

SPECIAL ALERT

FIL-91-2002 August 16, 2002

TO:CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERSUBJECT:Counterfeit Official Checks and Money Orders

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) has learned that counterfeit official checks drawn on **United California Bank**, **Los Angeles**, **California**, and counterfeit bank money orders drawn on **Warren Five Cents Savings Bank (Warren Bank)**, **Peabody**, **Massachusetts**, are in circulation.

Attached for your information is a copy of one of United California Bank's legitimate official checks and a copy of one of the counterfeit instruments. The bank's legitimate official checks are marked "Issued by Integrated Payment Systems, Inc., Englewood, Colorado." The counterfeit items are marked "Issued by Integrated Payment Systems, Englewood, CT." Financial institutions can confirm the validity of money orders or checks marked "Issued by Integrated Payment Systems, Inc., Englewood, CT." Financial institutions can confirm the validity of money orders or checks marked "Issued by Integrated Payment Systems, Inc., Englewood, Colorado," by calling 1-800-223-7520 and following the guided menu. Any information you have concerning this matter should be brought to the attention of:

Ms. Deborah Mendoza United California Bank Los Angeles, California Telephone (323) 727-3087 Fax (323) 727-3056

Also attached for your information is a copy of one of Warren Bank's legitimate money orders and a copy of one of the counterfeit instruments. Any information you have concerning this matter should be brought to the attention of:

Ms. Sue Levine Wanka Vice President/Security Officer Warren Bank 175 Cabot Street Beverly, Massachusetts 01915 Telephone (978) 524-2003 Fax (978) 524-2071

Information concerning these instruments also may be forwarded to the FDIC's Special Activities Section, 550 17th Street, NW, Room F-6012, Washington, DC 20429. Information also may be transmitted electronically to <u>alert@fdic.gov</u>.

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

Michael J. Zamorski Director

Attachment (not available electronically)

Distribution: FDIC-Supervised Banks (Commercial and Savings)