From: Lael Duncan [LaelD@occac.com]

Sent: Monday, January 24, 2005 12:12 PM

To: Comments, Regs

Subject: 2004-53 Community Reinvestment Act

Community rebuilding in urban areas face challenges – BUT – these challenges for years have been supported through the Community Reinvestment act. My experience in over 20 years of community economic development in rural communities tells me that without access to the CRA funds provided by branches of the national banks, the picture for rural economic/community development would be bleak. Local banks are few if any. The requirement for current levels of contribution are the only thing that keeps us on the "radar screen". All federally insured financial institutions should continue to be fully accountable under CRA for making investments and providing services.

If you would like additional information, please feel free to contact me.

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Building Community....Building Futures!