



NEWS RELEASE

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FDIC TO HOLD NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM FOR LAW FIRMS
OWNED BY MINORITIES, WOMEN AND DISABLED PERSONS

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Legal Division is co-sponsoring a national symposium for minority-, women-, and disabled-owned law firms from May 20 through May 22, 1993. The Symposium, entitled "An Introduction to FDIC Matters and Markets," is designed to provide information to law firms about the FDIC's use of outside counsel and the diverse and complex legal issues facing the agency.

Minority-, women-, and disabled-owned law firms will gather in Chicago at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers to meet with officials from the FDIC's Legal Division and its outside asset servicers to discuss substantive FDIC legal issues as well as the mechanics of serving as outside counsel to the FDIC and its asset servicers. FDIC staff will interview firms seeking referrals.

The FDIC is attempting to increase the number of agency legal matters referred to minority-, women-, and disabled-owned law firms, while reducing its dependence on outside counsel. In the first three months of 1993, the FDIC paid 10.7 percent of its outside counsel fees and expenses to these law firms, compared to 8.9 percent during all of 1992. Forty-five percent of the agency's own attorneys are women or minorities.

Any law firm seeking work with the FDIC must first submit an application and be placed in the agency's data base of firms available for consideration, the "List of Counsel Available." This symposium is designed to help minority-, women-, and disabled-owned law firms with the FDIC's application and retention process.

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Registration for the symposium will be accepted until May 10 on a first come, first served basis. To register, law firms should call SatoTravel at 1-800-347-6338. For more information on the Symposium, outside counsel should call the FDIC Legal Division at (202) 736-0572. The registration fee is \$100.

The symposium is co-sponsored by the Hispanic National Bar Association, the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, the National Association of Women Lawyers, the National Bar Association, the National Conference of Women's Bar Associations, the National Disabled Bar Association and the Native American Bar Association.

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