



# PRESS RELEASE

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation • Each Depositor insured to at least \$250,000

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Media Contact:  
Greg Hernandez  
(202) 898-6993  
Email: [mediarequests@fdic.gov](mailto:mediarequests@fdic.gov)

## **OneWest Bank, FSB, Pasadena, California, Assumes All of the Deposits of First Federal Bank of California, Santa Monica, California**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

First Federal Bank of California, a Federal Savings Bank, Santa Monica, California, was closed today by the Office of Thrift Supervision, which appointed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as receiver. To protect the depositors, the FDIC entered into a purchase and assumption agreement with OneWest Bank, FSB, Pasadena, California, to assume all of the deposits of First Federal Bank of California.

The 39 branches of First Federal Bank of California will reopen on Saturday as branches of OneWest Bank, FSB. Depositors of First Federal Bank of California will automatically become depositors of OneWest Bank, FSB. Deposits will continue to be insured by the FDIC, so there is no need for customers to change their banking relationship to retain their deposit insurance coverage. Customers should continue to use their existing branch until OneWest Bank, FSB can fully integrate the deposit records of First Federal Bank of California.

This evening and over the weekend, depositors of First Federal Bank of California can access their money by writing checks or using ATM or debit cards. Checks drawn on the bank will continue to be processed. Loan customers should continue to make their payments as usual.

As of September 30, 2009, First Federal Bank of California had approximately \$6.1 billion in total assets and \$4.5 billion in total deposits. OneWest Bank, FSB did not pay the FDIC a premium for the deposits of First Federal Bank of California. In addition to



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.

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assuming all of the deposits of the failed bank, OneWest Bank, FSB agreed to purchase essentially all of the assets.

The FDIC and OneWest Bank, FSB entered into a loss-share transaction on \$5.3 billion of First Federal Bank of California's assets. OneWest Bank, FSB will share in the losses on the asset pools covered under the loss-share agreement. The loss-share transaction is projected to maximize returns on the assets covered by keeping them in the private sector. The transaction also is expected to minimize disruptions for loan customers. For more information on loss share, please visit:  
<http://www.fdic.gov/bank/individual/failed/lossshare/index.html>.

Customers who have questions about today's transaction can call the FDIC toll-free at 1-800-930-1849. The phone number will be operational this evening until 9:00 p.m., Pacific Standard Time (PST); on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., PST; on Sunday from noon to 6:00 p.m., PST; and thereafter from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., PST. Interested parties also can visit the FDIC's Web site at  
<http://www.fdic.gov/bank/individual/failed/firstfederal-ca.html>.

Due to the Christmas Holiday, the toll-free number will not be operational between the hours of 3 p.m., Thursday, December 24, and 8:00 a.m., Monday, December 28. At that time the toll-free number will resume its normal hours.

The FDIC estimates that the cost to the Deposit Insurance Fund (DIF) will be \$146.3 million. OneWest Bank, FSB's acquisition of all the deposits was the "least costly" resolution for the FDIC's DIF compared to all alternatives. First Federal Bank of California is the 140th FDIC-insured institution to fail in the nation this year, and the seventeenth in California. The last FDIC-insured institution to be closed in the state was Imperial Capital Bank, La Jolla, earlier today.

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[communications@fdic.gov](mailto:communications@fdic.gov)

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