Joint Release

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Federal Reserve Board of Governors Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

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Agencies Release Final Revisions to Interagency Questions and Answers Regarding Community Reinvestment

WASHINGTON--The federal bank regulatory agencies with responsibility for Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) rulemaking today published final revisions to "Interagency Questions and Answers Regarding Community Reinvestment." The Questions and Answers document provides additional guidance to financial institutions and the public on the agencies' CRA regulations.

The revisions focus primarily on community development. Community development activities are considered as part of the CRA performance tests for large institutions, intermediate small institutions, and wholesale and limited purpose institutions. Small institutions may use community development activity to receive consideration toward an outstanding CRA rating. Among other things, the amendments:

- Clarify how the agencies consider community development activities that benefit a broader statewide or regional area that includes an institution's assessment area.
- Provide guidance related to CRA consideration of, and documentation associated with, investments in nationwide funds.
- Clarify the consideration of certain community development services, such as service on a community development organization's Board of Directors.
- Address the treatment of loans or investments to organizations that, in turn, invest those funds and use only a portion of the income from their investment to support a community development purpose.
- Clarify that community development lending performance is always a factor considered in a large institution's lending test rating.

The final revisions are being issued by the Federal Reserve Board, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. The attached notice will be published shortly in the Federal Register. The agencies also are revising the relevant interagency CRA examination procedures, which will be released soon.

For more information on the CRA, including these Questions and Answers and the agencies' CRA regulations, visit the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council website at: http://www.ffiec.gov/cra.

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Attachment: Community Reinvestment Act; Interagency Questions and Answers Regarding Community Reinvestment; Notice - PDF (PDF Help)

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