Donegal Mutual Insurance Company, Donegal Group Inc. and Donegal Financial Services Corporation, Marietta, Pennsylvania (collectively, the Applicants), have applied for approval of the Office of Thrift Supervision (the OTS) pursuant to 12 U.S.C. §§ 1464(e) and 1467a(e), and 12 C.F.R. §§ 552.2-1 and 574.3 for permission to organize and acquire Donegal Federal Savings Bank, Marietta, Pennsylvania (the Savings Bank) (collectively, the Applications). The Savings Bank will be a member of the Savings Association Insurance Fund.

The OTS has considered the Applications under the standards set forth in 12 U.S.C. §§ 1464(e) and 1467a(e), and 12 C.F.R. §§ 543.3, 552.2-1, and 574.7 and under the Community Reinvestment Act (the CRA), 12 U.S.C. § 2901 et seq., and the OTS regulations thereunder, 12 C.F.R. Part 563e. In addition, the OTS has considered a digest prepared by the OTS Northeast Regional Office (Regional Office), an analysis by the Office of Examination and Supervision and a legal opinion by the Business Transactions Division (collectively the Staff Memoranda). For the reasons set forth in the Staff Memoranda, the OTS finds that the Applications satisfy all applicable approval standards, provided that the following conditions are complied with in a manner satisfactory to the Northeast Regional Director, or his designee (Regional Director). Accordingly, the Applications are hereby approved, subject to the following conditions:

1. The Applicants and the Savings Bank must receive all required regulatory and shareholder approvals for the proposed transaction and submit copies of all such approvals to the Regional Director prior to consummation of the proposed transaction;

2. The proposed transaction must be consummated within one hundred and twenty (120) calendar days from the date of this Order;

3. On the business day prior to the date of consummation of the proposed transaction, the chief financial officers of the Applicants and the Savings Bank must certify in writing to the Regional Director that no material adverse events or material adverse changes have occurred with respect to the financial condition or operation of the Applicants and the Savings Bank as disclosed in the Applications. If additional information having an adverse bearing on any feature of the Applications is brought to the attention of the Applicants, the Savings Bank, or the OTS since the date of the financial statements submitted with the Applications, the transaction must not be consummated unless the information is presented to the Regional Director, and the Regional Director provides written non-objection to consummation of the transaction;
4. The Applicants and the Savings Bank must advise the Regional Director in writing within 5 calendar days after the effective date of the proposed transaction: (a) of the effective date of the proposed transaction; and (b) that the transaction was consummated in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, the Applications, and this Order;

5. The Savings Bank must submit annual independent audit reports to the Regional Director for its first three fiscal years. These reports must be in compliance with the audit rules set forth at 12 C.F.R. § 562.4;

6. At least 30 calendar days prior to beginning operations, the Savings Bank must submit to the Regional Director a final narrative business plan with supporting financial schedules incorporating all amendments to the plan made through November 16, 1999. The Savings Bank must submit to the Regional Office quarterly variance reports on compliance with the business plan for the first three years of operation;

7. The Savings Bank must operate within the parameters of its business plan, as supplemented and amended through November 16, 1999. The Applicants and the Savings Bank must submit any proposed major deviations or material changes from the plan (including changes resulting from decisions made by the Applicants), and in particular, those pertaining to cross-marketing of products of the Savings Bank and its affiliates, a change in the role of the independent agents, and any changes in the proposed delivery system of the Savings Bank’s products, for the prior, written non-objection of the Regional Director. The request for change must be submitted a minimum of 60 calendar days before the proposed change is implemented with a copy to the FDIC Regional Office;

8. At least 40 percent of the Savings Bank’s board of directors must be individuals who are not officers or employees of the Applicants or affiliates thereof or have otherwise been determined by the Regional Director to lack sufficient independence, and at least one member of the Savings Bank’s board of directors must be an individual who is not an officer, director or employee of the Applicants or any affiliate and who is not an officer or employee of the Savings Bank or have otherwise been determined by the Regional Director to lack sufficient independence. At least 50 percent of the audit committee established by the Savings Bank must be directors who are not officers or employees of the Savings Bank, the Applicants or any affiliates. If compliance with this condition involves the selection of additional directors, each director must receive the prior written approval of the Regional Director;

9. At least 30 calendar days prior to beginning operations, the Applicants must submit to the Regional Director for his non-objection a draft notice addressed to the independent agents of the Applicants and their affiliates providing guidance on the restrictions, prohibitions, duties and responsibilities of the agents when referring to the Savings Bank’s products in any manner;
10. At least 60 calendar days before beginning operations, the Savings Bank must employ a Senior Loan Officer subject to the prior non-object of the Regional Director. The candidate must submit a Biographical and Financial Report, RB-20 Certification and fingerprint cards before being considered by the OTS. The Savings Bank must also submit relevant experience information for the proposed Accounting Officer and Loan Originator.

11. Within the first year of its operation, the proposed appointment of any permanent executive officers or directors of the Savings Bank is subject to the prior review and non-object of the Regional Director.

12. The Applicants, its affiliates and the Savings Bank must comply with the anti-tying restrictions of 12 U.S.C. §§ 1464(q) and 1467a(n) and must develop written procedures to effect such compliance. The procedures must disclose any proposed bundling arrangements and must be submitted for the review and non-object of the Regional Director prior to the opening of the Savings Bank for business; and

13. Any contracts or agreements pertaining to transactions with affiliates, not yet submitted to the OTS for review, must be provided to the Regional Director at least 30 calendar days prior to execution and must receive his written non-object prior to implementation.

Any time period set forth herein may be extended for up to 120 calendar days, for good cause, by the Regional Director.

By order of the Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision, or her designee, effective March 31, 2000.

Scott M. Albinson
Managing Director
Office of Supervision