

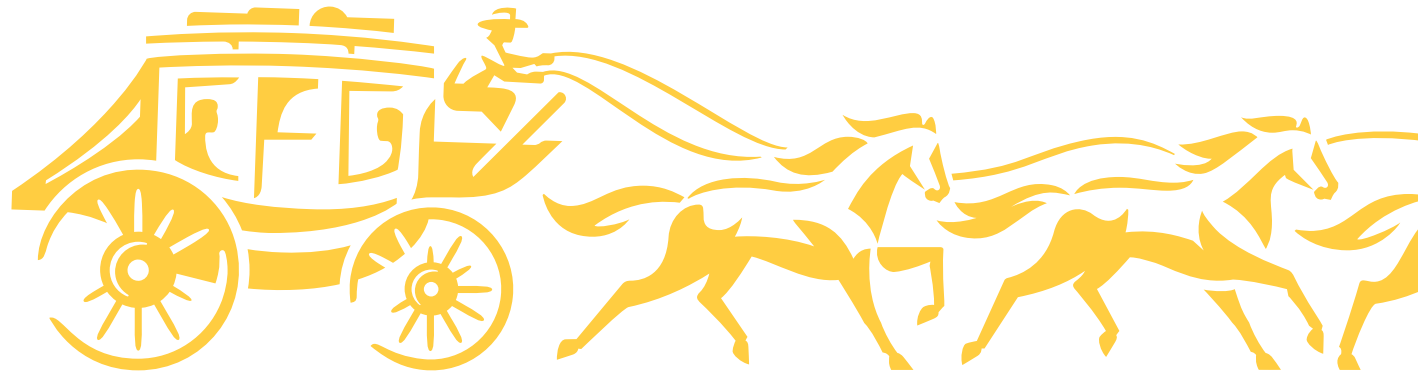
# NCSHA Fall Conference

## LIBOR Transition...SOFR, So Good

An update on the transition from LIBOR to the Secured Overnight Financing Rate

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October 21, 2019



# Important Disclosures

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# LIBOR is huge...and it's going away

- **LIBOR** = the London Interbank Offered Rate
- Interbank offered rates (collectively, LIBOR) underpin **more than \$350 trillion** of financial products
- However, **LIBOR is no longer derived from a widely traded market** and panel **banks are reluctant to submit estimates** of activity in which they do not engage
- **2013** – Financial Stability Board directs national regulators to evaluate alternatives to LIBOR
- **2014** – Federal Reserve brings together market participants to form the Alternative Reference Rates Committee (ARRC)
- **2017** – UK Financial Conduct Authority announces that it will not compel banks to provide LIBOR submissions beyond 2021
- **2017** – ARRC endorses the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) as the replacement for U.S. dollar LIBOR

Source: Second Report of the Alternative Reference Rates Committee  
<https://www.newyorkfed.org/medialibrary/Microsites/arrc/files/2018/ARRC-Second-report>

## The USD LIBOR Footprint

~\$200 trillion in exposures

### OTC

**\$145T**

- Swaps, options
- Forwards, cross-currency

### Exchange

**\$45T**

- Options
- Forwards

### Loans

**\$5T**

- Syndicated, CRE
- Residential, Consumer

### Bonds

**\$4T**

- FRNs
- Securitizations

# Regulatory Call to Action

In 2014, regulators initiated a global workstream to transition away from LIBOR. Working through the Financial Stability Board, these regulators include the Federal Reserve, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Bank of England, and European Central Bank.

***The Official Sector is increasingly stressing the need to transition now.***

“ Some say only two things in life are **guaranteed:** death and taxes. But I say there are actually three: **death, taxes, and the end of LIBOR.**

- John C. Williams, *President and CEO Federal Reserve Bank of New York*<sup>1</sup>

“ **Don't wait for term rates** to get your house in order...This is a problem you have the opportunity to get ahead of now.

- John Williams, *President and CEO Federal Reserve Bank of New York*<sup>2</sup>

“ We do **expect panel bank departures from the LIBOR panels at end-2021.**

That is why we keep stressing that the base case assumption for firms' planning should be LIBOR publication after end-2021.

