

From: NGrandquis@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 12, 2006 12:32 PM
To: Comments, Regs
Subject: Cooments on No. 2006-17

To Whom it May Concern:

The Alexandria Affordable Housing Corporation appreciates your recent CRA proposal that allows all thrifts to receive favorable CRA consideration for Katrina relief, recovery efforts and rebuilding if they are satisfactory or above in assessment areas. We also appreciate OTS' flexibility and support to the disaster along the Gulf Coast since we are a subsidiary of the Alexandria Housing Authority that is currently housing 81 evacuee families from New Orleans.

However, we are concerned that OTS has not regularized its CRA rules with the other three agencies, the FDIC, the OCC and the Federal Reserve. The joint rule issued by these agencies creates an expanded definition of community development and supplies banks with additional flexibility in fulfilling CRA requirements. Furthermore, the unified rules ensure that low-and moderate-income individuals and communities continue to be served by the banks in their community. Two critical components of the joint rule: 1) requires banks with between \$250 million and \$1 billion assets to support their communities through meaningful services and community development loans and investments; 2) and reinforces the fact that some lending practices can count against an institution in a CRA exam. Joining these agencies in this rule is critical to maintaining OTS' commitment to supporting and servicing underserved communities. This is especially critical in the wake of rebuilding the Gulf Coast after the hurricane disaster. We ask that OTS join the other three agencies in their joint rule.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

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