



A report of issues and topics of interest to Money Service Businesses licensed and registered by the Department of Banking and Finance

October to December 2006, Volume 2, Issue #4

(This Newsletter is a quarterly publication containing topics of interest to the categories of MSBs regulated by the Georgia Department of Banking and Finance. We hope that you will find this publication to be informative and valuable for providing information about the issues affecting your industry. If there are any issues you would like for the Department to highlight or address in future editions, please e-mail your questions or suggestions to dbfmort@dbf.state.ga.us.)

REGULATORY MATTERS

Quarterly Reporting: Check Sellers and Money Transmitters

Beginning in 2005, licensees were required to submit an electronic list of agents/locations, pursuant to Department Regulation 80-3-1-.01. This year, to facilitate and expedite the reporting and updating process, these reports must be made by the licensee on-line. No electronic submissions to this office will be accepted, with the exception of the initial file submitted when a licensee is first approved.

Passwords to the system were provided in a letter notifying licensees of the new process. You may change the password at any time. Quarterly notifications are planned to be sent each licensee, but once users are familiar with the system and have established their own passwords, the quarterly hardcopy notifications may be suspended - licensees will be notified by e-mail only.

Note the screens below. Direct links are available from the Department's MSB website:

http://www.ganet.org/dbf/other_forms.html

QUARTERLY REPORTING FORMS: Sale of Check Companies & Money Transmitters

>>	Quarterly Report for Sale of Check Licensees - Online Link
>>	Quarterly Report for Money Transmitter Licensees - Online Link
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>> **Laws, Regulations and Other Forms**

Or you may use the links noted for each type:

The websites are:

- <https://bkgfin.dbf.state.ga.us/MTQtrReport.html> for Money Transmitters, and:
- <https://bkgfin.dbf.state.ga.us/CSQtrReport.html> for licensed Check Cashers.

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Annual License Renewal - Check Sellers and Money Transmitters

Renewals applications have been mailed to all check seller and money transmitter licensees. Renewals must be completed and submitted on or before November 1, 2006 in order to be considered filed on time and to avoid the late fee.

There is a new format for the report in anticipation of on-line renewals for next year. However, note that as in the past, all required explanations to the questionnaire and any required additional documents **MUST** be attached to the renewal in order to approve the renewal license. Hopefully by renewals for the 2008 period all data entry can be made on-line, along with the submission of any supporting documentation. If you did not receive a copy of the renewal application, please contact Ms. Tervinia Mitchiner at 770/986-1639 or e-mail dbfcorp@dbf.state.ga.us.



Department Proposed Rules Adopted - August 21, 2006

Revisions to the Rules of the Department of Banking and Finance were adopted on August 21, 2006. They were filed with the Secretary of State on August 21, 2006, and became effective September 11, 2006. To see a recap and text of the changes please visit the web at, scrolling down to **SPECIAL BULLETINS**:

<http://www.gadbf.org/bulletins.html#Rules>

The proposed changes were made in part in response to law changes made in the 2006 Legislation. A synopsis and purpose of each adopted rule is presented, along with the changed regulation. The Department believes these Final Rules encourage safety and soundness, and conform to the law. The following is a description of changes made:

.....
80-3-1-.01 Check Sellers and Money Transmitters: Exemptions and Requirements.

O.C.G.A. §7-1-681 provides clarification of who shall obtain a license as a check seller and money transmitter. The language changes to this rule more closely follow the statutory language. The rule updates the submission of interim financial statements and allows for such transmission by electronic means and requires such submission within thirty (30) days (rather than forty-five(45) days) from receipt by the check seller and money transmitter to the Department. Licensees submitting financial statements, in hard copy or electronically, are considered by the Department to be certifying to the material accuracy and validity of the financial statements as submitted. In addition, this check seller and money transmitter rule has been updated by deleting the net worth requirement, however, bonding requirements remain in effect.

Legal authority citations and editorial-type clean up changes were made in this rule.

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80-3-1-.02 Check Cashers.

Terms were updated in this rule by specifying and clarifying the "Registrants" category in the exemptions from licensing requirements.

Legal authority citations and editorial-type clean up changes were also made in this rule.

.....
80-3-1-.03 Money Service Businesses: Compliance with Federal Requirements.

Legal authority citations and editorial-type clean up changes were made in this rule.

.....
80-3-1-.04 Reports of Large Currency Transactions, Recordkeeping, and Suspicious

Activity Reporting Requirements for Check Cashers, Check Sellers and Money Transmitters.

Legal authority citations and editorial-type clean up changes were made in this rule.

