

## Basis For Promissory Notes as Settlement

### § 3-409. ACCEPTANCE OF DRAFT; CERTIFIED CHECK.

- (a) "**Acceptance**" means the drawee's signed agreement to pay a draft as presented. It must be written on the draft and may consist of the drawee's signature alone. Acceptance may be made at any time and becomes effective when notification pursuant to instructions is given or the accepted draft is delivered for the purpose of giving rights on the acceptance to any person.
- (b) A draft may be accepted although it has not been signed by the drawer, is otherwise incomplete, is overdue, or has been dishonored.

### § 3-604. DISCHARGE BY CANCELLATION OR RENUNCIATION.

- (a) A person entitled to enforce an instrument, with or without consideration, may discharge the obligation of a party to pay the instrument (i) by an intentional voluntary act, such as surrender of the instrument to the party, destruction, mutilation, or cancellation of the instrument, cancellation or striking out of the party's signature, or the addition of words to the instrument indicating discharge, or (ii) by agreeing not to sue or otherwise renouncing rights against the party by a signed writing.

### § 3-104. NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT.

- (e) An instrument is a "**note**" if it is a promise and is a "**draft**" if it is an order. If an instrument falls within the definition of both "note" and "draft," a person entitled to enforce the instrument may treat it as either.
- (f) "**Check**" means (i) a draft, other than a documentary draft, payable on demand and drawn on a bank or (ii) a cashier's check or teller's check. An instrument may be a check even though it is described on its face by another term, such as "money order."

## 12 USC 1813

(l) The term "deposit" means—

(1) the unpaid balance of money or its equivalent received or held by a bank or savings association in the usual course of business and for which it has given or is obligated to give credit, either conditionally or unconditionally, to a commercial, checking, savings, time, or thrift account, or which is evidenced by its certificate of deposit, thrift certificate, investment certificate, certificate of indebtedness, or other similar name, or a check or draft drawn against a deposit account and certified by the bank or savings association, or a letter of credit or a traveler's check on which the bank or savings association is primarily liable: Provided, That, without limiting the generality of the term "money or its equivalent", any such account or instrument must be regarded as evidencing the receipt of the equivalent of money when credited or issued in exchange for checks or drafts or for a promissory note upon which the person obtaining any such credit or instrument is primarily or secondarily liable, or for a charge against a deposit account, or in settlement of checks, drafts, or other instruments forwarded to such bank or savings association for collection.

**TRUTH IN LENDING ACT (TILA)**  
**15 USC 1601-1667f**  
**(Amended as of January 1, 2001)**

**Sec. 1601. - Congressional findings and declaration of purpose**

**(a) Informed use of credit**

The Congress finds that economic stabilization would be enhanced and the competition among the various financial institutions and other firms engaged in the extension of consumer credit would be strengthened by the informed use of credit. The informed use of credit results from an awareness of the cost thereof by consumers. It is the purpose of this subchapter to assure a meaningful disclosure of credit terms so that the consumer will be able to compare more readily the various credit terms available to him and avoid the uninformed use of credit, and to protect the consumer against inaccurate and unfair credit billing and credit card practices.

UCC 1-201 (24) "**Money**" means a medium of exchange authorized or adopted by a domestic or foreign government and includes a monetary unit of account established by an intergovernmental organization or by agreement between two or more nations.

**UCC 3-104 Official Comment**

1. The definition of "negotiable instrument" defines the scope of Article 3 ... The definition in Section 3-104(a) incorporates other definitions in Article 3. An instrument is either a "promise," defined in Section 3-103 (a)(9), or "order", defined in Section 3-103 (a)(6). A promise is a written undertaking to pay money signed by the person undertaking to pay. ... "Money" is defined in Section 1-201 (24) and is not limited to United States dollars. It also includes a medium of exchange established by a foreign government or monetary units of account established by an intergovernmental organization or by agreement between two or more nations. Five other requirements are stated in Section 3-104 (a).

First, the promise or order must be "unconditional."

Second, the amount of money must be "a fixed amount \*\*\* with or without interest or other charges described in the promise or order."

Third, the promise or order must be "payable to bearer or to order."

Fourth, the promise or order must be payable "on demand or at a definite time."

Fifth, the promise or order may not state "any other undertaking or instruction by the person promising or ordering payment to do any act in addition to the payment of money"

**U.C.C. - ARTICLE 3 - NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS**  
**..PART 3. ENFORCEMENT OF INSTRUMENTS**

**§ 3-306. CLAIMS TO AN INSTRUMENT.**

A person taking an [instrument](#), other than a person having rights of a [holder in due course](#), is subject to a claim of a property or possessory right in the instrument or its proceeds, including a claim to rescind a [negotiation](#) and to recover the instrument or its proceeds. A person having rights of a holder in due course takes free of the claim to the instrument.