

## Membership Agreement - Questions and Answers (December 2020)

### **Q: What changes have been added to the revised Membership Agreement?**

**A:** The implementation of the SFFCU Mobile App and Check 21 process have resulted in the following sections being added to the Membership Agreement:

**Use of Biometrics / Fingerprints:** The Credit Union or various apps you may choose to use may provide access to your accounts and services through the use of fingerprints or other biometrics. You agree to the use of such biometrics, and will cooperate with the Credit Union in implementing any requirements we or the third party may require associated with this technology. Biometric technologies may be used for authentication. A biometric identifier measures an individual's unique physical characteristics and compares it to a stored digital template for authentication. A physical characteristic can be a thumbprint, fingerprint, facial recognition or iris pattern. A biometric identifier can be used as a single or multifactor process. We may require the use of biometrics and/or fingerprinting with regard to any service we offer; and any refusal to cooperate with such use shall allow us to refuse to make any transaction, including but not limited to cashing any on-us item presented by any holder.

**Important Notice on Biometrics:** When you enable biometric access every person with an enrolled fingerprint on your accounts, services or device used to access your accounts and services will have access to your accounts and services, and may access your accounts, view your information, conduct transactions on your behalf, and has your authority to engage in these activities. Enrolled biometrics expand the number of persons who have access to your account regardless of the signers listed on your account agreement with us. Credit union advises you to review and confirm that all registered biometrics belong to individuals with authority as described above. By activating access/services requested by you the credit union relies on your representation that anyone with a registered biometric has proper authority to access and use your accounts and associated account information.

**Check 21:** Check processing is getting faster as banks begin to process checks "electronically." We are required by law to provide the notice in the following section ("Substitute Checks And Your Rights"), which explains the differences between your original check (which might not be returned) and a substitute check, and your rights in the event the substitute check causes a loss that would have been avoided if the original check was still available.

**Substitute Checks and Your Rights:** What is a substitute check? To make check processing faster, federal law permits banks to replace original checks with "substitute checks". These checks are similar in size to original checks with a slightly reduced image of the front and back of the original check. The front of the substitute check states: "This is a legal copy of your check. You can use it the same way you would use the original check." You may use the substitute check as proof of payment just like the original check.

Some or all of the checks that are returned to you from us may be substitute checks. This notice describes your rights you have when you receive substitute checks from us. The rights in this notice do not apply to original checks, photocopies of original checks, or to electronic debits to your account. However, you have rights under other laws with respect to those transactions.

What are my rights regarding substitute checks? In certain cases, federal law provides a special procedure that allows you to request a refund for losses you suffer if a substitute check is posted to your account (for example, if you think that we withdrew the wrong amount from your account or that we withdrew money from your account more than once for the same check). The losses you may attempt to recover under this procedure may include the amount that was withdrawn from your account and fees that were charged as a result of the withdrawal (for example, overdraft fees).

The amount of your refund under this procedure is limited to the amount of your loss or the amount of the substitute check, whichever is less. You are also entitled to interest on the amount of your refund if your account is an interest-bearing account. If your loss exceeds the amount of the substitute check, you may be able to recover additional amounts under other law.

If you use this procedure, you may receive up to \$2,500.00 of your refund (plus interest, if your account earns interest) within ten business days after we received your claim and the remainder of your refund (plus interest, if your account earns interest) not later than 45 calendar days after we received your claim.

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We may reverse the refund (including any interest on the refund) if we later are able to demonstrate that the substitute check was correctly posted to your account.

How do I make a claim for a refund? If you believe that you have suffered a loss relating to a substitute check that you received and that was posted to your account, please call us at the Phone Number set forth in the Rate and Fee Schedule or write to us at Address in the Rate and Fee Schedule. You must contact us within 40 calendar days of the date that we mailed (or otherwise delivered by a means to which you agreed) the substitute check in question or the account statement showing that the substitute check was posted to your account, whichever is later. We will extend this time period if you were not able to make a timely claim because of extraordinary circumstances. Your claim must include:

1. a description of why you have suffered a loss (for example, you think the amount withdrawn was incorrect);
2. an estimate of the amount of your loss;
3. an explanation of why the substitute check you received is insufficient to confirm that you suffered a loss; and
4. a copy of the substitute check or identifying information such as the check number and the name of the person to whom you wrote the check.

**Copies of Documents:** We do not typically keep the original paper documents (like deposit slips) associated with your account for a long time. We make copies of most of the documents that end up with us and destroy the paper originals. Electronic images is one type of media that is used, but as technology changes, there are and will be other copying techniques. You agree that such copies will be sufficient for all purposes. See the section titled "Check 21" above. To facilitate check imaging and electronic check collection, it is important that you take care with the transactions you create on paper. When completing a check, you must: (1) write clearly; (2) use black or dark blue ink in the date, pay to, amount, and signature fields; (3) use only the space provided for your part of a transaction. (See the section on ENDORSEMENT STANDARDS herein or in your Mobile or Remote Deposit Capture Agreements.). You agree to reimburse us for any losses and costs we incur as a result of a poor check image caused by a deficiency in the written check, whether due to your failure to follow these guidelines or otherwise. You also agree to reimburse us for any losses and costs we incur as a result of a poor check image caused by a deficiency in the written check that you accepted and deposited as the payee. Certain fees as set forth in the Rate and Fee Schedule may also apply.

### ***Q: Have any other changes been made to the revised Membership Agreement?***

**A:** Due to the implementation of our new online and mobile banking features, references to outdated terminology have been removed and replaced with the appropriate terminology. References to Regulation D and online transfer limits have also been removed.

The Electronic Funds Transfers Agreement and Disclosures and The Availability of Funds you Deposit with the Credit Union sections were updated to reflect changes with transfer fees and availability of funds.

Other minor wording changes have been made throughout the Membership Agreement, but no other substantive changes.

### ***Q: How is the Membership Agreement review completed?***

**A:** Compliance team members review the current Membership Agreement, matching it with the most current version of the template provided by a Credit Union Compliance Attorney. Differences between the documents and new suggested wording are evaluated and changes are made as appropriate. The recommended changes are reviewed and approved by Operations Managers and the Executive Management Team.