.....
80-3-1-.06 Reports of Apparent Criminal Irregularity by Check Cashers, Check Sellers, Money Transmitters, and Agents.

Legal authority citations and editorial-type clean up changes were made in this rule.

.....
80-3-1-.07 Administrative Fines and Penalties.

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Changes and additions were made in the administrative fines which may be imposed for certain violations. Subsections were added to impose fines for check casher violations involving advertising, failure to report return items, failure to submit to examinations, and failure to respond timely to consumer complaints.

Subsections were added to impose fines for check sellers and money transmitters violations involving failure to report, failure to submit to examinations, and failure to respond timely to consumer complaints.

Legal authority citations and editorial-type clean up changes were made in this rule.

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80-3-1-.08 State Requirements for Financial Institutions.

Editorial-type clean-up changes were made in this rule.

.....
80-5-1-.02 License, Registration and Supervision Fees for Check Cashers and Sellers, Money Transmitters, Representative Offices and Mortgage Lenders and Brokers; Due Dates.

This rule presently requires that renewal license fees for check cashers are due on or before the first day of August of each year but did not impose a late fee until September. A change has been made to the rule to assess a late fee on renewal fees received after the August due date. A provision to charge a fee for name permission investigations has been added in order to cover the cost of administering this activity. Legal authority citations and editorial-type clean-up changes were made in this rule.

IN THE NEWS

GTA'S LicenseMatch

The Georgia Technology Authority (GTA), in cooperation with the Department of Driver Services and the Department of Banking and Finance, is in the process of developing a program to provide licensees with an additional resource to detect fraud.

"LicenseMatch" is an on-line ID verification tool. Licensees can use the tool to verify data from the state issued driver's license or ID. A false identity can be revealed if the data on the license or ID and the state's records do not match.

The system provides a simple "Match" or "No Match" message when compared to the state database. It also will alert you to the number of times a person has tried to use the ID in the past 48 hours.

- "No Match" means there is an inconsistency between the data entered and the state's records.
- "Match" provides you a certain level of confidence that the ID is legitimate.

However, due to privacy regulations, LicenseMatch cannot reveal the contents of the state records to the user, but it will allow you another means to validate the ID of those parties to a loan transaction.

The system is still in development and more

information will be provided on access and cost of the system once it is operational. It should become operational in early 2007.

DBF'S E-Mail Subscription Service

The Department plans to offer an online subscription service beginning in late October that will allow subscribers to choose the publications that are of most interest to them and subscribe or unsubscribe to available publications at any time. The subscription list is noted below.

The new online subscription service will allow the Department to deliver publications more efficiently. Subscribers to any of the Department's lists will get periodic publication updates, news releases and information delivered directly to their e-mail account. Subscribers to the Department's lists can expect for e-mail updates to arrive from one of the following addresses, depending on the list(s) they subscribe to. More information will be provided when the system becomes available.

- ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS
- BULLETINS
- LAWS & REGULATIONS
- MSBNEWS
- REPORTS
- SUMMARY

FinCEN Guidance - Independent Reviews

The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network provided additional guidance to money services businesses on Sept. 22 concerning independent reviews of compliance with anti-money laundering requirements. In an update to a question and answer document, FinCEN said money services businesses are not required to hire certified public accountants or outside consultants to conduct reviews of their programs, but should have programs that are appropriate to their level of risk. However, while an independent review maybe conducted by an employee or group of employees, it should not be the compliance officer or someone who reports to the compliance officer. FinCEN said the review should include testing of internal controls and transactional systems and procedures to identify problems and weaknesses and, when necessary, recommend to management appropriate corrective actions. For more information visit FinCEN's website link:

http://www.fincen.gov/reg_faqs.html#q22

CUSTOMER SERVICE GEORGIA

Governor Sonny Perdue has a campaign to put new emphasis on customer service, emphasizing easier access to government services, faster processes so customers can get business done quickly, and friendlier service in a customer-focused, goal-oriented culture. It is the Department's goal to provide excellent customer service, meeting and exceeding the expectations of our customers. Along those lines, we would like to recognize the following individuals for going above and beyond in serving our customers during the past quarter:

Rod Carnes, Deputy Commissioner for Non-Depository Financial Institutions and Joel Byers, Supervisory Manager-MSBs (Non-Depository Financial Institutions): *Rod received an email from a trade association president stating: "I wanted to thank you again for the great presentation that was given at the conference last Friday. It was not only very professional but kept the audience interested in the subject matter."*

Melinda Kinard, Director of Money Service Businesses and Mortgage Licensing: Melinda received an e-mail from a licensee saying: *"Thank you so much and I so appreciate the time you took to answer my questions. You have been most helpful."*

FASTER. FRIENDLIER. EASIER.

