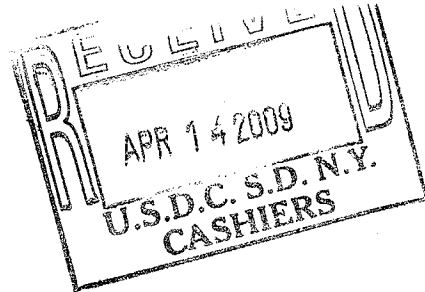


09 CV 3750

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Intrasweep LLC

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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ISLAND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LLC,
LIDS CAPITAL, LLC, DOUBLE ROCK
CORPORATION, and INTRASWEEP LLC,

Plaintiffs,

v.

PROMONTORY INTERFINANCIAL
NETWORK, LLC, DEUTSCHE BANK AG,
DEUTSCHE BANK TRUST COMPANY
AMERICAS, and TOTAL BANK SOLUTIONS,
LLC,

Defendants.

----- x

Civil Action No.

COMPLAINT

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

Plaintiffs Island Intellectual Property LLC (“Island IP”), LIDs Capital, LLC (“LIDs Capital”), Double Rock Corporation (“Double Rock”) and Intrasweep LLC (“Intrasweep”) (collectively, the “Island Plaintiffs”), by their attorneys Amster, Rothstein & Ebenstein LLP, for their complaint against Defendants Promontory Interfinancial Network, LLC (“Promontory”),

Deutsche Bank AG (“Deutsche Germany”), Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas (“Deutsche U.S.”), and Total Bank Solutions, LLC (“TBS”)¹ allege as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is an action for patent infringement arising out of Defendant Promontory’s and the Deutsche Defendants’ infringement of the Island Plaintiffs’ U.S. Patent No. 7,519,551 generally relating to computerized account management techniques used with insured deposit accounts.

2. Specifically, this Complaint asserts claims against Defendant Promontory and the Deutsche Defendants arising from their infringement of at least Claim 18 (Defendant Promontory) and Claim 1 (the Deutsche Defendants) of U.S. Patent No. 7,519,551, issued on April 13, 2009, and entitled “Systems and Methods For Administering Return Sweep Accounts” (“the ‘551 Patent”). A true and correct copy of the ‘551 Patent is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

THE PARTIES

3. Island IP is a limited liability company, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware. Island IP’s principal place of business is located at 1250 Broadway, Thirty-Second Floor, New York, NY 10001, within this District.

4. LIDs Capital is a limited liability corporation, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware. LIDs Capital’s principal place of business is located at 1250 Broadway, Thirty-Second Floor, New York, NY 10001, within this District.

5. Double Rock is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New Jersey. Double Rock’s principal place of business is located at 1250 Broadway, Thirty-Second Floor, New York, NY 10001, within this District. Double Rock is the prior owner of the application which issued into the ‘551 Patent.

¹ Deutsche Germany, Deutsche U.S. and TBS shall be referred to collectively as the “Deutsche Defendants.”

6. Intrasweep is a limited liability company, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware. Intrasweep's principal place of business is located at 1250 Broadway, Thirty-Second Floor, New York, NY 10001, within this District.

7. Upon information and belief, Defendant Promontory is a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware with a place of business at 1515 North Courthouse Road, Suite 800, Arlington, VA 22201. Defendant Promontory is qualified to do business in the State of New York.

8. Upon information and belief, Defendant Deutsche Germany is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Federal Republic of Germany. Deutsche Germany's regional head office in the United States is located at 60 Wall Street, New York, New York, 10005, within this District.

9. Upon information and belief, Defendant Deutsche U.S. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York. Deutsche U.S.'s principal place of business is located at 60 Wall Street, New York, New York 10005, within this District.

10. Upon information and belief, Defendant TBS is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New Jersey. TBS's principal place of business is located at Three University Plaza, Suite 320, Hackensack, NJ 07601.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

11. This is a civil action for patent infringement arising under the United States patent statutes, 35 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.*

12. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).

13. Upon information and belief, Defendant Promontory is subject to this Court's personal jurisdiction because it does substantial business in this judicial district, including: (i)

offering and operating its banking services within this State and this District; and (ii) operating its infringing insured deposit program within this State and in this District. Defendant Promontory is qualified to do business in the State of New York.

14. Upon information and belief, Defendant Deutsche Germany is subject to this Court's personal jurisdiction because it does substantial business in this judicial district, including: (i) offering and operating its banking services within this State and this District; and (ii) operating its infringing insured deposit program within this State and in this District. In addition, Deutsche Germany has designated Deutsche Bank Americas, located at 60 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005, as its agent in the State of New York.

15. Upon information and belief, Defendant Deutsche U.S. is subject to this Court's personal jurisdiction because it has done substantial business in this judicial district, including: (i) offering and operating its banking services within this State and this District; and (ii) acting as the intermediary for Deutsche Germany's infringing insured deposit program within this State and in this District. In addition, as a New York Corporation, Defendant Deutsche U.S. has designated an agent for service of process in the State of New York.

16. Upon information and belief, Defendant TBS is subject to this Court's personal jurisdiction because it has done substantial business in this judicial district, including offering and operating computer and record keeping services for at least Deutsche U.S.'s infringing insured deposit program within this State and in this District.

17. Venue is proper in this judicial district under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b)-(c) and 1400(b).

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

18. Double Rock and its wholly-owned subsidiary Intrasweep are industry leaders in providing cash management and monetary regulation systems.

19. The principals of Double Rock developed an innovative product known as “insured deposits,” which provides financial service institutions with the ability to offer customers FDIC-insured, interest bearing demand accounts, with unlimited checking.

20. One improvement developed by the principals of Double Rock for the insured deposit product was the ability to provide financial service institutions with the ability to maintain more assets in a program within their own financial services infrastructure.

21. One type of “insured deposits” product, also developed by Double Rock and now offered through Intrasweep is an “on balance sheet” cash sweep solution for banks that helps banks grow core deposits.

THE PATENT-IN-SUIT

22. The ‘551 Patent claims a novel method of managing client funds by providing financial institutions the ability to provide client accounts with increased FDIC insurance. The patented method also manages the accounts by aggregating the client accounts at each bank participating within the program where one of the banking participants in the program is the same as or affiliated with the financial institution.

23. Island IP, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Double Rock, is the owner of all rights, title and interest in the ‘551 Patent.

24. LIDs Capital, also a wholly-owned subsidiary of Double Rock, is the exclusive licensee of Island IP for the ‘551 Patent with respect to providing cash management services for broker dealers and asset managers.

25. Double Rock is a sublicensee of LIDs Capital for the ‘551 Patent with respect to providing cash management services for broker dealers and asset managers.

26. Intrasweep, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Double Rock, is the exclusive licensee of Island IP for the ‘551 Patent with respect to providing cash management services for banks in

connection with money market deposit accounts and demand deposit accounts that facilitate the transfer of funds between money market deposit accounts and demand deposit accounts.

THE INFRINGING PRODUCTS

27. Upon information and belief, Defendant Promontory operates, within the United States, a money management program designated as the IND service, which allows broker-dealers to offer a multi-bank, FDIC-insured deposit sweep product (“the IND Service”). The IND Service includes services designated as “IND for broker-dealers” and “IND for bankers.”

28. Upon information and belief, the computer systems used by Defendant Promontory with the IND for bankers uses the methods claimed in at least Claim 18 of the ‘551 Patent.

29. Defendant Promontory does not have a license or other authorization from any of the Island Plaintiffs to practice the claims set forth in the ‘551 Patent.

30. Defendant Promontory competes directly with the broker dealer insured deposit products offered by Double Rock as licensee of LIDs Capital.

31. Upon information and belief, the Deutsche Defendants operate, within the United States, a money management program designated as the “Deutsche Bank Insured Deposit Program” (“Deutsche IDP”).

32. Upon information and belief, TBS is a financial data processing company that offers its own insured deposit program which provides the computer and record keeping services for at least the Deutsche IDP.

33. Upon information and belief, the computer systems used with the Deutsche IDP use the methods claimed in at least Claim 1 of the ‘551 Patent.

34. The Deutsche Defendants do not have a license or other authorization from any of the Island Plaintiffs to practice the claims set forth in the ‘551 Patent.

35. The Deutsche IDP competes directly with the “on balance sheet” product offered by Intrasweep.

COUNT ONE

(Patent Infringement by Defendant Promontory of the ‘551 Patent)

36. The Island Plaintiffs incorporate by reference as if fully set forth herein the averments contained within the preceding Paragraphs.

37. Defendant Promontory has infringed at least Claim 18 of the ‘551 Patent, in violation of Title 35, United States Code section 271 through one or more of the following: (1) the manufacture, use, sale, and/or offer for sale of the invention claimed in the ‘551 Patent; (2) the active inducement of another to infringe the ‘551 Patent; and/or (3) contributing to the infringement by another of the ‘551 Patent.

38. Defendant Promontory has been on notice of the published application which matured into the ‘551 Patent since at least as early as on or about May 24, 2006.

39. Unless enjoined by this Court, Defendant Promontory will continue its acts of infringement causing substantial and irreparable harm to the Island Plaintiffs.

40. The Island Plaintiffs are suffering and will continue to suffer damages as the direct and proximate result of Defendant Promontory’s infringement of the ‘551 Patent.

41. The Island Plaintiffs are suffering and will continue to suffer irreparable injury as the direct and proximate result of Defendant Promontory’s infringement of the ‘551 Patent.

COUNT TWO

(Patent Infringement by the Deutsche Defendants of the ‘551 Patent)

42. The Island Plaintiffs incorporate by reference as if fully set forth herein the averments contained within Paragraphs 1-35 above.

43. The Deutsche Defendants have infringed at least Claim 1 of the '551 Patent, in violation of Title 35, United States Code section 271 through one or more of the following: (1) the manufacture, use, sale, and/or offer for sale of the invention claimed in the '551 Patent; (2) the active inducement of another to infringe the '551 Patent; and/or (3) contributing to the infringement by another of the '551 Patent.

44. Unless enjoined by this Court, the Deutsche Defendants will continue their acts of infringement causing substantial and irreparable harm to the Island Plaintiffs.

45. The Deutsche Defendants have been on notice of the published application which matured into the '551 Patent since at least as early as on or about October 18, 2005.

