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FDIC ANNOUNCES ONLINE PRESS RELEASE SERVICE VIA INTERNET

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The FDIC's Office of Corporate Communications today announced the establishment of an online subscription service that allows subscribers to receive over the Internet and World Wide Web press releases and copies of key Congressional testimony and major speeches by FDIC Chairman Ricki Helfer and other FDIC officials.

"The FDIC has been posting all press releases and selected speeches by Chairman Helfer to the Internet for some time now," said Corporate Communications Director Alan Whitney. "That service enables users to go to an Internet or WWW gopher bulletin board and download a press release or speech whenever they want. This new service will send the material directly to subscribers instantly, via e-mail. They won't have to go looking for it." Whitney added that FDIC press releases will still be made available as they have been in the past. "People can still get press releases via fax modem, postal service mail and by picking them up from the racks outside our offices. This just adds one more faster, easier way to get the information."

To subscribe to the new service, users should send an e-mail message over the Internet to "listserv@nic.sura.net". In the body of the message put: "subscribe fdic-announce".

In a few moments, subscribers will receive a "welcome" message, confirming their subscription and giving instructions on how to use this and other online FDIC information services.

"The FDIC is taking advantage of every technological innovation to get vital information to the banking industry, the media and the public," said Whitney. "The `fdic-announce' subscription service will help us do a better, faster job of letting people know about FDIC actions and decisions that affect them."

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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-59-95