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MEDIA ADVISORY

1997 National Underwriting Survey Results
Will Be Released by OCC On December 16

WHAT: Press Briefing (Media credentials are required.)

WHEN: 10 a.m., Tuesday, December 16

WHERE: OCC Headquarters, 250 E Street, S.W., Washington,
D.C.

The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) will release the results of the agency's third annual survey of underwriting practices. The survey of OCC examiners evaluates lending practices at 80 of the largest national banks in 1997 and compares this year's results to the 1996 findings. The banks included in the survey had loan portfolios totaling approximately \$1.5 trillion. The survey was conducted by the OCC's National Credit Committee.

Wayne Rushton, senior deputy comptroller for bank supervision policy, will discuss the findings and will be available to answer questions. Dave Gibbons, deputy comptroller for credit risk and chair of the credit committee, will present the survey results.

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The OCC charters, regulates and supervises more than 2,600 national banks and 66 federal branches and agencies of foreign banks in the United States, accounting for 56 percent of the nation's banking assets. Its mission is to ensure a safe, sound and competitive national banking system that supports the citizens, communities and economy of the United States.