46. The Island Plaintiffs are suffering and will continue to suffer damages as the direct and proximate result of the Deutsche Defendants' infringement of the '551 Patent.

47. The Island Plaintiffs are suffering and will continue to suffer irreparable injury as the direct and proximate result of the Deutsche Defendants' infringement of the '551 Patent.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Island Plaintiffs request judgment against Defendant Promontory and the Deutsche Defendants as follows:

A. That Defendant Promontory be held liable for infringement of at least Claims 18 of the '551 Patent.

B. That the Deutsche Defendants be held liable for infringement of at least Claim 1 of the '551 Patent.

C. That a permanent injunction issue against Defendant Promontory and the Deutsche Defendants, their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, parent and subsidiary corporations, assigns and successors in interest, and those persons in active concert or participation with them, enjoining them from continued acts of infringement of the '551 Patent.

D. That the Court Order Defendant Promontory and the Deutsche Defendants to pay to the Island Plaintiffs damages adequate to compensate the Island Plaintiffs for the acts of infringement of Defendant Promontory and the Deutsche Defendants together with interest and costs, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284.

E. That the Court award such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

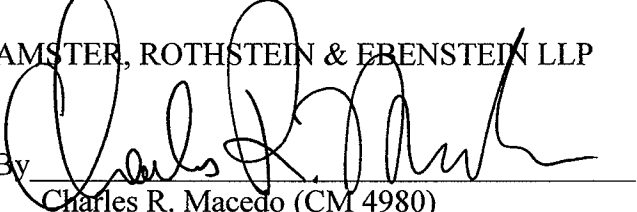
DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

48. The Island Plaintiffs hereby request a trial by jury.

Respectfully submitted,

AMSTER, ROTHSTEIN & EBENSTEIN LLP

By


Charles R. Macedo (CM 4980)

Dated: New York, New York
April 14, 2009

Of Counsel:

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Double Rock Corporation, and
Intrasweep LLC

Exhibit A



US007519551B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Bent et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 7,519,551 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** ***Apr. 14, 2009**

(54) **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ADMINISTERING RETURN SWEEP ACCOUNTS**

(75) Inventors: **Bruce Bent**, Manhasset, NY (US);
Bruce Bent, II, New York, NY (US)
(73) Assignee: **Island Intellectual Property LLC**, New York, NY (US)
(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 785 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

(21) Appl. No.: **10/071,053**

(22) Filed: **Feb. 8, 2002**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2002/0091637 A1 Jul. 11, 2002
US 2006/0212389 A2 Sep. 21, 2006
US 2008/0046361 A2 Feb. 21, 2008

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 09/176,340, filed on Oct. 21, 1998, now Pat. No. 6,374,231, and a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/677,535, filed on Oct. 2, 2000.

(51) **Int. Cl.**
G06Q 40/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **705/35; 707/1**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **705/30, 705/35, 38-40, 42; 707/1, 10, 100-104; 902/24, 41**

See application file for complete search history.

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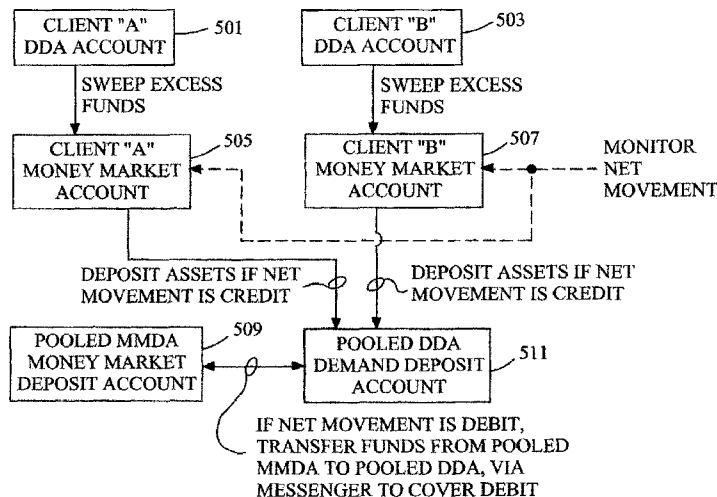
Primary Examiner—Mary Cheung

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Foley & Lardner LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Novel systems and methods for managing a plurality of client demand accounts so as to allow a banking institution to retain client deposits on the bank's balance sheets while, at the same time, providing the client with the capability of implementing up to an unlimited number of transactions per month and also providing the client with interest on their account balances. These objectives are achieved through the use of a pooled deposit account at the client's savings institution or bank. Funds are transferred from individual client demand accounts to the pooled insured deposit account. All or a portion of the interest accrued from the pooled deposit account is then distributed to individual clients. The interest may, but need not, be distributed according to the relative proportions of each client's funds in the pooled deposit account. A database keeps track of deposits to, and withdrawals from, each of the client demand accounts, as well as each client's proportionate and/or monetary share in the pooled deposit account. On a regular, periodic, or recurring basis, a net transaction is calculated as the sum of individual client deposits and withdrawals from the plurality of demand accounts. The net transaction calculation is used to determine an amount of funds that need to be deposited into the pooled deposit account to cover client deposits, or an amount of funds that needs to be withdrawn from the pooled deposit account to cover client withdrawals. Individual account management calculations are performed to determine whether to deposit or withdraw funds from the pooled deposit account to each of a plurality of individual client demand accounts. The database is updated for each client's deposit and withdrawal activities. The invention permits funds to be deposited into a demand account from various sources, and also provides for the tendering of payments from the demand account via different instruments, without limitation as to the number of transfers, and with accrual of interest on the deposited funds.

51 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



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Page 2

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US 7,519,551 B2

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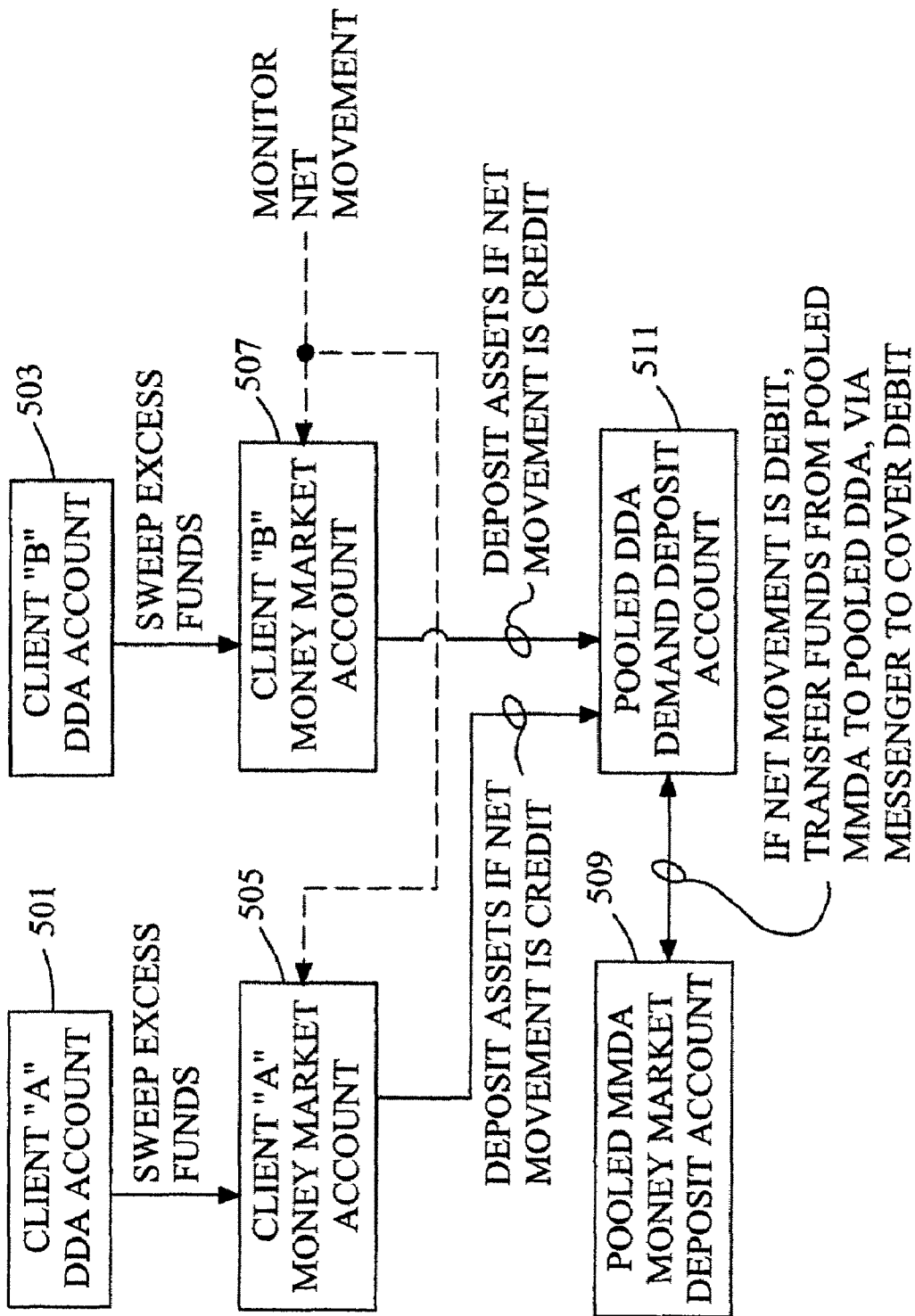