- Andrew Bailey, *CEO Financial Conduct Authority*<sup>3</sup>

“ I believe that the ARRC has chosen the most viable path forward and that most will benefit from following it, but regardless of how you choose to transition, **beginning that transition now** would be consistent with **prudent risk management** and the duty that you owe to your shareholders and clients..”

- Randal K. Quarles, *Vice Chair for Supervision Federal Reserve Board of Governors*<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Source: <https://www.newyorkfed.org/newsevents/speeches/2019/wil190923>

<sup>2</sup> Source: <https://www.newyorkfed.org/newsevents/speeches/2019/wil190715>

<sup>3</sup> Source: <https://www.fca.org.uk/news/speeches/libor-preparing-end>

<sup>4</sup> Source: <https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/speech/quarles20190603a.htm>

# The ARRC Mandate

In 2014, the Federal Reserve Board convened the Alternative Reference Rates Committee to explore alternatives for replacing USD LIBOR

## The ARRC was convened to address the following:

### Objectives

- 1 Identify best practices for alternative reference rates
- 2 Identify best practices for contract robustness to ensure contracts are resilient to the possible cessation of USD LIBOR
- 3 Develop an adoption plan that identifies factors that would either facilitate or impede the adoption of alternative reference rates
- 4 Create an implementation plan with metrics of success and a timeline

## In March 2018, the ARRC was reconstituted to:<sup>1,2</sup>



Include a **broader** representation of the financial market and establish **working groups** to address regulatory, legal, tax and accounting issues



Ensure successful implementation of the paced transition plan



Coordinate planning across cash/derivatives products

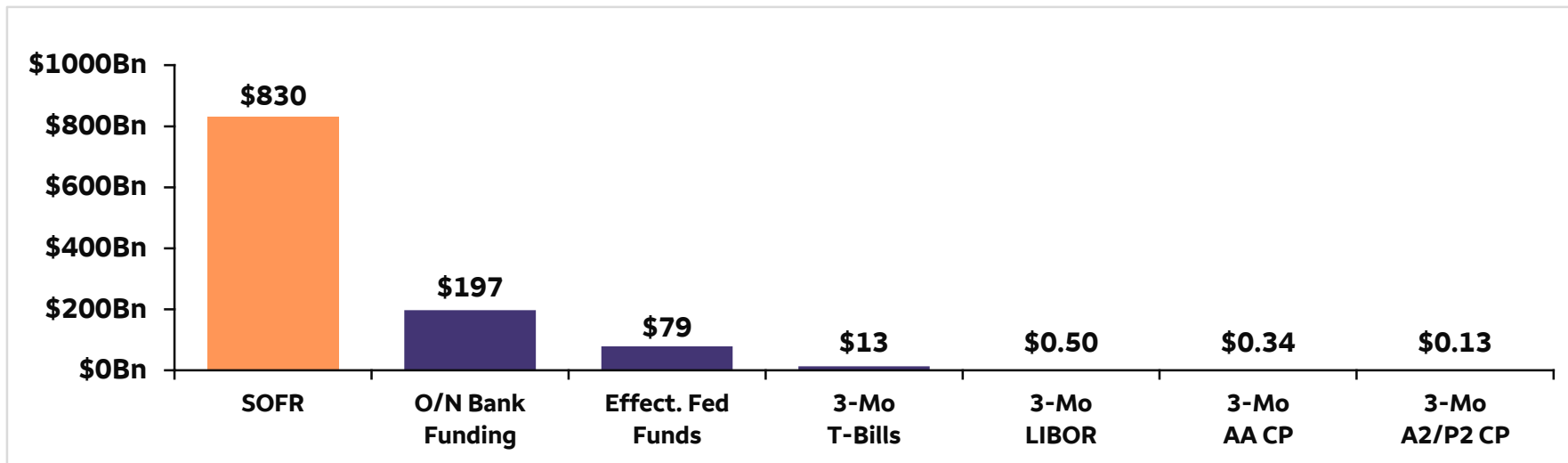
ARRC Members		Ex Officio Members	
<b>Banks/Dealers</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>CFPB</b>	<b>CFTC</b>
<b>Exchanges</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>FDIC</b>	<b>SEC</b>
<b>Industry Associations</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>FRB New York</b>	<b>FHFA</b>
<b>GSE/SSA</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>U.S. Treasury</b>	<b>OCC</b>
<b>Asset Managers/Insurance</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Fed Reserve</b>	<b>OFR</b>
<b>Official Sector (ex officio)</b>	<b>10</b>		

