

Financial Institution Letter FIL-66-2008 July 17, 2008

# **Minority Depository Institutions**

# **Expanded Guidelines for Providing Technical Assistance to Minority Depository Institutions**

**Summary:** The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) continues to pursue strategies to preserve and encourage minority ownership of FDIC-insured financial institutions, including providing technical assistance in operational areas. The FDIC has expanded its guidance on providing technical assistance to minority depository institution (MDI) management to enhance ongoing communication with and support of MDIs. The revised guidance is attached.

#### Distribution:

FDIC-Supervised Minority Depository Institutions (Commercial and Savings)

### Suggested Routing:

Board of Directors Chief Executive Officer Compliance Officer

### **Related Topics:**

FIL-34-2002, "FDIC Adopts Final Policy Statement on Minority Depository Institutions"

#### Attachment:

Guidance for Providing Technical Assistance to Minority Depository Institutions

#### Contact:

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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/2008/index.html.

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## **Highlights:**

- Under established guidelines, the FDIC routinely contacts MDIs to offer return visits and technical assistance following examinations or visits to assist management in understanding and implementing examination recommendations.
- The FDIC has expanded these guidelines by clarifying the types of technical assistance that may be available to MDIs, and emphasizing that MDIs may *initiate* the contact with the FDIC for technical assistance *at any* time.
- The focus of the technical assistance is to provide MDIs with recommendations or feedback for improving operations, not to identify new problems or issues.
- The offer of technical assistance is targeted to insured minority depository institutions in which 51 percent or more of the voting stock is owned by minority individuals (Black American, Asian American, Hispanic American or Native American), or the majority of the board of directors are minority individuals and the community served by the institution is predominantly minoritybased.