information.	333
§ 1006.42 Sending required disclosures.....	334
Appendix B to part 1006—Model Forms	335
B-1 Model Form for Validation Notice.....	335
Supplement I to Part 1006—Official Interpretations.....	336
Subpart B—Rules for FDCPA Debt Collectors	336

Section 1006.30—Other Prohibited Practices	336
Section 1006.34—Notice for Validation of Debts	338
Section 1006.38—Disputes and Requests for Original-Creditor Information.....	352
Subpart D—Miscellaneous.....	353
Section 1006.100—Record Retention	353
Section 1006.104—Relation to State Laws.....	354