CONGRATULATIONS AND GREAT JOB!!



The Department is the state agency that regulates and examines banks, credit unions, and trust companies chartered by the State. The Department also has regulatory and/or licensing authority over mortgage brokers, lenders, and processors, money service businesses, international banking organizations, and bank holding companies conducting business in Georgia.

*Our **MISSION** is to promote safe, sound, competitive financial services in Georgia through innovative, responsive regulation and supervision.*

*Our **VISION** is to be the best financial services industry regulator in the country – Progressive. Proactive. Service-Oriented.*

In Memory Jenny R. Neville (1942 - 2006)



The Department is saddened to report the untimely passing of Jenny Neville on September 11, 2006. Jenny had recently retired from the Department after 24+ years of faithful service. While employed with the Department, she served in various positions of responsibility, both in the field and in the administrative office.

Jenny received an Associates Degree from Columbus College and a BBA from Georgia State University. She began her career with the Department in 1982 and served as a field examiner in Districts 3 (College Park) and 2 (Stone Mountain). She began assisting the Department's Mortgage Division in 1993 as a Consumer Specialist, after having served a number of years as a Senior Financial Examiner in District 2. In October of 1997, she was selected to fill the Legal and Consumer Affairs Specialist position, where she remained until her retirement on July 1, 2006.

Because of the care and responsiveness she demonstrated in assisting consumers, Jenny was selected from a number of candidates as the Department's Customer Service Award recipient in 2004.

Jenny was eager to travel and loved the back roads, was always willing to help anyone if it was within her ability, loved the arts, especially literature and theater, and appreciated her friends.

Jenny had been an active participant, as well as periodic Department Coordinator, for annual CANHunger Holiday Food Drives (Atlanta Community Food Bank) and had been involved in various charitable efforts through her church. Many people were not aware of Jenny's efforts behind the scenes to help and serve others within the DBF family and in the community. Her desire to be of service truly extended beyond her professional role, and she will be truly missed by many.

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ACTION ON APPLICATIONS DURING THE PREVIOUS QUARTER

LicNUM	COMPANYNAME	DBA	City	Type	Approved
21621	EZ Check Cashing, LLC	EZ Check Cashing	LAWRENCEVILLE	L	07/05/2006
21626	Yeonjoo Corporation	Plaza Coin Laundry	DORAVILLE	R	07/05/2006
21643	Guru Nanak, Inc.	Chevron Food Mart	MARIETTA	R	07/05/2006
21652	LADEL5, Inc.	Ladel5	DULUTH	L	07/13/2006
21653	John's Country Junction, Inc.	John's Country Junction	VIDALIA	L	07/13/2006
21667	Hispanic Friends Services, Inc.		ROSWELL	R	07/13/2006
21608	Krishna & Urmi, Inc. /Shell Food Mart	Shell Food Mart	SMYRNA	L	07/14/2006
21677	The Flower Hut, Inc.	Family Gold & Pawn	DOUGLAS	R	07/20/2006
21666	E&J Liquor Store	E&J Liquor Store	ROSWELL	L	07/21/2006
21689	Lafontana, Inc.	Pace Street BP	COVINGTON	L	07/21/2006
21694	Virginia Holdings LLC	Chevron Food Mart	ATLANTA	R	07/24/2006
21695	H.Z.R. Enterprises, Inc.	H.Z.R. Enterprises	EAST POINT	R	07/24/2006
21676	Frost, Gary Alver	Gary's Mini Mart	SYLVANIA	L	07/27/2006
21701	Shri Ila, Inc.	Express Food Mart	FORSYTH	R	07/27/2006
21651	Rozina Enterprises, Inc.	Parker Grocery	CONLEY	L	07/28/2006
21713	H.R.M. Enterprise, Inc.	Money Source	ALPHARETTA	L	07/28/2006
21714	Aiglemont Enterprises, Inc.	Hop N Shop	ROME	R	07/28/2006
21715	Bawoo, Inc.	Get It To Go II	AUGUSTA	R	07/28/2006
21716	Knight, Sun H.	Overpass Package	AUGUSTA	R	07/28/2006
21659	A-One-A Pawn, LLC	A-1 Pawn	TAYLORSVILLE	R	07/31/2006
21743	Infinity Solutions LLC	Infinity Solutions	AUSTELL	L	08/10/2006
21752	New Star Investment, LLC	Global Check Cashing	NORCROSS	L	08/10/2006
21753	Smoke Rise Enterprises, Inc.	Smoke Rise Bottle Shoppe	STONE MOUNTAIN	R	08/11/2006
21693	Haynes, James L.	J. L. Haynes Grocery	WAYCROSS	R	08/14/2006
21717	Auto Pros of North Georgia, Inc.	AutoPro Title Pawn	MABLETON	L	08/14/2006
21750	Zina & Brothers, Inc.	Gantt's Food Store	MARIETTA	R	08/14/2006
21769	Aksharthir, Inc.	Unadilla Mini Food Mart	UNADILLA	R	08/21/2006
21772	Zanesh, LLC	ANI Package Store	WILLACOOCHEE	R	08/21/2006
21770	Colleps, Patsy A.	J & P's Convenient Store	CALHOUN	R	08/22/2006
21773	New America, Inc.	Family Financial Center	RINCON	L	08/22/2006
21786	Angel Investor Group, LLC	Angel Investor Group	NORCROSS	L	08/25/2006
21775	National Title Pawn of Ringgold, Inc.	National Title Pawn of Ringgold	RINGGOLD	L	08/28/2006
21787	Tripo, Inc.	Warehouse Package	ALBANY	R	08/28/2006
21788	Jai Ambe Foods, Inc.	Jai Ambe Foods	MCDONOUGH	L	08/28/2006
21789	Tax Pro Financial Services, Inc.	Tax Pro	STONE MOUNTAIN	L	08/28/2006
21819	World Cash, Inc.	World Cash	MARIETTA	L	09/08/2006



