



SPECIAL ALERT

FIL-82-2001
September 25, 2001

TO: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SUBJECT: *Ventura Savings Bank - Fictitious Checks*

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) has learned that fictitious "official" checks and "certified" checks are in circulation. The checks bear the name Ventura Savings Bank, 1010 Huntcliff Blvd., Roswell, GA 33050. "MEMBER FDIC" is also printed on the checks.

The Georgia Department of Banking and Finance has advised that Ventura Savings Bank does not exist in the state of Georgia. Further, Ventura Savings Bank does not appear on the FDIC's list of insured institutions. To date, the checks have been negotiated primarily in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee. Photocopies of some of the fictitious checks are attached for your information.

If you have any information about these items, please notify the nearest office of the United States Secret Service. Information about these checks or similar items may also be forwarded to the FDIC's Special Activities Section, 550 17th Street, NW, Room F-6012, Washington, DC 20429, or sent electronically to alert@fdic.gov.

For your reference, all FDIC Financial Institution Letters published since January of 1995 may be found on the FDIC's Web site at www.fdic.gov under "News, Events & FOIA." To learn how to automatically receive FDIC Financial Institution Letters through e-mail, please visit <http://www.fdic.gov/news/news/announcements/index.html>.

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Acting Director

Attachments (not available electronically)

Distribution: FDIC-Supervised Banks (Commercial and Savings)

NOTE: Paper copies of FDIC financial institution letters may be obtained through the FDIC's Public Information Center, 801 17th Street, NW, Room 100, Washington, DC 20434 (800-276-6003 or (703) 562-2200).