FIG. 1

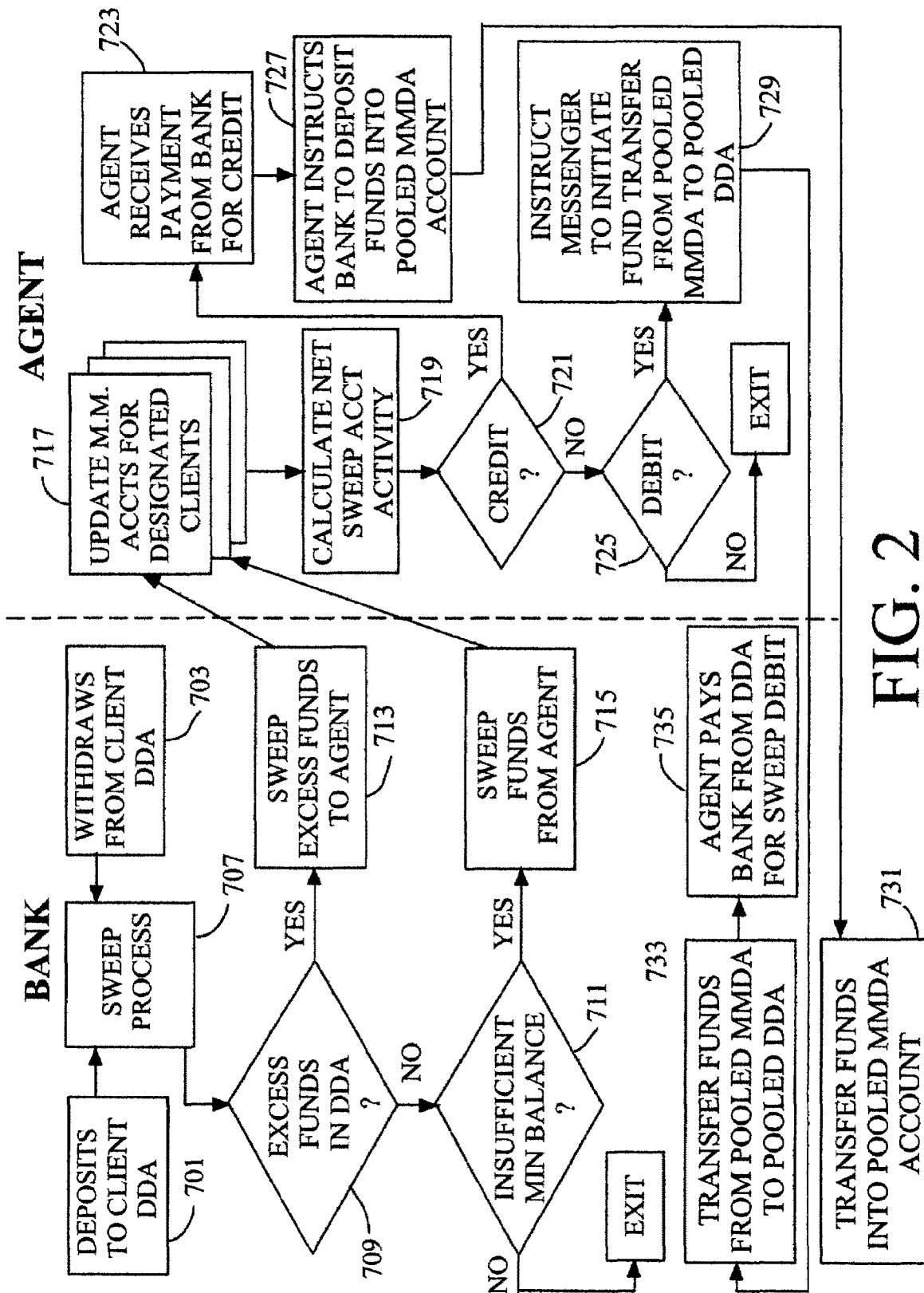


FIG. 2

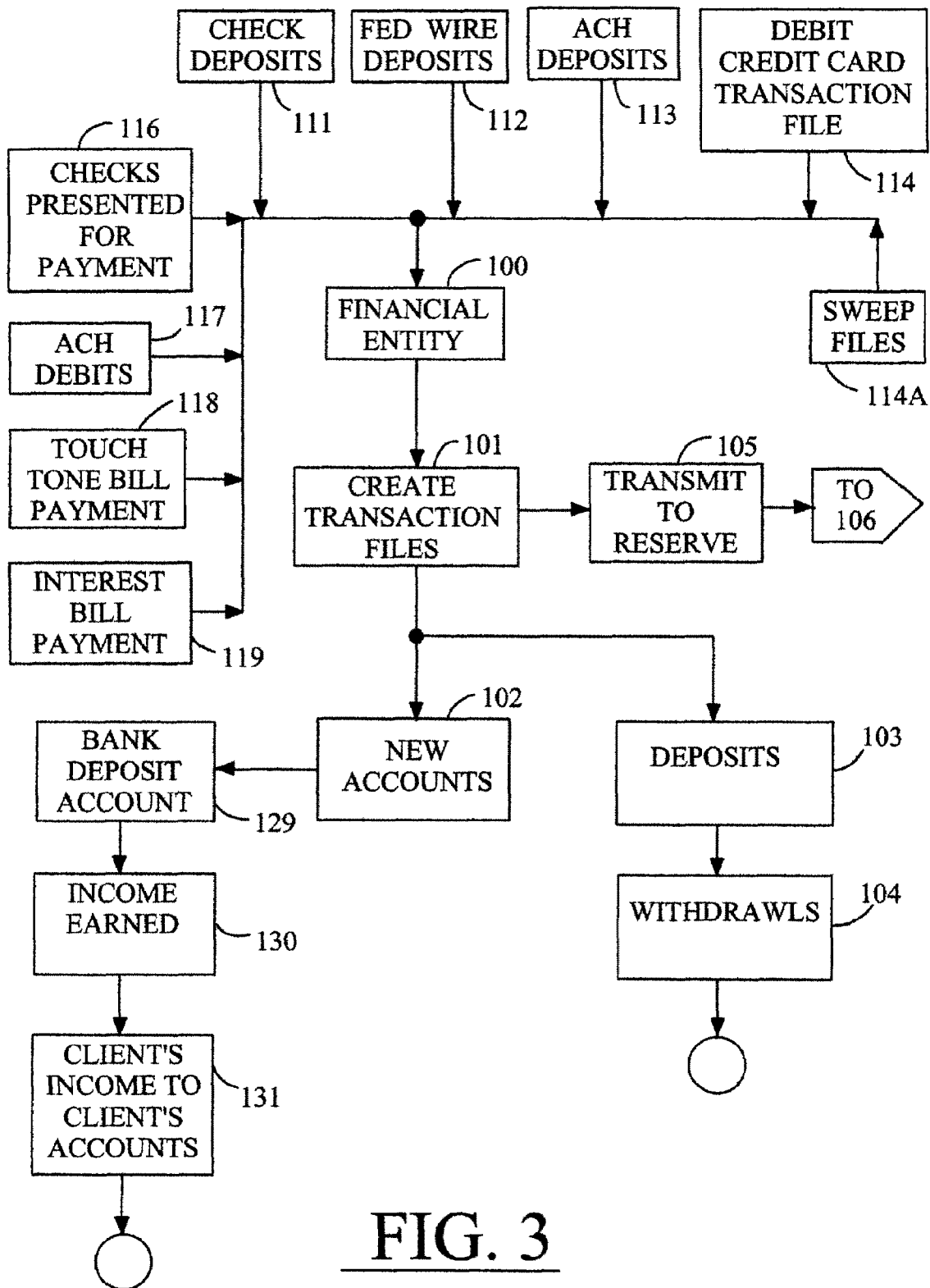


FIG. 3

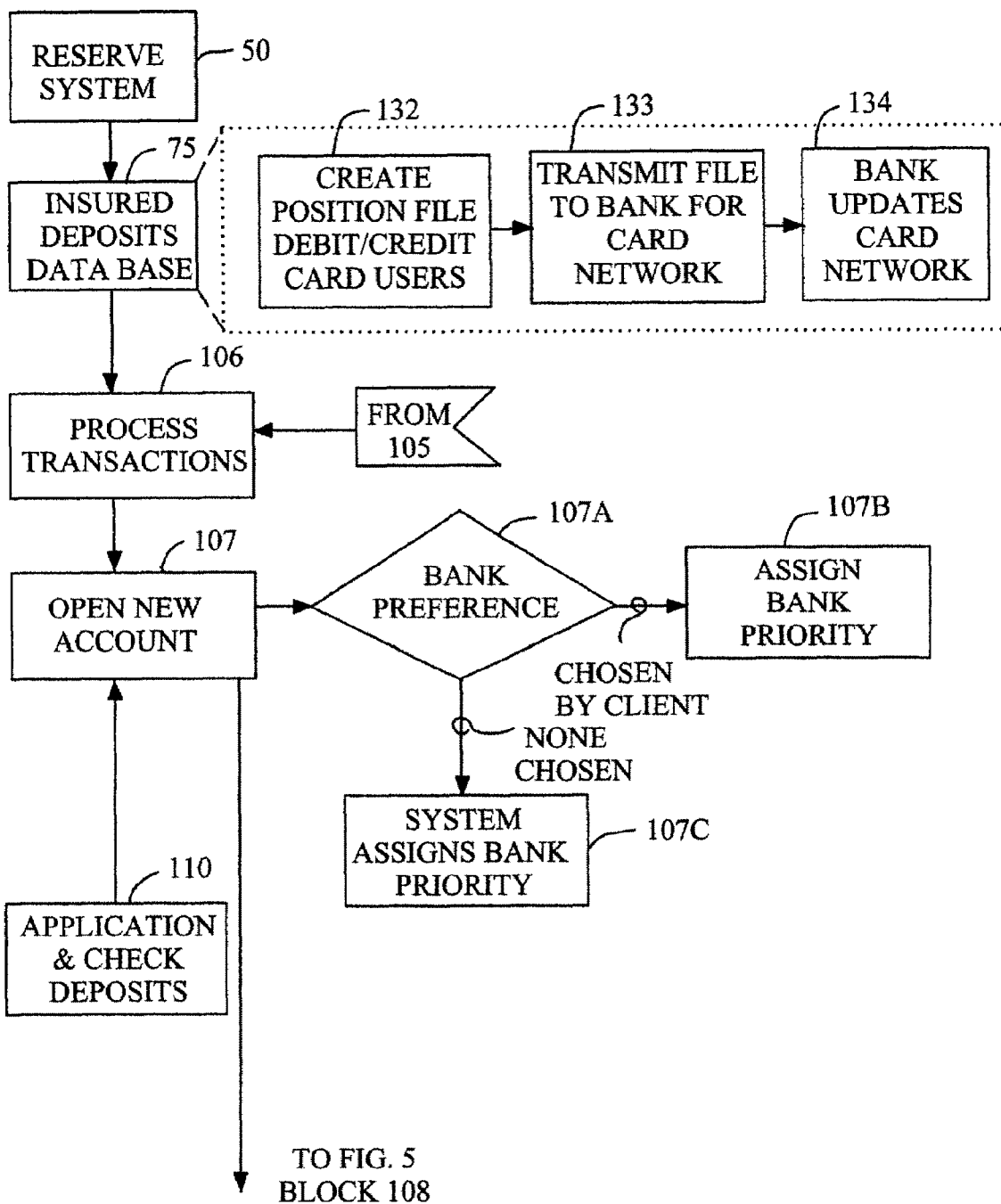


FIG. 4

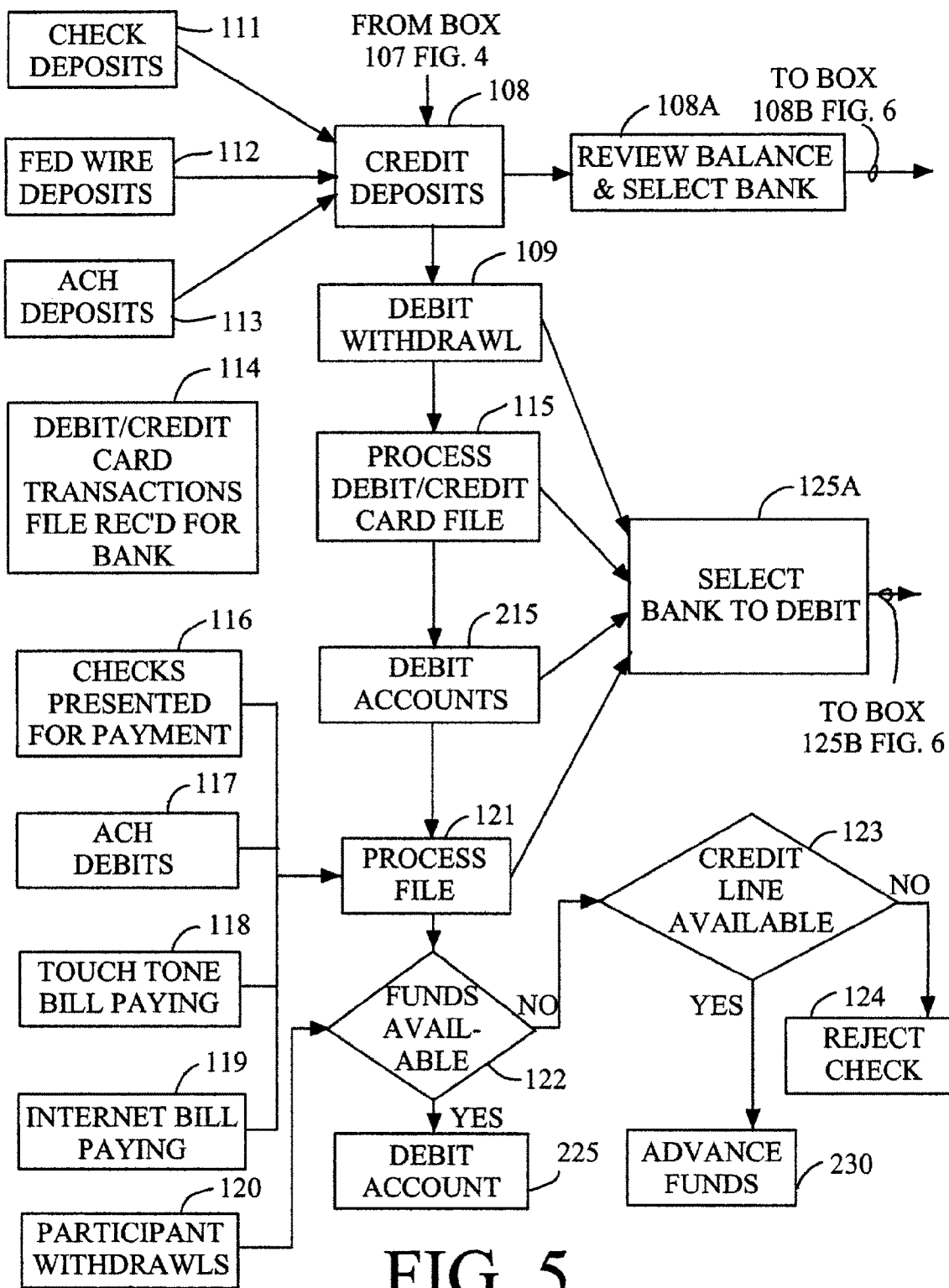


FIG. 5

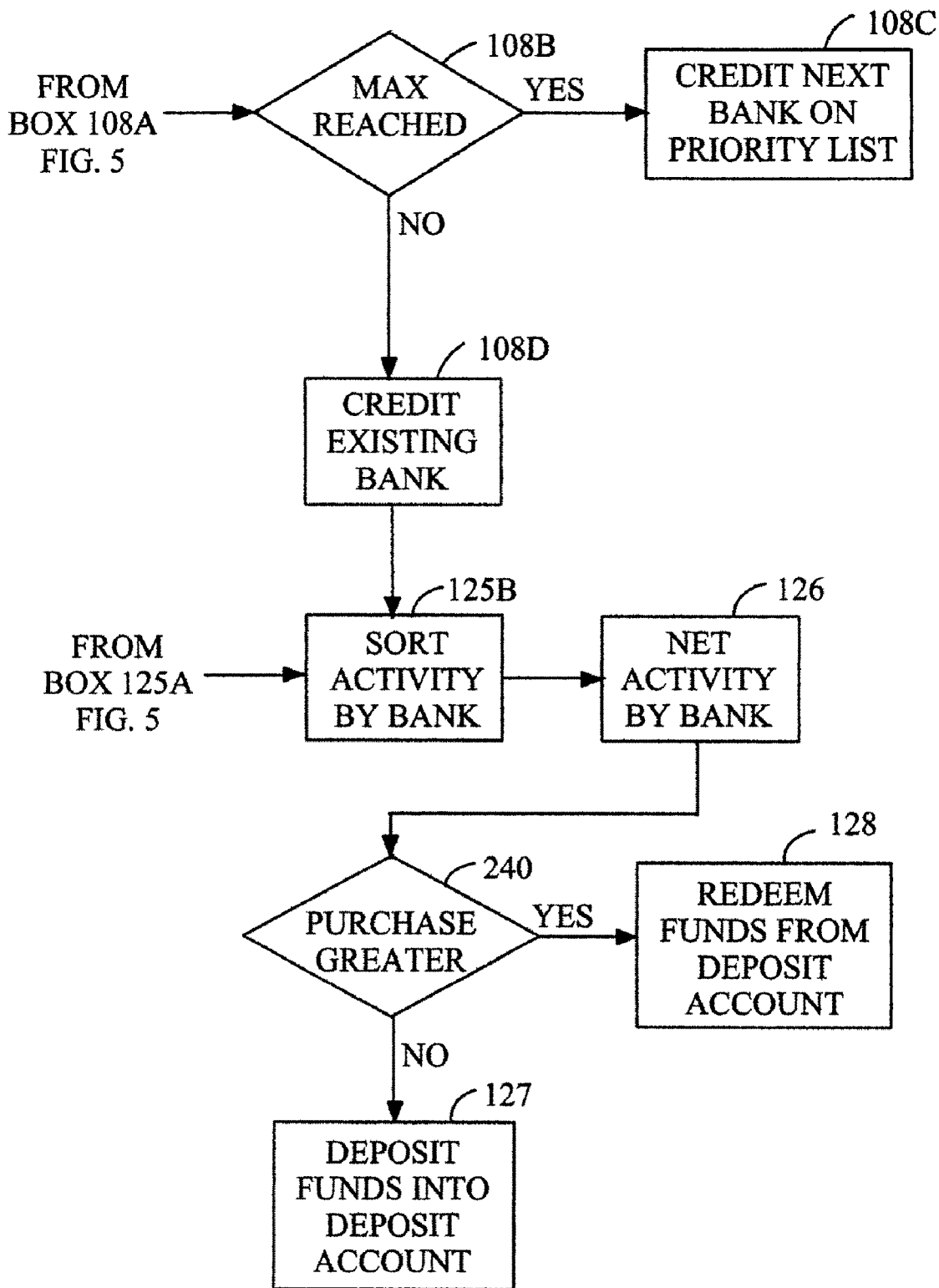


FIG. 6

US 7,519,551 B2

1

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ADMINISTERING RETURN SWEEP ACCOUNTS

RELATED CASES

This is a Continuation-in-Part of patent application Ser. No. 09/176,340, filed on Oct. 21, 1998 now U.S. Pat. No. 6,374,231, and patent application Ser. No. 09/677,535, filed on Oct. 2, 2000, the disclosures of which are both incorporated by reference herein.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The invention relates generally to computerized banking techniques and, more specifically, to techniques by which deposits are kept on a bank's balance sheet while being administered as sweep account funds by a third party.

2. Background Art

It would be desirable if investors could obtain fully-insured, interest-bearing bank accounts that offer an unlimited number of fund transfers per month. However, present statutory restrictions prevent banks and savings institutions from paying interest on certain types of deposit accounts. More specifically, Title 12, Part 329, of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) provides that "no bank shall, directly or indirectly, by any device whatsoever, pay interest on any demand deposit". (12 CFR 329.2). A "deposit" is any money placed into a checking account, savings account, Certificate of Deposit (CD), or the like. In a "demand" account, the owner can demand that funds be drawn and paid to another account (having the same or a different owner), or to a third party. These demand payments are typically implemented via bank drafts, checks, credit cards, and debit cards.

Not all bank accounts are considered to be demand accounts. If all, or a fixed amount, of the principal must be maintained in order to achieve the particular benefits afforded by that account, then the account is not a "demand" account. According to the CFR, a "demand deposit" includes any deposit for which the depositor is authorized to make more than six fund "transfers" during any month or statement cycle of at least four weeks. Not all fund transfers will be counted towards the allotted maximum of six; rather, it is necessary to examine the specific type of fund transfer under consideration. A deposit will be considered a "demand" deposit if the transfer takes place by means of a preauthorized, automatic, or telephonic order specifying the transfer of funds to another account of the depositor at the same bank, to the bank itself, or to a third party. Likewise, a deposit is a "demand" deposit if more than three of the six transfers are authorized to be made by check, draft or debit card (12 CFR 329.1(b)(3)). On the other hand, an unlimited number of transfers is allowed between two accounts registered to the same person or entity, provided that the transfers are made by messenger, mail, telephone (but only via check mailed to the depositor), automated teller machine, or in person. Unless the funds of a deposit are held in a money market account (18 USC 1832 (a)), an account for which a depositor has the ability to make at least six transfers will be deemed a demand account, and no interest will be payable on the funds therein. Therefore, owners of demand accounts do not obtain interest on their funds.