<sup>1</sup>Source: <https://www.newyorkfed.org/arrc/index.html>

# Goodbye LIBOR, Hello SOFR

- In June 2017, the ARRC identified the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) as its preferred alternative for USD LIBOR
  - **Secured:** Based on trades in the triparty, cleared bilateral, and certain other U.S. Treasury repo markets
  - **Overnight:** The repo rates used are overnight and reflect borrowing for one business day
  - **Financing Rate:** Represents secured funding costs for financial institutions pledging U.S. Treasuries

## Average Daily Volumes in U.S. Money Markets (\$bn)<sup>1</sup>



1) Average volumes over 2017H1, with the exception of 3-month T-bills, which are preliminary estimates from available FINRA Trade Reporting and Compliance Engine (TRACE) data over August and September 2017. 3-month volumes are based on all transactions with remaining maturities between 80 and 100 calendar days or 41-80 business days. SOFR average from inception to 2/1/19.

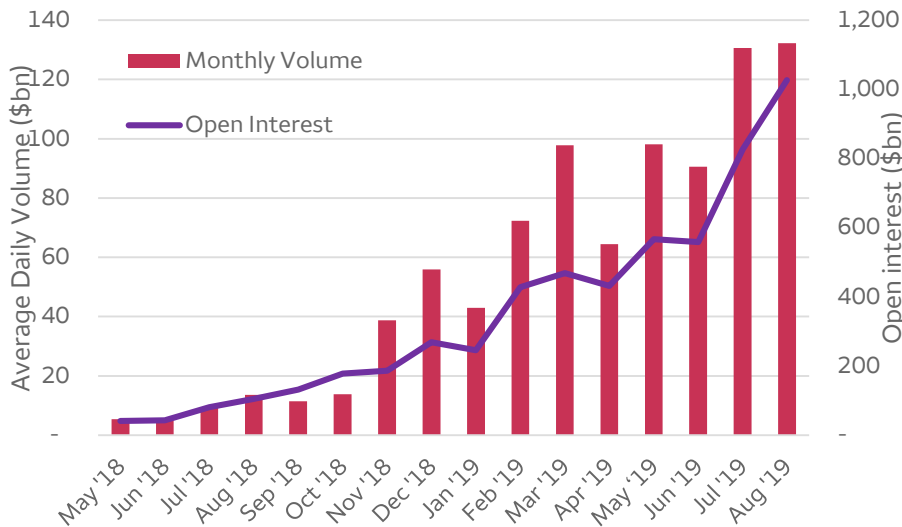
# USD LIBOR vs. SOFR

	USD LIBOR	SOFR
<b>Definition</b>	<b>Unsecured</b> wholesale interbank lending rate	<b>Secured</b> overnight repo rate
<b>Maturity/Term</b>	Various tenors, all forward-looking	Currently only overnight (in arrears)
<b>Bank Credit Premium</b>	Yes	No
<b>Methodology</b>	<b>Subjective</b> trimmed mean of panel bank submission rates based on Waterfall Methodology	<b>Objective</b> volume-weighted median for various US Treasury repo datasets
<b>Administrator</b>	ICE Benchmark Administration	Federal Reserve Bank of New York
<b>Underlying Daily Transaction Volume</b>	~\$500 million	More than \$1 Trillion

# SOFR Market Adoption

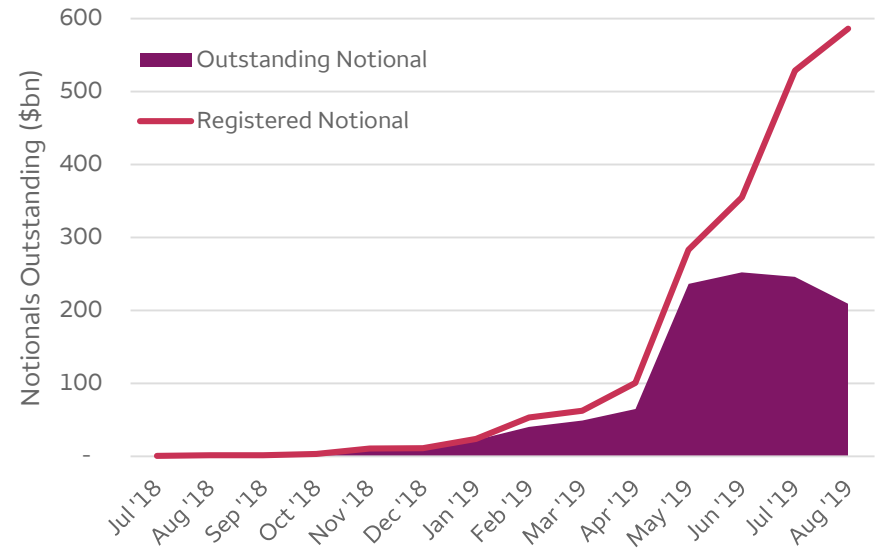
- Market adoption has increased significantly over the past year, with over 130 global participants currently trading in SOFR
- SOFR futures and swap markets were launched in 2018
  - SOFR futures volumes have exceeded expectations; in aggregate, more than \$1 trillion outstanding
  - SOFR swaps have also experienced dramatic growth, as more market participants have begun to use the rate for a variety of purposes, including as a repo hedge. \$210 billion notional outstanding
- Since the inception of SOFR in April 2018, total notional has reached more than **\$15 trillion** in the market

SOFR Futures Traded on CME and ICE



Sources: CME, ICE As of August 2019.

SOFR Swap Notional



Sources: CME, LCH As of August 2019.



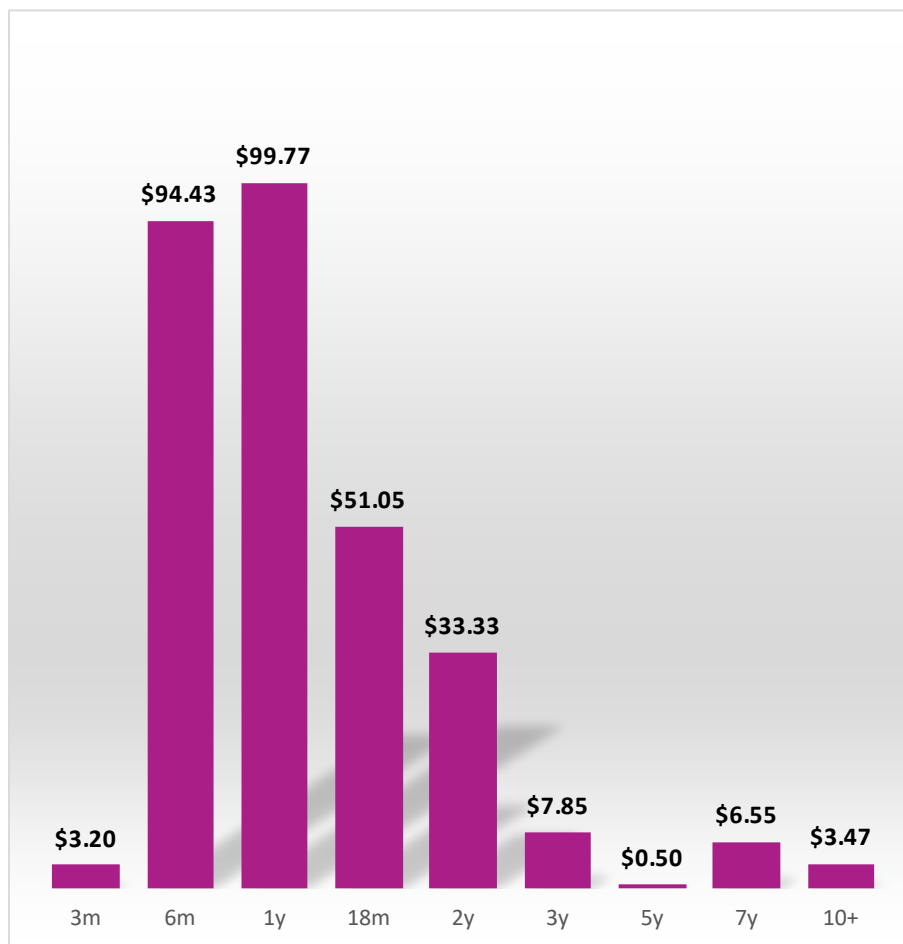
# The List of Early Adopters is Growing for SOFR-based Debt Issuance

Over \$300B in SOFR-based transactions from 42 issuers

## Notable Issuers (\$B)

Issuer Name	Total
FHLB	146.9
Freddie Mac	67.8
Fannie Mae	21.5
Credit Suisse	17.3
JPMorgan Chase	6.3
MetLife	6
Federal Farm Credit Banks	5.2
Goldman	4
Bank of Montreal	3.5
Citi	2.5
Bank of Nova Scotia	1.7
World Bank	1.5
Wells Fargo	1.1
Various Other Issuers	18.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$301</b>

## Volume by Tenor (\$B)



# Increasing Contractual Robustness

## What is LIBOR Fallback Language?

- The contractual language that specifies the rate that will be used if LIBOR is unavailable
- Fallback language was originally intended to address the temporary unavailability of LIBOR instead of a permanent cessation
- As a result, fallback language in many contracts may not produce a commercially reasonable result

## Development of More Robust Fallback Language

- The ARRC and ISDA have been developing new fallback language to address a permanent cessation of LIBOR
  - Floating Rate Notes and Syndicated Loan language published in April 2019
  - Bilateral Loans and Securitizations published in May 2019
- The intention of the fallback language is to:
  - Ensure contracts continue to function as closely as possible to what was initially intended by the parties
  - Minimize any potential transfer of value between the parties when the fallback takes effect

## Components of Fallback Language

- **Trigger events:** Define the circumstances under which references to LIBOR in a contract will be replaced with an alternative reference rate
- **Replacement benchmark:** Identify the rate, or waterfall of rates, that would replace LIBOR following a trigger event
- **Spread adjustment:** An adjustment added to the replacement rate to account for differences between LIBOR and the replacement benchmark

# Global Overview of Reform Initiatives



<b>Working Group</b>	Alternative Reference Rates Committee	Working Group on Sterling Risk-Free Reference Rates	Working Group on Euro Risk-Free Rates	National Working Group on Swiss Franc Reference Rates	Cross-Industry Committee on Japanese Yen Interest Rate Benchmarks
<b>Alternative Reference Rate</b>	<b>SOFR</b> (Secured Overnight Financing Rate)	Reformed <b>SONIA</b> (Sterling Overnight Interbank Average Rate)	<b>€STR</b> (Euro-Short term rate)	<b>SARON</b> (Swiss Average Rate Overnight)	<b>TONA</b> (Tokyo Overnight Average Rate)
<b>Underlying Market</b>	Secured overnight funds	Unsecured overnight funds	Unsecured overnight funds	Secured overnight funds	Unsecured overnight funds
<b>Publication date</b>	Published since 3 April 2018	Reformed since 23 April 2018	Published since 2 October 2019	Published since 2009	Published since 1992
<b>Administrator</b>	Federal Reserve Bank of New York	Bank of England	European Central Bank	SIX Swiss Exchange	Bank of Japan
<b>Tenor</b>	Overnight	Overnight	Overnight	Overnight	Overnight

# Important Disclosures

## Disclosures (Continued):

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Terms, rates, prices and structure in the Materials are indicative only, and should not be relied upon as the terms, rates, prices or structure on which we or anyone else would be willing to enter into, terminate or transfer any transaction with you, including without limit, the swap, bond or loan, letter of credit and/or remarketing agreement (if applicable), or relied upon for any other purpose. Actual rates and prices may be higher or lower depending on market conditions at the time of execution, and are subject to market conditions at deal time, final credit approval, agreement on deal terms and compliance to our satisfaction with all applicable legal and regulatory requirements, including without limit, onboarding, swap/securities trading relationship and transaction documentation. Any historical information provided in the Materials is for information only, and past performance may not be relied upon as a guarantee of future results. Examples in the Materials are hypothetical only and are not a prediction of future results. There are frequently sharp differences between projections or forecasts and the actual results achieved.

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All transactions described in the Materials are arm's length transactions to be negotiated by each party acting in its own best interests. The price and other terms of any transaction will be individually negotiated, and there is no assurance that they will represent the best price or terms available to you from us or other sources. Whether they are executable, indicative or illustrative, you should assume that any price we offer, quote or otherwise provide to you for entering into, transferring or terminating a transaction with WFBNA is strictly a WFBNA price and should not be considered a "market price" offered by anyone else in the relevant market. In this regard, please note that when we offer you an executable price for a swap with WFBNA, CFTC Rule §23.431 requires that we also disclose to you the "mid-market mark" of the swap in order for you to assess the material incentives and conflicts of interest we may have in connection with the swap. Information about the mid-market mark and other material disclosures regarding swaps can be found at [www.wellsfargo.com/swapdisclosures](http://www.wellsfargo.com/swapdisclosures). The decision whether you should enter into any transaction upon mutually agreed terms rests solely with you. Before entering into any transaction described in the Materials, you should consider whether it is appropriate for you in light of your objectives, experience, financial and operational resources, legal capacity and authority, and other relevant circumstances, and you should conduct a thorough and independent evaluation of the financial, tax, accounting, legal and regulatory characteristics, consequences, costs and risks of the transaction in light of your particular circumstances, based upon the advice of your own financial, legal, tax, accounting, and other professional advisors. Neither we nor any of our affiliates will be providing any such advice in connection with any such transaction, and neither we nor they will be acting as your agent, broker, financial advisor, municipal advisor, or fiduciary in connection with any such transaction, whether or not we or they may otherwise be engaged to act in such capacity in connection with other products or services.

### LIBOR Discontinuation Risk

On July 27, 2017, the Chief Executive of the United Kingdom Financial Conduct Authority, which regulates the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR"), announced that it intends to stop persuading or compelling banks to submit rates for the calculation of LIBOR to the administrator of LIBOR after 2021. The announcement indicates that the continuation of LIBOR on the current basis cannot and will not be guaranteed after 2021. It is impossible to predict whether and to what extent banks will continue to provide LIBOR submissions to the administrator of LIBOR or whether any additional reforms to LIBOR may be enacted in the United Kingdom or elsewhere. While global regulators and financial services industry market participants, including the Alternative Reference Rates Committee in the United States, have been working on developing alternative reference rates ("ARR") for LIBOR and other interbank offered rates, there is no guarantee that ARR will be developed or widely used by market participants by the end of 2021, that any ARRs developed will be suitable for each transaction as a substitute or successor for LIBOR, that the composition or characteristics of ARRs will be similar to those of LIBOR, or that ARRs will be the economic equivalent of the rate used in your LIBOR-based swap or financing transactions. Therefore, if LIBOR is discontinued during the term of your swap, your payments would be calculated differently and could be higher or more volatile than expected. These risks and others are discussed in greater detail in the IBOR Alternative Reference Rates disclosure at [www.wellsfargo.com/swapdisclosures](http://www.wellsfargo.com/swapdisclosures).

