
From: Teresa Brice-Heames [teresa@mail.housingformesa.org]
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2005 5:23 PM
To: Comments, Regs
Subject: 2004-53 Community Reinvestment Act
Importance: High

As an affordable housing developer in the Southwest for the last 15 years, Housing For Mesa is too well aware of the difficulties in finding lenders who are willing and able to make investing in the low-income community a priority. While we have worked with several large and small lenders, we know that without the CRA obligations, we would not have the interim or permanent financing available to us that allows us to provide homeownership opportunities to previously underserved communities.

All federally insured financial institutions should continue to be fully accountable under CRA for making investments and providing services. I also oppose the OTS proposal to consider favorably rural community development activities that do not primarily benefit low-income people or communities.

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