



January 24, 2005

Regulation Comments, Chief Counsel's Office  
Office of Thrift Supervision  
1700 G Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20552

Attention: No. 2004-53

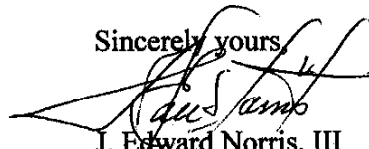
Dear Sir or Madam:

As the Chief Executive Officer of Plantation Federal Bank, a thrift institution regulated by the Office of Thrift Supervision, I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposal issued by the OTS that would provide additional flexibility to thrifts in meeting the requirements imposed by the Community Reinvestment Act. I strongly support the proposal and urge the OTS to adopt the measure.

It is my belief that the proposal will help all OTS-regulated institutions in their allocation of time and resources in meeting their CRA requirements. Community banks are burdened by so many regulations that impact all aspects of operations, including CRA. We all need regulatory relief from the requirements that result in no benefit for our community or to our customers. Your proposal will do just that...eliminate unnecessary CRA regulation and let banks focus on true community needs.

This is a positive measure for community banks. I hope that all of the federal banking regulators will look for ways to eliminate compliance burdens. The Office of Thrift Supervision has begun a much-needed process, and I strongly support those efforts.

Sincerely yours,



J. Edward Norris, III  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer