



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

Division of Supervision

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTS

FIL-102-2002
September 3, 2002

TO: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SUBJECT: *The SAR Activity Review*

Attached is a copy of the fourth issue of *The SAR Activity Review*, published by the Department of the Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN). *The SAR Activity Review*, published semiannually, provides feedback to financial institutions about suspicious activity reported to FinCEN by the institutions. It contains Suspicious Activity Report (SAR) statistics; patterns and trends of suspicious activity that have been reported; tips and guidance for financial institutions on form preparation and filing; and information about investigative activity in which SARs information played an important role in a successful investigation and/or prosecution of criminal financial activity. *The SAR Activity Review* and FinCEN's August 22 press release announcing this issue may be found on FinCEN's Web site at www.fincen.gov.

In a continuing effort to assist banks in Bank Secrecy Act compliance, anti-money laundering efforts, and prevention and detection of other financial crimes, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) will forward each issue of *The SAR Activity Review* to FDIC-supervised banks. Please circulate copies to each department of your institution with Bank Secrecy Act compliance and internal security responsibilities.

Comments about *The SAR Activity Review* should be addressed to the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Office of Strategic Analysis, U.S. Department of the Treasury, Suite 200, 2070 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, VA 22182. Comments may also be faxed to FinCEN at (703) 905-3698. E-mail comments may be addressed to vogtd@fincen.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 "Newsroom, 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>.

Michael J. Zamorski
Director

Attachment: (May be accessed at www.fincen.gov.)

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)