



PRESS RELEASE

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

October 30, 2000

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FDIC Announces Opening Of New Call Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) announced today that it will begin operating its new Call Center on November 1, 2000. The Call Center will serve as the FDIC's primary telephone point of contact for the public and the banking community.

The new toll-free number, (877) 275-3342 (877 ASK-FDIC), will replace the FDIC's current Consumer Hotline and the Office of the Ombudsman's toll-free number.

Information specialists will be available at the Call Center Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern time, to answer questions about the FDIC and its activities. Specialists will answer general questions directly or refer more involved questions to subject matter experts. Recorded information about deposit insurance and employment opportunities at the FDIC will be available 24 hours a day at the same toll-free number. Callers in the Washington, D.C., area may dial (202) 736-0000.



Congress created the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation in 1933 to restore public confidence in the nation's banking system. It promotes the safety and soundness of these institutions by identifying, monitoring and addressing risks to which they are exposed. The FDIC receives no federal tax dollars — insured financial institutions fund its operations.

FDIC press releases and other information are available on the Internet at www.fdic.gov, by subscription electronically (go to www.fdic.gov/about/subscriptions/index.html) and may also be obtained through the FDIC's Public Information Center (877-275-3342 or 703-562-2200). R-73-2000\