

# **Compensation Committee Charter**

(As adopted by the Board of Directors effective as of August 9, 2012)

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the Compensation Committee (the "*Committee*") of the Board of Directors (the "*Board of Directors*") of Performant Financial Corporation (the "*Company*") shall be to assist the Board of Directors in meeting its responsibilities with regard to oversight of executive compensation and to review and make recommendations to the Board of Directors with respect to major compensation plans, policies and programs of the Company.

### Membership

The Committee shall consist of at least three members of the Board of Directors, with the exact number to be determined by the Board of Directors. Committee members shall be appointed from time to time by the Board of Directors having given consideration to the recommendations, if any, from the Nominating and Governance Committee, but not less than annually at its first meeting following the Annual Meeting of Stockholders. Also having given consideration to the recommendation of the Nominating and Governance Committee, if any, the Board of Directors shall designate a Chairman of the Committee, provided that if the Board of Directors does not so designate a Chairman the members of the Committee, by a majority vote, may designate a Chairman. The Chairman (or in his or her absence a member designated by the Chairman) shall preside at all meetings of the Committee.

Committee members may be removed, without cause, by the affirmative vote of the majority of the Board of Directors at any time. Any Committee member may resign effective upon giving oral or written notice to the Chairman of the Board, the Secretary or the Board of Directors (unless the notice specifies a later time for the effectiveness of such resignation).

To the extent required by the rules of Nasdaq, the federal securities laws and the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), the members of the Committee shall meet the applicable independence standards, as well as any additional independence standards that may be established from time to time by the Board of Directors or by the Nominating and Governance Committee.

#### **Resources and Authority**

The Committee shall have the resources and appropriate authority, without seeking the approval of the Board of Directors, to discharge its responsibilities, including the authority to select, retain, terminate and approve, at the Company's expense, outside compensation, legal, accounting or other consultants to advise the Committee and to authorize or conduct investigations into any matters within the scope of its responsibilities and to approve related fees and retention terms. The Committee may request any director, officer or employee of the Company, the Company's outside counsel or independent auditors or such other persons as it deems appropriate to attend a meeting of the Committee or to meet with any members of, or consultants to, the Committee. The Committee may also exclude from its meetings any persons it deems appropriate in order to carry out its responsibilities. The Committee shall have full access to all books, records, facilities and personnel of the Company in connection with the discharge of its responsibilities.

#### **Delegation to Subcommittee**

The Committee may form and delegate authority to subcommittees consisting of one or more members of the Committee when appropriate, as are provided in the resolutions of the Committee, except to the extent such delegation is limited by applicable law, regulation or listing standard. The actions of any such subcommittee shall be presented to the full Committee at the next scheduled Committee meeting.

#### **Duties and Responsibilities**

The following shall be the common recurring duties and responsibilities of the Committee in carrying out its oversight function. These duties and responsibilities are set forth below as a guide to the Committee with the understanding that the Committee may alter or supplement them as appropriate under the circumstances to the extent permitted by applicable law, regulation or listing standard.

The Committee shall:

- Review and make recommendations for approval by the Board of Directors regarding the corporate goals and objectives
  relevant to the compensation of the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and the other executive officers.
- Evaluate the performance of the CEO and the executive officers of the Company in light of such goals and objectives at least annually and communicate the results to the Board of Directors and to the CEO.
- Based on the evaluations referred to above, make recommendations for approval by the Board of Directors regarding
  the compensation levels for the CEO and the other executive officers of the Company, including, as applicable, (i) base
  salary, (ii) bonus, (iii) long-term incentive and equity compensation, and (iv) any other compensation, perquisites, and
  special or supplemental benefits.
- In consultation with the CEO, review and make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding guidelines for the
  review of the performance and the establishment of compensation policies for all other employees of the Company and
  for the delegation to executive officers of the Company the determination of compensation for all employees of the
  Company who are not executive officers.
- Review and make recommendations for approval by the Board of Directors regarding the terms and conditions of
  employment of the CEO and other executive officers of the Company, by contract or otherwise, including terms that will
  govern the situations in which severance payments will be due upon a change in control.
- Review periodically with the Chairman of the Board and the CEO the succession plan relating to the CEO and the management development plan and make recommendations to the Board of Directors with respect to such plans.
- Determine, in connection with awards under the Company's stock plans to employees or consultants of the Company other than the CEO or executive officers of the Company or members of the Board of Directors, such matters as eligibility for participation; persons to receive awards; the amount, form and other terms and conditions of awards; and the form of agreements pertaining to such awards. The Committee may delegate to the CEO the authority to carry out all of the powers of the Committee to grant equity awards under the Company's stock plans to employees or consultants of the Company or any subsidiary thereof who are not members of the Board of Directors, the CEO or executive officers of the Company; provided, that no such grant or award shall exceed the limits prescribed by the Committee from time to time, and all such grants and awards shall be at an exercise or grant price per share at least equal to fair market value on the date of such grant or award.
- Make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding the fees and other compensation to be paid to nonemployee members of the Board of Directors for their services as directors and as members of committees of the Board of Directors.
- Periodically review the Company's incentive compensation and other equity- based plans and practices and recommend changes in such plans and practices to the Board of Directors.
- Periodically evaluate whether there are any risks arising from the Company's compensation policies for all employees
  and overall actual compensation practices which are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the
  Company, and recommend to the Board of Directors any changes deemed appropriate by the Committee. This
  evaluation shall be conducted in such manner as the Committee deems appropriate.
- Review and discuss with management the Company's Compensation Disclosure and Analysis ("CD&A"), and based on that review and discussion, recommend to the Board of Directors whether the Company's CD&A should be included in the Company's annual proxy statement or annual report on Form 10-K.
- Prepare the Committee report as required by rules of the SEC for inclusion in the Company's annual proxy statement or annual report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC.
- Review and reassess the adequacy of this Charter annually and recommend any proposed changes to the Board of
  Directors. The Committee also shall undertake an annual evaluation assessing its performance with respect to its duties
  and responsibilities set forth in this Charter, which evaluation shall be reported to the Board of Directors. The selfassessment shall be conducted in such manner as the Committee deems appropriate.
- Make regular reports on the activities of the Committee to the Board of Directors.