One exemplary approach to offering investors fully-insured, interest-bearing accounts that provide up to an unlimited number of fund transfers was disclosed in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/176,340, referenced above. This application describes a system for managing a plurality of

2

accounts for multiple clients. These accounts, which may originate from a variety of sources, banks, brokerage firms, and/or clients, are held at any of a plurality of savings institutions or banks. The system provides an aggregate insured money market deposit account at a bank or savings institution that is not necessarily an institution at which any of the client accounts are held. The aggregate insured deposit account is linked to each of the demand accounts in a manner so as to permit deposit funds to be placed into a demand account from various sources, and also so as to provide for the tendering of payments from the demand account via different instruments, without limitation as to the number of transfers. Interest is earned on deposits because funds are transferred from individual client accounts to the managed aggregate insured deposit account.

While a substantial advance over other prior art systems, the above noted system requires the transfer of oftentimes significant funds to comply with various banking regulations. This may be difficult in the case of smaller, community-based banks, as these institutions depend upon such funds as a source for loans. Moreover, some bank clients are not comfortable with arrangements that transfer client funds to unfamiliar third parties.

Pursuant to Regulation Q, banks are prohibited from paying interest on commercial accounts. However, banks have developed several approaches in an effort to compete with brokers who offer interest on cash balances for their commercial customers. These approaches, which include money fund sweeps and repo sweeps, are disadvantageous in that they involve a removal of commercial customer deposits from the bank's balance sheets.

A substantial market exists for an interest-bearing return sweep account that can be readily integrated into the existing infrastructure of a bank or savings institution, while, at the same time, permitting account funds to remain on the bank's balance sheet, with minimal disruption of existing bank-client relationships. It was with the foregoing realizations in mind that the present invention was developed.

OBJECTS AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the invention to provide bank and/or savings institution clients with the ability to implement up to an unlimited number of transfers while, at the same time, permitting the bank and/or savings institution to retain client-deposited funds.

It is another object of the invention to provide bank and/or savings institution clients with interest from funds on deposit while simultaneously providing the ability to implement up to an unlimited number of transfers.

It is a further object of the invention to permit the bank and/or savings institution to retain client-deposited funds on its books so that these funds can be used as a source for loans.

It is yet a further object of the invention to provide a banking method that enables clients to deposit funds into an account from any of various sources, and to make payments from the account via any of various instruments, without limitation as to the number of transfers, while still earning interest on the funds in the account.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a banking method that manages a plurality of demand accounts for multiple clients whose funds are held in an aggregate insured deposit account at the client's banking institution but managed by a third party agent.

US 7,519,551 B2

3

It is another object of the invention to provide a money market banking method that has a minimal impact on presently-existing, bank-to-client relationships.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a money market banking method which is readily integrable into the existing infrastructure of a bank or savings institution.

These and other objects of the invention are realized in the form of novel systems and methods for managing a plurality of client demand accounts so as to allow a banking institution to retain client deposits on the bank's balance sheets while at the same time, providing the client with the capability of implementing up to an unlimited number of transactions per month and also providing the client with interest on their account balance. These objectives are achieved through the use of an aggregate money market deposit account and an aggregate demand deposit account. These accounts are held on the books of the client's savings institution or bank, but are managed by a third party agent for the client. In response to client deposits and withdrawals, the agent initiates a transfer of funds between the aggregate demand deposit account and the aggregate money market deposit account. If client deposits exceed client withdrawals, then all or some of the funds in the aggregate demand deposit account may be transferred to the aggregate money market deposit account. On the other hand, if client withdrawals exceed client deposits, then all or some of the funds in the aggregate money market deposit account are transferred to the aggregate demand deposit account. The aggregate money market deposit account is an interest-bearing deposit account, where the aggregate balances for all clients are deposited.

One purpose of the aggregate demand deposit account is to facilitate the movement of funds. On a regular, periodic, or recurring basis, the agent calculates a net transaction as the sum of individual client deposits and withdrawals from the plurality of individual client demand accounts. The net transaction calculation is used to determine an amount of funds that need to be deposited into the aggregate money market deposit account to cover client deposits, or an amount of funds that needs to be withdrawn from the aggregate money market deposit account to cover client withdrawals. Individual account management calculations are performed to determine whether to deposit or withdraw funds from the aggregate demand deposit account to each of a plurality of individual client return sweep and/or money market accounts. The agent updates its database for each client's deposit and withdrawal activities.

The individual client has two accounts, a client demand deposit account on the bank's books, and a return sweep account or money market account on the agent's books. Individual transactions for the client occur between these two client accounts.

The agent distributes all or a portion of the interest accrued from the aggregate deposit account to individual clients. The interest is distributed according to the relative proportions of each client's funds in the aggregate deposit account. The agent maintains a database that keeps track of deposits to, and withdrawals from, each of the client demand accounts, as well as each client's proportionate and/or monetary share in the aggregate money market deposit account.

The invention permits funds to be deposited into a demand account from various sources, and also provides for the tendering of payments from the demand account via different instruments, without limitation as to the number of transfers, and with accrual of interest on the deposited funds. Moreover, the deposited funds are retained at the client's bank or savings institution. Optionally, the debiting of funds from each of the

4

client accounts is monitored, and debits are selectively authorized or rejected based upon the client's account balance and/or their current share in the aggregate deposit account.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The following is a brief description of the drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is an information flow diagram showing the transfer of client funds among a plurality of accounts pursuant to the techniques of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a flowchart showing an illustrative operational sequence for implementing the techniques of the present invention; and

FIGS. 3-6 together comprise a flowchart depicting processing steps to be performed on behalf of an administrator pursuant to a further embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Refer now to FIG. 1, which is a flow diagram showing the transfer of client funds among a plurality of accounts pursuant to the techniques of the present invention. A plurality of client demand accounts, including Client "A" DDA (Demand Deposit Account) 501 and Client "B" DDA Account 503 are managed through the use of an insured pooled deposit account at the client's savings institution or bank. In FIG. 1, this pooled deposit account is provided in the form of a Pooled MMDA (Money Market Deposit Account) 509. Excess funds are swept from client DDA accounts (Client "A" DDA 501 and Client "B" DDA 503, respectively) to corresponding client Money Market Accounts (Client "A" Money Market Account 505 and Client "B" Money Market Account 507, respectively). Excess funds may be calculated in terms of a desired or target minimum balance for each of the client DDA accounts. The same target minimum balance could be applied to all DDA accounts, or an account-specific target balance could be assigned to a certain account based upon the past history and/or the expected usage of that account. Alternatively, all funds could be swept from the client DDA accounts to the Money Market Accounts. After recording the amount of funds swept into a client Money Market Account, the funds are then transferred to the Pooled MMDA Account 509.

The net result of the aforementioned fund transfer activity is that funds are effectively transferred from individual client demand accounts, including Client "A" DDA 501 and Client "B" DDA 503, to a pooled insured deposit account (Pooled MMDA Account 509) at the client's bank or savings institution. This is advantageous in that the Pooled MMDA account 509 is an interest-bearing "non-demand" account pursuant to 12 CFR 329.2 et seq. Moreover, the Pooled MMDA Account is eligible for full FDIC insurance protection. This protection covers each client whose deposits are placed into the pooled account, up to a maximum of \$100,000 per client. As the Pooled MMDA Account 509 accrues interest, all or a portion of this interest is distributed to individual clients. The interest may, but need not, be distributed according to the relative proportions of each client's funds in the Pooled MMDA Account 509.

A database keeps track of deposits to, and withdrawals from, each of the client demand accounts (Client "A" DDA Account 501 and Client "B" DDA Account 503), as well as each client's proportionate and/or monetary share in the Pooled MMDA Account 509. On a regular, periodic, or recurring basis, a net transaction is calculated as the sum of indi-

US 7,519,551 B2

5

vidual client deposits and withdrawals from the plurality of demand accounts. The net transaction calculation is used to determine an amount of funds, if any, that needs to be deposited into the Pooled MMDA Account 509 from the individual client Money Market Accounts (Client "A" Money Market Account 505 and/or Client "B" Money Market Account 507) to cover client deposits. The net transaction calculation is also used to determine an amount, if any, of funds that need to be withdrawn from the Pooled MMDA Account 509 to cover client withdrawals from respective client DDA Accounts (Client "A" DDA Account 501 and/or Client "B" DDA Account 503). In the event that fund withdrawals are required, the necessary funds are first transferred from the Pooled MMDA Account 509 to a Pooled DDA (Demand Deposit Account) 511 which is held at the same savings institution or bank as Pooled MMDA Account 509. On an as-needed basis, funds are then transferred from the Pooled MMDA Account 509 to individual client DDA accounts (Client "A" DDA Account 501 or Client "B" DDA Account 503) to cover checks written by these clients, as well as any fund withdrawals or transfers that clients wish to implement on behalf of their respective DDA Accounts.

Individual account management calculations are performed to determine whether to deposit or withdraw funds from the Pooled DDA Account 511 to each of a plurality of individual client demand accounts. The database is updated for each client's deposit and withdrawal activities. The invention permits funds to be deposited into a client demand account from various sources, and also provides for the tendering of payments from the client demand account via different instruments, without limitation as to the number of transfers, and with accrual of interest on the deposited funds. Optionally, the debiting of funds from each of the client demand accounts is monitored, and debits are selectively authorized or rejected based upon the client's demand account balance and/or their current share in the pooled deposit account.

