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*Joint Release*

**Office of the Comptroller of the Currency**  
**Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation**  
**Federal Reserve Board**  
**Office of Thrift Supervision**

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(PR 20-93)

## **Interagency Policy Statement on Credit Availability**

**March 10, 1993**

The four federal regulators of banks and thrifts — the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and the Office of Thrift Supervision — today announced a program directed at dealing with problems of credit availability, especially for small and medium-sized businesses.

The program will focus on the five areas in which the agencies will take action designed to alleviate the apparent reluctance by banks and thrifts to lend. Those areas are:

- Lending to Small- and Medium-sized Businesses
- Real Estate Lending and Appraisals
- Appeals of Examination Decisions and Complaint Handling
- Examination Processes and Procedures
- Paperwork and Regulatory Burden.

The agencies intend to complete virtually all of the changes proposed in the program within the next few months. As the specifics of any change are finalized, that change will be made and published while details of other changes are in the process of being finalized.

A complete statement about the actions the agencies have planned is attached. The statement reaffirms the agencies' belief that it is in the interest of lenders, borrowers and the general public that creditworthy borrowers have access to credit.

This policy statement will be distributed to all federally examined banks and thrifts and to all regulatory agency offices and examiners.