

NR 95-117
October 30, 1995

OCC Sponsors Conference on Antitrust & Banking

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) today announced it will host a conference on Antitrust & Banking: Emerging Issues in the New Banking Environment. The conference will be held on November 16, 1995, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency-Capitol Hill, 400 New Jersey Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Comptroller Eugene A. Ludwig will deliver the introductory remarks and moderate a panel discussion on current antitrust policy with John D. Hawke, Undersecretary of the Department of Treasury for Domestic Finance; Alan S. Blinder, Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; Ann Bingaman, Assistant U.S. Attorney General for Antitrust; and professors Peter C. Carstensen from the University of Wisconsin Law School and Richard Schmalensee from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

"The banking industry is changing rapidly. Mergers are creating ever-larger banks. The overall number of banking institutions is falling, and technology is changing the way banks do business. The purpose of this conference is to consider carefully the policy framework in which these changes are occurring," said Comptroller Ludwig.

Other panel discussions with bankers, economists, attorneys and key federal government policy makers will focus on the current antitrust policy framework, the economics and law of current developments, the structural changes taking place within the banking industry, competition in banking and recent institutional and technological changes that have affected this competition.

The legal and regulatory standards that have been established for mergers and banking conduct under the antitrust laws and related statutes will be considered in the context of recent merger activity.

This conference is the fourth in an OCC sponsored series of forums on critical banking policy issues. Earlier seminars covered Banking, Financial Markets and Systemic Risk, Small Business Lending and Issues Facing Foreign Banks in the U.S

Reporters may register in advance for the seminar by calling the OCC Press Relations Division at (202) 874-5770. Others interested in attending the conference should contact Ms. Helen Burdette at (202) 874-5250. The conference agenda is attached.

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ANTITRUST & BANKING

A Conference Sponsored by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Agenda

Thursday, November 16, 1995

8:00 Registration

8:30 Continental Breakfast

9:00 Introductory Remarks
Eugene A. Ludwig,
Comptroller of the Currency

9:15 Session I: The Current Policy Framework

Moderator: Konrad S. Alt
Senior Deputy Comptroller, OCC

Papers:

"Antitrust in Banking: An Historical
Perspective," Bernard Shull, Visiting
Scholar, OCC & Professor, Department of
Economics, Hunter College, CUNY

"Current Merger Policy," Margaret
Guerin-Calvert, Senior Vice President,
Economists, Inc., Washington, D.C.

Discussants:

Lawrence White, Arthur E. Imperatore
Professor of Economics, Stern School of
Business, New York University

Howard Kitt, Senior V.P., National
Economic Research Associates, Inc. &
Economics Editor, The Antitrust
Bulletin.

10:30 Break

10:45 Session II. The Economics and Law of
Current Developments

Moderator: Stephen J. Weiss, Deputy
Comptroller, Bank Organization &
Structure, OCC

Papers:

"Shared ATM Networks: The Antitrust
Dimension," Donald I. Baker, Partner,
Baker & Miller PLLC

"Recent Research on the Competitive
Effects of Mergers," Stephen A. Rhoades,
Asst. Director, Division of Research &

Statistics, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System

"Aggregate Concentration in Banking,"
Gary Whalen, Deputy Director, Division
of Bank Research, OCC

Discussants:

Arnold Heggstead, Professor & Director
of Entrepreneurial Services, University
of Florida

Paul Horvitz, Judge James A. Elkins
Professor of Banking & Finance,
University of Houston

Gerald Hanweck, Professor & Assistant
Dean, George Mason University

12:30 Luncheon:

1:45 Session III. Industry Issues

Moderator: Cynthia Glassman,
Managing Director, Furash & Co.

Panel:

Lawrence Connell, President & CEO,
Atlantic Bank N.A., Co-Chair, Shadow
Financial Regulatory Committee

Michael Greenspan, Esq., Attorney-at-law, Thompson & Mitchell

Anthony Nanni, Chief of Litigation, I
Section, U.S. Department of Justice

Karen Neeley, General Counsel,
Independent Bankers Association of Texas

Brian W. Smith, Partner, Mayer, Brown &
Platt

3:15 Break

3:30 Session IV. Critical Analysis of
 Current Policy

Moderator: Eugene A. Ludwig
Comptroller of the Currency

Panel:

Ann Bingaman, Assistant Attorney General
for Antitrust, U.S. Department of
Justice

Alan S. Blinder, Vice Chairman, Board of
Governors, Federal Reserve System

Peter Carstensen, Professor, University
of Wisconsin Law School

John D. Hawke, Under Secretary for
Domestic Finance, U.S. Department of the
Treasury

Richard Schmalensee, Gordon Y. Billard
Professor of Economics & Management,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

5:30 Reception