

---

**Federal Reserve Board**

---

**Comptroller of the Currency**

---

**Office of Thrift Supervision**

---

**Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation**

---

(PR-63-93)

For immediate release

May 27, 1993

To address the concern that some minority consumers and small business owners are experiencing discrimination by lenders, federal bank and thrift supervisors today reiterated their commitment to effective enforcement of fair lending laws and urged bank and thrift institutions to increase their fair lending activities.

In a letter to all banks and thrifts, the heads of the four agencies said that discrimination strikes at a basic tenet of a free market system: equal opportunity for all to gain access to bank services. The letter said the regulators expect all financial institutions to do their part to design programs to ensure access to credit on a non-discriminatory basis.

The letter urged special attention to 11 specific fair lending activities, including enhanced employee training, internal second review programs for loan applications that might otherwise be denied, participation on multi-lender mortgage review boards, and affirmative marketing and call programs.

A copy of the letter and the suggested fair lending activities is attached.

-0-

**Attachments**

Distribution: FDIC-Supervised banks (Commercial and Savings)