The foregoing procedures are structured in a manner so as to permit banks and savings institutions to continue servicing their clients as they have done in the past. Moreover, if desired, these procedures could be implemented by an agent acting on behalf of one or more clients. In this manner, the invention would be virtually transparent to presently-existing banks and savings institutions. Bank personnel would not be burdened with the requirement to perform unfamiliar and potentially time-consuming procedures. Pursuant to this "agency" approach, the agent effectively provides a "sweep interface" between a client's existing DDA account (i.e., Client "A" DDA Account 501) and a fully-insured, interest-bearing pooled account (i.e., the Pooled MMDA Account 509). The agent opens up the Pooled MMDA Account 509 and the Pooled DDA Account 511 at the client's bank or savings institution. The agent is responsible for several administrative activities, including: (1) recordkeeping in connection with the individual Client Money Market accounts (Client "A" Money Market Account 505 and Client "B" Money Market Account 507); (2) determining each client's proportionate share in the Pooled MMDA Account 509; (3) determining an appropriate balance for the Pooled DDA Account 511; and (4) determining appropriate transfers from the Pooled DDA Account 511 to any of the client DDA accounts.

Although banks and savings institutions can provide DDA, MMDA and checking account services to clients without utilizing a third-party agent, under the current statutory scheme, these institutions cannot pay interest on account balances, and at the same time, allow for an unlimited number

6

of transactions. Pursuant to Regulation D, banks and savings institutions are prohibited from automatically allowing unlimited fund transfers between DDAs and MMDAs on behalf of clients. A client could open up his own DDA and MMDA accounts, evaluate daily DDA activities, determine if funds should be moved between the DDA and the MMDA, and instruct the bank to transfer the appropriate funds. However, it would be time consuming and inefficient. The use of an agent provides administrative expediency, rendering the entire operational scheme more attractive to the client as well as the banking institution.

Advantageously, the agent maintains the client's original DDA account number that uniquely identifies that client's account at his or her bank or savings institution. This account number is used as a cross-reference to keep track of each client's proportionate interest in the Pooled MMDA Account 509. The client Money Market Account numbers (for Client "A" Money Market Account 505 and Client "B" Money Market Account 506) are transparent to these clients, as is the account number for the Pooled MMDA Account 509.

Effectively, a "sweep interface" exists between each of respective individual client DDA Accounts (Client "A" DDA Account 501 and Client "B" DDA Account 503) and corresponding individual client Money Market Accounts (Client "A" Money Market Account 505 and Client "B" Money Market Account 507). Excess funds in the individual client DDA accounts are swept to the individual client Money Market accounts to be further credited to the Pooled MMDA Account 509. If funds are needed to pay for a check or handle a withdrawal, funds are redeemed via the Pooled DDA Account 511. The sweep interface may be governed by any of a number of established or specified parameters. For example, the bank may choose to leave a certain dollar amount in each of the client DDA accounts to cover checks and only sweep funds in excess of that amount. Or the bank may decide to sweep everything and redeem funds based upon the checks presented for payment. From the standpoint of the bank or savings institution, no additional work is required. The bank merely maintains the client's existing individual DDA account along with the client's profile (name, address, check reorders, signature on file, stop payment orders, etc). Bank clients will be able to keep their existing checks, and to continue using their existing DDA accounts. Deposits are credited to these DDA accounts and then swept to the pooled MMDA account. Many of the required administrative activities are performed by the agent on behalf of designated client accounts. These administrative activities basically involve the monitoring of fund sweeping to and from individual client DDA accounts and corresponding individual Money Market accounts, as well as transfers among the individual Money Market, Pooled MMDA and Pooled DDA Accounts maintained by the agent. On a daily, regular, repeated, or periodic basis, the bank or savings institution transmits a transaction sweep data file to the agent that includes deposit and withdrawal information for each of a plurality of clients. The bank and the agent periodically or repeatedly reconcile the sweep data file and agree upon a net settlement figure. If the net settlement figure is a credit, the bank or savings institution credits the Pooled DDA Account 511. During routine, day-to-day system operations, the only transactions that occur in the Pooled MMDA Account 509 are transfers either to or from the Pooled DDA Account. Pursuant to an optional alternative approach, the bank could allocate credits to the Pooled MMDA Account 509. In any event, if the net settlement figure is a debit, the bank or savings institution debits the Pooled DDA Account 511. The agent provides instructions by messenger to transfer funds from the Pooled MMDA Account 509

US 7,519,551 B2

7

to the Pooled DDA Account **511** to cover the debit balance in the account. At the end of a predetermined period of time (such as a month), the agent can provide a monthly statement file to the bank or savings institution. This file may include activity for a client's individual money market account as maintained in an agent database. The bank or savings institution can then use this monthly statement file to generate month end statements for its clients. According to one preferred embodiment of the invention, activity pertaining to other accounts is tracked and maintained by the bank or savings institution. However, pursuant to an alternate embodiment, this statement file could optionally include Pooled MMDA, Pooled DDA, individual Money Market, and/or individual DDA account activity.

Refer now to FIG. 2, which is a flowchart showing an illustrative operational sequence for implementing the techniques of the present invention. The procedure commences at block **701**, where a client makes a deposit to their individual DDA Account (i.e., Client "A" DDA **501**, FIG. 1), or at block **703**, where a client makes a withdrawal from their individual DDA Account. Irrespective of whether the transaction is a withdrawal or a deposit, a sweep process is performed (block **707**) to sweep any excess account funds out of the client's individual DDA account, or to sweep required funds into this DDA account. A test is performed at block **709** to ascertain whether or not there are excess funds in the individual client's DDA account. If so, program control jumps ahead to block **713**, whereas if not, the program continues on to block **711**. At block **713**, the excess funds are swept to the agent, who then updates the individual client Money Market account (block **717**).

The negative branch from block **709** leads to block **711**, where a test is performed to ascertain whether or not there is an insufficient minimum balance in the individual client's DDA account. If not, the program exits. If so, program control advances to block **715** where funds are swept from the agent. The agent then updates the individual client Money Market account (block **717**). Next, on a periodic, repeated, or scheduled basis, the agent calculates the net sweep account activity (block **719**). A test is performed at block **721** to ascertain whether or not the net sweep activity is a credit. If so, program control advances to block **723** and, if not, program control continues to block **725**. At block **723**, the agent receives payment from the bank for the credit. Payment can be received, for example, in the form of a wire transfer or a credit to the pooled DDA account. Next, the agent instructs the bank to deposit the received funds into the pooled MMDA account (block **727**). Funds are transferred into the pooled MMDA account (block **731**), and the program exits.

The negative branch from block **721** leads to block **725** where a test is performed to ascertain whether or not the net sweep activity is a debit. If not, the program exits and, if so, the program continues to block **729**. At block **729**, a messenger is instructed to initiate a fund transfer from the pooled MMDA account to the pooled DDA account. The funds are transferred from the pooled MMDA to the pooled DDA (block **733**), and the agent pays the bank or savings institution from the pooled DDA account for the sweep debit. The program then exits.

FIGS. 3 and 4 together comprise a flowchart depicting processing steps to be performed on behalf of an agent or administrator pursuant to a further embodiment of the present invention. This agent or administrator can be a brokerage firm, a bank, or another financial entity with which clients can institute financial transactions such as deposits, withdrawals and on-demand payments. The administrator or agent appears to each client as if it were, at least in part, a bank, by accepting

8

deposits for the client's account, and, subsequently, by authorizing (and then implementing) payments demanded by the client from his or her account. The funds for all of the clients are pooled into a single deposit account that is maintained as an insured deposit account at a licensed bank or savings institution.

Referring to FIG. 3, financial entity **100** may be a bank, savings institution, brokerage firm, or other entity where financial transactions take place or can be facilitated. This financial entity **100** creates transaction files **101** which are transmitted to Reserve **105**. Reserve **105** (or the Reserve System) is the administrator or other entity in charge of administering at least one of the deposit accounts. New account files **102** can be transmitted to Reserve **105**. For example, a new investor account may need to be opened. This activity necessitates organizing and coordinating information to service a new investor for the present system, even though that investor may already be a client of a financial entity **100** for other investment vehicles. A new account **102** effectively becomes part of an existing pooled bank deposit account **129** that collects earned income **130**, all or a portion of which is eventually conveyed to the client's accounts **131**. Of course, at some point in time, the deposit account must first be established with clients' funds. The transaction files represent the addition of funds by check (to be drawn on another institution, or to be drawn from a different demand account at the same institution), wire or electronic transfer, ACH, credits (such as from a debit or credit card merchant), or a sweep from one of the client's other accounts. Accordingly, encompassed in the transaction file are deposits **103** and withdrawals **104**. A "sweep" includes the automatic transfer of funds, such as the automated transfer of interest from one account into the client's account, as well as the automated transfer of funds out of the client's account (such as for payment of a securities trade); thus, a sweep may be from one of the client's accounts to another. The responsibility for maintaining the deposit account can be assigned by the administrator to a third party.

Referring now to FIG. 4, Reserve System **50** contains an insured deposit database **75** where a position file for debit/credit card users is created **132** and transmitted to a bank for a debit/credit card network **133** where the bank then updates the network **134**. The system updates the data base **75** and processes transactions **106** (from **105**, FIG. 3) and opens a new account **107** where application and check deposits are processed **110**. The bank preference **107A** is the list of banks and the order of preference for deposits and withdrawals held on the account, including a list of banks to be excluded (if any), and the maximum percentage and/or amount of funds to be held in each bank. The client's bank preference data is added to the account at **107B**. If the client does not select values for any of these variables, the system can provide default values for the banks and their order at **107C** sufficient for all of the client's funds. When possible, the system can be configured to assign a bank that is in the state in which the client resides. Referring to FIG. 5, it can be seen that when a deposit, either a check deposit **111**, federal wire deposit **112**, ACH deposit, sweep, or other deposit is credited to the client's account **108**, the system will review where the existing funds of the accounts are deposited **108A**. If the client's balance has reached the maximum allowable balance for the existing bank **108B**, as shown in FIG. 6, the system will then select the next bank on the preference list attached to the account **108C**. If the maximum allowable balance has not been reached in the existing bank, the system will credit the additional funds to that bank **108D**.

Still referring to FIG. 5, the procedure for processing withdrawals can be seen. Various methods of withdrawing funds

US 7,519,551 B2

9

are debit withdrawal **109**, processing debit or credit card transactions such as debit/credit card files **115**, direct debit accounts **215**, and processing of files **121**. Processing of a debit/credit card file **115** utilizes data accumulated from debit/credit card transactions received from the banks **114**.
5 The processing of file **121** procedure utilizes one of various sources of data such as a check presented for payment **116**, ACH debits **117**, touch tone bill paying **118**, and/or internet bill paying **119**.