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APPROVED CHECK CASHERS (License/Registration - Continued)

LicNUM	COMPANYNAME	DBA	City	Type	Approved
21820	MDA Services, LLC	Il Postale	LILBURN	L	09/08/2006
21821	Castillo, Jorge Canales	Genesis	CLAYTON	R	09/08/2006
21822	Lim, Duk Taek	M & S Check Cashing	SUWANEE	L	09/08/2006
21823	Jack's Package Shop, Inc.	Jack's Package Shop	SAVANNAH	L	09/08/2006
21835	Emil Kaneti, Inc.	Mr. Check Cashing	AUSTELL	L	09/22/2006
21875	Sapp, Maryann T.	CMS	LOUISVILLE	L	09/22/2006
21899	Patel, Javani T.	Haries 5	PORT WENTWORTH	R	09/29/2006
Total		43			

R=Registrant L=Full Service

APPROVED MONEY TRANSMITTERS

LicNUM	Applicant Name	DBA	City	State	Approved
21464	Matrix International Holdings, Inc.	Money Systems Cash Transfer	JERSEY CITY	NJ	07/03/2006
21539	Gradual Remittance, Inc.	Star Money Transfers	MIAMI	FL	07/03/2006
21627	Amanuel's Retailing, Inc.	Addis International Money Transfer	STONE MOUNTAIN	GA	07/18/2006
21682	JAH's International, Inc.		DUNCAN	SC	08/21/2006
21415	Lopez Tax Service	Lopez Tax Service	PALMETTO	GA	09/27/2006
Total		5			

The following check casher licensees chose not to renew their license for FY2007:

#9309	Loomba Check Cashing
#9407	Moreland Liquor Store, Inc.
#9482	M&G Financial Services
#15402	Your Check Cashing Store, Inc.
#18083	Tommy's Package, Inc.
#19293	Sushant Enterprises, Inc.
#20193	Darcey, C.E.
#20102	Better Income Tax Service, Inc.
#20209	M. David & Associates, Inc.
#20305	OK Investment, Inc.
#20448	Williams, Bobby
#20484	Apple Package Ltd.
#20564	Bapa Mata Hrshiddy Bhavani, Inc.
#20801	Peach Package, Inc.
#20981	BFC Transactions, Inc.
#21006	Jay Bapu, Inc.
#21144	Sweat, Kathrin (is reapplying for a full license)
#21291	Om Namh Shivay, Inc.
#21332	Andrade, Erica



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E-MAILING THE DEPARTMENT

The Department would like to encourage you to correspond with us using e-mail. Providing written details in the e-mail regarding any questions or concerns you may have allows the Department to forward the request to the appropriate person who handles that area, and if sufficient details are included in the request, that person can then more efficiently provide you an answer. The main Division e-mail address is dbfmort@dbf.state.ga.us

In the event you still need additional information or you do not receive a timely response to your e-mail, please contact us by phone.

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