



Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation  
550 17th Street NW, Washington, D.C.

Financial Institution Letter  
FIL-60-2009  
October 1, 2009

## REGULATORY RELIEF

### Guidance to Help Financial Institutions and Facilitate Recovery in the Territory of American Samoa, Affected by an Earthquake, Tsunami and Flooding

**Summary:** The FDIC has announced a series of steps intended to provide regulatory relief to financial institutions and facilitate recovery in the territory of American Samoa, where an earthquake, a tsunami and flooding have caused severe property damage and casualties.

**Distribution:**

FDIC-Supervised Banks (Commercial and Savings)  
in the territory of American Samoa

**Suggested Routing:**

Chief Executive Officer  
Compliance Officer  
Chief Lending Officer

**Related Topics:**

Lending  
Investments  
Publishing Requirements  
Consumer Laws

**Attachment:**

Supervisory Practices Regarding Depository  
Institutions And Borrowers Affected By Earthquake,  
Tsunami and Flooding in the Territory of American  
Samoa

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**Note:**

FDIC financial institution letters (FILs) may be  
accessed from the FDIC's Web site at  
[www.fdic.gov/news/news/financial/2009/index.html](http://www.fdic.gov/news/news/financial/2009/index.html).

To receive FILs electronically, please visit  
<http://www.fdic.gov/about/subscriptions/fl.html>.

Paper copies of FDIC financial institution letters  
may be obtained through the FDIC's Public  
Information Center, 3501 Fairfax Drive, E-1002,  
Arlington, VA 22226 (1-877-275-3342 or 703-562-  
2200).

**Highlights:**

- An earthquake, a tsunami and flooding that began on September 29, 2009, have caused significant property damage and casualties in the territory of American Samoa.
- A federal disaster was declared on September 29, 2009.
- The FDIC is encouraging banks to work constructively with borrowers experiencing difficulties beyond their control because of damage caused by these disasters.
- Extending repayment terms, restructuring existing loans, or easing terms for new loans, if done in a manner consistent with sound banking practices, can contribute to the health of the community and serve the long-term interests of the lending institution.
- The FDIC also will consider regulatory relief from certain filing and publishing requirements.