After processing the debit procedure, the system will review the bank preference list and select the appropriate bank to debit **125A**. The system will sort all the daily transactions by the bank **125B** (see FIG. 6). The activity for each bank will then be netted **126** and the appropriate deposit or withdrawals made.
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The system will then determine whether funds are available **122**, which function is also associated with other participant withdrawals **120**. If the funds are available, the account is debited **225**. If the funds are not available, however, the system determines whether a credit line is available **123**. If a credit line is available, then funds are advanced **230** to cover the debit; if not the transaction is rejected **124**.
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Referring to FIG. 6, as previously stated, the system determines whether the client's balance reaches its maximum **108B**. If so, the next bank on the list selected by the client is credited **108C**. If the maximum is not reached, then the existing bank is credited **108D**. Information and activities associated with processed debits and credits of the client's accounts from **125A** are sorted by the bank **125B** and the net activity by the bank is determined **126**. The system then determines whether the deposits and credits were greater than the withdrawals and debits **240**. If so, the excess funds are deposited into a deposit account **127**. If the debits and withdrawals were greater than the credits, the difference is redeemed from the deposit account **128**.
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Thus, by practicing the embodiment of the invention described in connection with FIGS. 3-6, an individual client is effectively provided with FDIC insurance in excess of \$ 100,000. This result is brought about because the individual client's holdings are maintained in multiple insured deposit accounts, which may be in multiple banks.
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The foregoing description is intended to be illustrative and not limiting. Any of various changes, modifications, and/or additions may become apparent to the skilled artisan upon a perusal of this specification, and, as such, are intended to be within the scope and spirit of the invention as defined by the claims.
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What is claimed is:

1. A computer-implemented method for managing funds for a plurality of client accounts for a plurality of clients whose funds were accepted for deposit in respective client accounts held in the names of the respective clients at a first banking institution, the method comprising:
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(a) maintaining a plurality of FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit accounts, each aggregated deposit account held in a different respective bank of a different respective banking institution including an FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at the first banking institution;
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(b) maintaining or having maintained an electronic database, on one or more computer-readable media, containing information on funds held by each client in the plurality of aggregated deposit accounts;
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(c) administering the aggregated deposit accounts to transfer or have transferred client funds that had been accepted into respective client accounts held in the names of the respective clients at the first banking insti-
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tution to the aggregated deposit account at the first banking institution except that for clients with a balance of funds in the aggregated deposit account at the first banking institution that equal or exceed a specified amount depositing or having deposited additional funds of that client to one of the aggregated deposit accounts in a different one of the banking institutions;

(d) withdrawing or having withdrawn client funds from the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at one of the banks of one of the banking institutions more than six (6) times during a month while preserving an insured and interest-bearing status of the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at the one bank; and
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(e) updating or having updated the electronic database based on the transfers to and withdrawals in the plurality of aggregated deposit accounts.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the withdrawing or having withdrawn step is made from an aggregated deposit account at one of the banking institutions through an aggregated demand deposit account at that banking institution.
60

3. The method of claim 2, further comprising selecting the different one of the banking institutions to deposit the additional funds to the aggregated deposit account held thereby based at least on one or more exclusions of banking institutions made by the client.

4. The method of claim 1, further including the step of, on a regular, periodic, or recurring basis, calculating a net transaction as the sum of individual client deposits and withdrawals from each of the plurality of the client accounts; and, further including the step of utilizing the net transaction calculation to determine an amount of funds that need to be deposited into one or more of the aggregated deposit accounts to cover client deposits, or an amount of funds that needs to be withdrawn from one or more of the aggregated deposit accounts to cover client withdrawals.
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5. The method of claim 1, further including the steps of: (a) monitoring requested debits of funds from each of the client accounts, and (b) selectively authorizing or rejecting each of the requested debits based upon an account balance in a client account or a client's proportionate share in the plurality of aggregated deposit accounts or based upon both the account balance in the client account and the client's proportionate share in the plurality of aggregated deposit accounts.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the withdrawing or having withdrawn step is substantially performed only by one or more of the following methods: in person, or by mail, or by messenger, or by telephone and distributed by mail, or by automated teller machine, or a combination thereof so that the insured and interest-bearing status of the aggregated deposit accounts is preserved.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising selecting the different one of the banking institutions to deposit the additional funds to the aggregated deposit account held thereby based at least on one or more exclusions of banking institutions made by the client.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising selecting the different one of the banking institutions to deposit the excess over the specified amount to the aggregated deposit account held thereby based on an exclusion of banking institutions located in a state where the client resides.

9. The method of claim 1, withdrawing or having withdrawn client funds from the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at a second one of the banks of a second one of the banking institutions more than six (6) times during a month while preserving an insured and
70

US 7,519,551 B2

11

interest-bearing status of the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at the second one of the banks.

10. The method of claim 1, withdrawing or having withdrawn client funds from the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at a second one of the banks of a second one of the banking institutions more than six (6) times during a month while preserving an insured and interest-bearing status of the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at the second one of the banks.

11. A computer-implemented method for managing funds for a plurality of client accounts for a plurality of clients whose funds were accepted for deposit in respective client accounts held in the names of the respective different clients at a first banking institution, the method comprising:

- (a) accepting client funds from each of a plurality of the clients, with funds from each different client being accepted into a respective client account held in the name of that respective client at the first banking institution;
- (b) maintaining or having maintained an FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account at the first banking institution;
- (c) maintaining or having maintained or receiving access by computer to an electronic database, on one or more computer-readable media containing information on funds held by each client in a plurality of FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit accounts, each aggregated deposit account held at a different banking institution;
- (d) transferring or have transferred client funds of a plurality of the client accounts to the aggregated deposit account at the first banking institution except that for clients with a balance of funds in the aggregated deposit account at the first banking institution that equal or exceed a specified amount depositing or having deposited additional funds of that client to one of the aggregated deposit accounts in a different one of the banking institutions;
- (e) withdrawing or having withdrawn client funds from the aggregated deposit account held in one of the banks of one of the banking institutions more than six (6) times during a month while preserving an insured and interest-bearing status of that aggregated deposit account in the one bank; and
- (f) updating the electronic database based on the transfers to and withdrawals in the plurality of aggregated deposit accounts or receiving electronic access.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the withdrawing or having withdrawn step is made from an aggregated deposit account at the first banking institutions through an aggregated demand deposit account at the first banking institution.

13. The method of claim 12, further comprising receiving a selection from one or more clients of exclusions of one or more banking institutions, and providing such exclusions to assist in selecting the different one of the banking institutions to deposit the additional funds to the aggregated deposit account held thereby.

14. The method of claim 11, further comprising receiving a selection from one or more clients of exclusions of one or more banking institutions, and providing such exclusions to assist in selecting the different one of the banking institutions to deposit the additional funds to the aggregated deposit account held thereby.

15. The method of claim 11, further comprising receiving from one or more clients an exclusion of banking institutions

12

located in a state where the client resides, and providing such exclusion to assist in selecting the different one of the banking institutions to deposit the additional funds to the aggregated deposit account held thereby.

16. The method of claim 11, further including the step of, on a regular, periodic, or recurring basis, calculating a net transaction as the sum of individual client deposits and withdrawals from each of the plurality of the client accounts; and, further including the step of utilizing the net transaction calculation to determine an amount of funds that need to be deposited into one or more of the aggregated deposit accounts to cover client deposits, or an amount of funds that needs to be withdrawn from one or more of the aggregated deposit accounts to cover client withdrawals.

17. The method of claim 11, wherein the withdrawing or having withdrawn step is substantially performed only by one or more of the following methods: in person, or by mail, or by messenger, or by telephone and distributed by mail, or by automated teller machine, or a combination thereof so that the insured and interest-bearing status of the aggregated deposit account at the first banking institution is preserved.

18. A computer-implemented method for managing funds for a plurality of client accounts for a plurality of clients whose funds were accepted for deposit in respective client accounts held in the names of the respective clients at a first banking institution that includes a first bank in its infrastructure, the method comprising:

- (a) maintaining a plurality of FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit accounts, each aggregated deposit account held in a different respective bank of a different respective banking institution including an FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at the first bank in the first banking institution;
- (b) maintaining or having maintained an electronic database, on one or more computer-readable media, containing information on funds held by each client in the plurality of aggregated deposit accounts;
- (c) administering the aggregated deposit accounts to transfer or have transferred client funds that had been accepted into respective client accounts held in the names of the respective clients at the first banking institution to the aggregated deposit account at the first bank except that for clients with a balance of funds in the aggregated deposit account at the first bank that equal or exceed a specified amount depositing or having deposited additional funds of that client to one of the aggregated deposit accounts in one of the different banks in one of the different banking institutions;
- (d) withdrawing or having withdrawn client funds from the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at one of the banks of one of the banking institutions more than six (6) times during a month while preserving an insured and interest-bearing status of the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at the one bank; and
- (e) updating or having updated the electronic database based on the transfers to and withdrawals in the plurality of aggregated deposit accounts.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the withdrawing or having withdrawn step is made from an aggregated deposit account at one of the banks at one of the banking institutions through an aggregated demand deposit account at that bank.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising selecting the different one of the banks to deposit the additional funds to the aggregated deposit account held thereby based at least on an exclusion of one or more banks made by the client.

US 7,519,551 B2

13

21. The method of claim 18, further including the step of, on a regular, periodic, or recurring basis, calculating a net transaction as the sum of individual client deposits and withdrawals from each of the plurality of the client accounts; and, further including the step of utilizing the net transaction calculation to determine an amount of funds that need to be deposited into one or more of the aggregated deposit accounts to cover client deposits, or an amount of funds that needs to be withdrawn from one or more of the aggregated deposit accounts to cover client withdrawals.

22. The method of claim 18, further including the steps of: (a) monitoring requested debits of funds from each of the client accounts, and (b) selectively authorizing or rejecting each of the requested debits based upon an account balance in a client account or a client's proportionate share in the plurality of aggregated deposit accounts or based upon both the account balance in the client account and the client's proportionate share in the plurality of aggregated deposit accounts.

