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**Joint Release**

**Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System  
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation  
Office of the Comptroller of the Currency  
Office of Thrift Supervision**

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For immediate release

March 15, 2006

**Bank and Thrift Agencies Issue Advisory on Influenza Pandemic Preparedness**

The federal bank and thrift regulatory agencies today issued an interagency advisory to financial institutions and their technology service providers that is intended to raise awareness of the threat of a pandemic influenza outbreak and its potential impact on the delivery of critical financial services. The advisory discusses the National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza and the roles and responsibilities this strategy outlines for financial institutions and advises financial institutions and their service providers to consider this and similar threats in their event response and contingency strategies.

The advisory, which is being issued by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and Office of Thrift Supervision, is attached.

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**Attachment**

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