



**Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation**  
550 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20429

Division of Supervision

## Special Alert

FIL-16-96  
March 25, 1996

TO: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
SUBJECT: *Forged Bank Instruments*

The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency has advised us that forged bank instruments purportedly issued by Banco del Estado are in circulation. These instruments include bills of exchange, certificates of deposit, "pre-advice" of standby letters of credit, and confirmations of blocked funds. The instruments' total disclosed amount is \$967 million (U.S. dollars).

Banco del Estado is headquartered at Carrera 10a, No. 18-15, Santa Fe de Bogota D.E., Colombia, South America.

If you have any information about this matter, please contact Banco del Estado and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's Special Activities Section, 550 17th Street, N.W., Room F-612, Washington, D.C. 20429.

Nicholas J. Ketcha Jr.  
Director

Distribution: FDIC-Supervised Banks (Commercial and Savings)

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