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While certain transactions described in the Materials may be used for hedging purposes to reduce or eliminate certain risks associated with your assets or liabilities, the effectiveness of hedging may depend upon holding these transactions to maturity and not reducing or disposing of all or any portion of the asset or liability during the term of the hedge. If a swap transaction is terminated early, or if you reduce or dispose of all or a portion of the underlying asset or liability before the transaction matures (such as prepaying a floating rate loan you hedge with a swap), then depending on the nature of the transaction, its characteristics and your position in it (e.g., buyer, seller, counterparty, etc.), you may incur a substantial loss or you may receive little or no hedging benefit from any upfront or periodic payments or exchanges or any other costs incurred in purchasing, selling, acquiring, maintaining or disposing of the transaction. You may also incur a substantial loss if you enter into a swap transaction in anticipation of hedging an asset or liability that does not materialize. You should understand that significant potential amounts could become payable by you for modifying a swap transaction, terminating it early or transferring your position in the transaction to another person or entity, or in connection with the exercise of any option or other rights under the transaction or governing documents, depending upon then existing market conditions. You should also consider that prepaying your loan or disposing of an asset or other liability does not relieve you of your obligations under a swap transaction, which may be terminated early only in accordance with the terms of the swap trading relationship documentation (such as an ISDA Master Agreement) or other transaction documents, or otherwise by mutual agreement. Such termination may require payment by you of an early termination amount, which amount may be substantial. Whether you use a swap transaction for hedging or another purpose, you should satisfy yourself that you understand these and other risks relative to the benefits you are seeking to achieve and that the transaction and risks are suitable for you. These risks are discussed in greater detail in disclosures provided to you through the following website: [www.wellsfargo.com/swapdisclosures](http://www.wellsfargo.com/swapdisclosures)

### Independent Obligation

To the extent any swap transaction described in the Materials may be used to hedge against increases in the interest expense of a loan or other financing, the swap transaction would be a separate and independent obligation and would not be contingent on whether or not any loan or other financing closes, is outstanding, or is repaid, in whole or in part, at any time, subject to any contractual requirement to terminate and settle the transaction early upon prepayment of the loan or financing or for other financing-related events. In addition, if you provide any existing or future collateral or other credit support to secure the transaction and any loan or other financing, then you would be entitled to the release of such collateral or credit support only if certain conditions contained in the related collateral agreement or credit support document are completely satisfied for both the transaction and any such loan or financing, or we otherwise reach agreement with you on alternative collateral, credit support or other arrangements.

### Unmatched Terms & Conventions

If the principal amount or duration of a loan or financing differs from that of a transaction used to hedge such loan or financing, you may be exposed to risk of loss from such over-hedging or under-hedging. If any other economic terms or characteristics of a loan or financing differ from those of the related hedge, then in addition to any losses that you could incur from such differences, the hedge may create unanticipated accounting exposure or tax liability for you. To the extent fair value accounting applies to the hedge, you may have to reflect unrealized gains and losses (i.e., the so-called "mark-to-market" value of the hedge) over the life of the hedge on your balance sheet and/or income statement. If hedge accounting applies, any ineffectiveness in the hedge resulting from such differences may likewise need to be taken into account and reflected in your financial results. These swap valuation considerations may also be important to you for tax purposes, including any tax laws that may require unrealized gains or losses on swaps to be taken into account in determining your income tax liability.

Conventions used in the loan or other financing and swap markets may differ, and we are under no obligation to ensure that any swap we offer is a perfect hedge for your financing even if we provide you with both products. For example, if the method for determining a loan's floating rate differs from that for a swap's floating rate, the loan floating rate payments could diverge from those of the swap. Such divergence may occur by convention or as the result of contractual differences, such as in the definition of or the reset timing (e.g., 1-month or 3-month) for the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR), the dates or times at which LIBOR is set, the number of days in the payment periods, any applicable fallback floating rate, or the floating rate rounding convention.

# Important Disclosures

## Negative Interest Rates

Express wording in swap transactions is required to place a 0% floor on LIBOR or other floating benchmark rate of the swap transaction, and no such 0% floor is included in an interest rate swap or other swap transaction unless mutually agreed between the parties as reflected in the swap confirmation. Absent such floor, if a Floating Amount is negative under an interest rate swap, the Floating Rate Payer does not make such payment. Instead, the Fixed Rate Payer pays the absolute value of the negative Floating Amount in addition to the Fixed Amount. See §6.4 of the 2006 ISDA Definitions, as amended. If you wish to acquire a swap with a 0% floor, this may increase the price of your swap as reflected in a higher Fixed Rate. For further information on negative interest rates, including their effect on swaps and the loans they are hedging, see Negative Interest Rates at: [www.wellsfargo.com/swapdisclosures](http://www.wellsfargo.com/swapdisclosures).

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