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February 24, 2004

Regulation Comments  
Chief Counsel's Office  
Office of Thrift Supervision  
1700 G Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20552  
Attn: 2004-4

Re: Community Reinvestment Act Proposed Rulemaking

I am writing in strong support of the February 6, 2004 Community Reinvestment Act Proposed Rulemaking.

The proposal to increase the threshold defining a small institution from \$250 million to \$500 million provides a refreshing reduction in the regulatory burden for smaller institutions without adversely impacting the purpose of the Community Reinvestment Act. In an institution our size, the staff time required to comply with regulations that target much larger institutions has a negative effect. The requirements of a large institution tend to be counter-productive for institutions under \$500 million because valuable staff time is spent on compliance rather than making loans for low to moderate income borrowers.

I applaud the effort and urge passage of the proposal.

Sincerely,

Marshall "Rocky" Wade  
President and Chief Executive Officer

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