



PRESS RELEASE

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NORTH CAROLINA STATE TREASURER TO HOST CONFERENCES FEATURING FDIC'S *MONEY SMART*

Women in North Carolina will have an opportunity to receive free instruction on personal finance and money management thanks to regional conferences hosted by the State Treasurer's office. The first conference will be held in Greenville on Saturday, September 28, at Faith Assembly of God Church. It begins at 8:30 a.m. and will be using the *Money Smart* curriculum developed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

"The FDIC is pleased that *Money Smart* was selected by the Treasurer of the State of North Carolina as a curriculum for the Women and Money Conferences," said Don Powell, Chairman of the FDIC. "*Money Smart* is a valuable tool to use in handling personal finances for people of all ages and backgrounds."

The FDIC developed the *Money Smart* program to help people improve their money management skills, understand basic financial services offered by banks and other financial institutions, and build their financial confidence in order to use banking services effectively.

The State Treasurer will be holding regional conferences through November of this year and throughout 2003. The initiative features a regional partnering of the FDIC and the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Women's Bureau to promote the use of *Money Smart* to women and families throughout the Southeast.

"We recognize the importance of financial education and are proud to support the Women and Money Conferences," said Delores Crockett, regional administrator of DOL's Women's Bureau. "Our partnership with the FDIC *Money Smart* program and the state will benefit women, families and entire communities."



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). PR-99-2002

The regional conference agenda allows participants to select three workshop topics from a total of eight, including budgeting, proper use of credit, homeownership and the state's college savings plan. One workshop covering basic personal finance is offered in Spanish. Each host site for the conferences has a regional advisory committee made up of local businesses, community groups, financial institutions and educators in order to tailor the content to specific community needs.

Other statewide sponsors of the initiative are First Union/Wachovia, Food Lion stores and Prudential Financial. For more information and to register for the conference, log on to <http://www.treasurer.state.nc.us/WAM00/default.asp> and click on "Women and Money Conferences," or call (919) 508-5164.

Anyone interested in financial education can use *Money Smart*. The materials are easily reproduced and have no copyright restrictions. In addition to the English and Spanish versions now available, *Money Smart* is being translated into Korean and Chinese. Those versions are scheduled for release in 2003. Free copies of *Money Smart* are available on the Internet at www.fdic.gov or through the FDIC's Public Information Center (800-276-6003 or (703) 562-2200).