23. The method of claim 18, wherein the withdrawing or having withdrawn step is substantially performed only by one or more of the following methods: in person, or by mail, or by messenger, or by telephone and distributed by mail, or by automated teller machine, or a combination thereof so that the insured and interest-bearing status of the aggregated deposit accounts is preserved.

24. The method of claim 18, further comprising selecting the different one of the banks to deposit the additional funds to the aggregated deposit account held thereby based at least on an exclusion of one or more banks made by the client.

25. The method of claim 18, further comprising selecting the different one of the banking institutions to deposit the excess over the specified amount to the aggregated deposit account held thereby based on an exclusion of one or more banks located in a state where the client resides.

26. The method of claim 18, withdrawing or having withdrawn client funds from the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at a second one of the banks of a second one of the banking institutions more than six (6) times during a month while preserving an insured and interest-bearing status of the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at the second one of the banks.

27. A computer-implemented method for managing funds for a plurality of client accounts for a plurality of clients whose funds were accepted for deposit in respective client accounts held in the names of the respective different clients at a first banking institution that includes a first bank in its infrastructure, the method comprising:

- (a) accepting client funds from each of a plurality of the clients, with funds from each different client being accepted into a respective client account held in the name of that respective client at the first banking institution;
- (b) maintaining or having maintained an FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account at the first bank in the first banking institution;
- (c) maintaining or having maintained or receiving access by computer to an electronic database, on one or more computer-readable media, containing information on funds held by each client in a plurality of FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit accounts, each aggregated deposit account held in a different respective bank of a different respective banking institution;
- (d) transferring or have transferred client funds of a plurality of the client accounts to the aggregated deposit account at the first bank except that for clients with a balance of funds in the aggregated deposit account at the

14

first bank that equal or exceed a specified amount depositing or having deposited additional funds of that client to one of the aggregated deposit accounts in one of the different banks in one of the different banking institutions;

- (e) withdrawing or having withdrawn client funds from the aggregated deposit account held at one of the banks of one of the banking institutions more than six (6) times during a month while preserving an insured and interest-bearing status of the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at the one bank; and
- (f) updating the electronic database based on the transfers to and withdrawals in the plurality of aggregated deposit accounts or receiving electronic access.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein the withdrawing or having withdrawn step is made from an aggregated deposit account at the first bank through an aggregated demand deposit account at the first bank.

29. The method of claim 28, further comprising receiving one or more exclusions of one of the clients of one or more banks, and using such exclusions to assist in selecting the different one of the banks to deposit the additional funds to the aggregated deposit account held thereby.

30. The method of claim 27, further comprising receiving one or more exclusions of one of the clients of one or more banks, and using such exclusions to assist in selecting the different one of the banks to deposit the additional funds to the aggregated deposit account held thereby.

31. The method of claim 27, further comprising receiving one or more exclusions of one of the clients of one or more banks located in a state where the client resides, and providing such exclusion to assist in selecting the different one of the banks to deposit the additional funds to the aggregated deposit account held thereby.

32. The method of claim 27, further including the step of, on a regular, periodic, or recurring basis, calculating a net transaction as the sum of individual client deposits and withdrawals from each of the plurality of the client accounts; and, further including the step of utilizing the net transaction calculation to determine an amount of funds that need to be deposited into one or more of the aggregated deposit accounts to cover client deposits, or an amount of funds that needs to be withdrawn from one or more of the aggregated deposit accounts to cover client withdrawals.

33. The method of claim 27, wherein the withdrawing or having withdrawn step is substantially performed only by one or more of the following methods: in person, or by mail, or by messenger, or by telephone and distributed by mail, or by automated teller machine, or a combination thereof so that the insured and interest-bearing status of the aggregated deposit account at the first banking institution is preserved.

34. The method of claim 27, withdrawing or having withdrawn client funds from the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at a second one of the banks of a second one of the banking institutions more than six (6) times during a month while preserving an insured and interest-bearing status of the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at the second one of the banks.

35. A computer-implemented method for managing funds for a plurality of client accounts for a plurality of clients of a first banking institution that includes a first bank in its infrastructure, wherein the respective client funds were accepted for deposit in respective client accounts held in the names of the respective clients, the method comprising:

- (a) maintaining a plurality of FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit accounts, each aggregated

US 7,519,551 B2

15

deposit account held in a different respective bank of a different respective banking institution including an FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at the first bank in the first banking institution;

(b) maintaining or having maintained an electronic database, on one or more computer-readable media, containing information on funds held by each client in the plurality of aggregated deposit accounts;

(c) administering the aggregated deposit accounts to transfer or have transferred client funds that had been accepted into respective client accounts held in the names of the respective clients at the first banking institution to the aggregated deposit account at the first bank except that for clients with a balance of funds in the aggregated deposit account at the first bank that equal or exceed a specified amount depositing or having deposited additional funds of that client to one of the aggregated deposit accounts in one of the different banks in one of the different banking institutions;

(d) withdrawing or having withdrawn client funds from the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at one of the banks of one of the banking institutions more than six (6) times during a month while preserving an insured and interest-bearing status of the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at the one bank; and

(e) updating or having updated the electronic database based on the transfers to and withdrawals in the plurality of aggregated deposit accounts.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein the withdrawing or having withdrawn step is made from an aggregated deposit account at one of the banks at one of the banking institutions through an aggregated demand deposit account at that bank.

37. The method of claim 36, further comprising selecting the different one of the banks to deposit the additional funds to the aggregated deposit account held thereby based at least on an exclusion of one or more banks made by the client.

38. The method of claim 35, further including the step of, on a regular, periodic, or recurring basis, calculating a net transaction as the sum of individual client deposits and withdrawals from each of the plurality of the client accounts; and, further including the step of utilizing the net transaction calculation to determine an amount of funds that need to be deposited into one or more of the aggregated deposit accounts to cover client deposits, or an amount of funds that needs to be withdrawn from one or more of the aggregated deposit accounts to cover client withdrawals.

39. The method of claim 35, further including the steps of: (a) monitoring requested debits of funds from each of the client accounts, and (b) selectively authorizing or rejecting each of the requested debits based upon an account balance in a client account or a client's proportionate share in the plurality of aggregated deposit accounts or based upon both the account balance in the client account and the client's proportionate share in the plurality of aggregated deposit accounts.

40. The method of claim 35, wherein the withdrawing or having withdrawn step is substantially performed only by one or more of the following methods: in person, or by mail, or by messenger, or by telephone and distributed by mail, or by automated teller machine, or a combination thereof so that the insured and interest-bearing status of the aggregated deposit accounts is preserved.

41. The method of claim 35, further comprising selecting the different one of the banks to deposit the additional funds to the aggregated deposit account held thereby based at least on an exclusion of one or more banks made by the client.

16

42. The method of claim 35, further comprising selecting the different one of the banking institutions to deposit the excess over the specified amount to the aggregated deposit account held thereby based on an exclusion of one or more banks located in a state where the client resides.

43. The method of claim 35, withdrawing or having withdrawn client funds from the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at a second one of the banks of a second one of the banking institutions more than six (6) times during a month while preserving an insured and interest-bearing status of the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at the second one of the banks.

44. A computer-implemented method for managing funds for a plurality of client accounts for a plurality of clients whose funds were accepted for deposit in respective client accounts held in the names of the respective different clients at a first banking institution that includes a first bank in its infrastructure, the method comprising:

(a) accepting client funds from each of a plurality of the clients, with funds from each different client being accepted into a respective client account held in the name of that respective client at the first banking institution;

(b) maintaining or having maintained an FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account at the first bank in the first banking institution;

(c) maintaining or having maintained or receiving access by computer to an electronic database, on one or more computer-readable media, containing information on funds held by each client in a plurality of FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit accounts, each aggregated deposit account held in a different respective bank of a different respective banking institution;

(d) transferring or have transferred client funds of a plurality of the client accounts to the aggregated deposit account at the first bank except that for clients with a balance of funds in the aggregated deposit account at the first bank that equal or exceed a specified amount depositing or having deposited additional funds of that client to one of the aggregated deposit accounts in one of the different banks in one of the different banking institutions;

(e) withdrawing or having withdrawn client funds from the aggregated deposit account held at one of the banks of one of the banking institutions more than six (6) times during a month while preserving an insured and interest-bearing status of that aggregated deposit account held at the one bank; and

(f) updating the electronic database based on the transfers to and withdrawals in the plurality of aggregated deposit accounts or receiving electronic access.

45. The method of claim 44, wherein the withdrawing or having withdrawn step is made from an aggregated deposit account at the first bank through an aggregated demand deposit account at the first bank.

46. The method of claim 45, further comprising receiving one or more exclusions of one of the clients of one or more banks, and using such exclusions to assist in selecting the different one of the banks to deposit the additional funds to the aggregated deposit account held thereby.

47. The method of claim 44, further comprising receiving one or more exclusions of one of the clients of one or more banks, and using such exclusions to assist in selecting the different one of the banks to deposit the additional funds to the aggregated deposit account held thereby.

US 7,519,551 B2

17

48. The method of claim 44, further comprising receiving one or more exclusions of one of the clients of one or more banks located in a state where the client resides, and providing such exclusion to assist in selecting the different one of the banks to deposit the additional funds to the aggregated deposit account held thereby.

49. The method of claim 44, further including the step of, on a regular, periodic, or recurring basis, calculating a net transaction as the sum of individual client deposits and withdrawals from each of the plurality of the client accounts; and, further including the step of utilizing the net transaction calculation to determine an amount of funds that need to be deposited into one or more of the aggregated deposit accounts to cover client deposits, or an amount of funds that needs to be withdrawn from one or more of the aggregated deposit accounts to cover client withdrawals.

18

50. The method of claim 44, wherein the withdrawing or having withdrawn step is substantially performed only by one or more of the following methods: in person, or by mail, or by messenger, or by telephone and distributed by mail, or by automated teller machine, or a combination thereof so that the insured and interest-bearing status of the aggregated deposit account at the first banking institution is preserved.

51. The method of claim 44, withdrawing or having withdrawn client funds from the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at a second one of the banks of a second one of the banking institutions more than six (6) times during a month while preserving an insured and interest-bearing status of the FDIC-insured and interest-bearing aggregated deposit account held at the second one of the banks.

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