



# NEWS RELEASE

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Comptroller of the Currency  
Administrator of National Banks

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**New OCC Paper Examines History of National Banking System  
And Discusses Current Issues in Bank Regulation**

WASHINGTON -- Julie L. Williams, First Senior Deputy Comptroller and Chief Counsel, presented the [attached paper](#) to the Financial Services Regulatory Conference, a seminar held to brief Congressional staff about current issues in bank regulation. The paper discusses the history of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and the national banking system, as well as a number of current issues in bank regulation, including privacy, national bank preemption and the USA Patriot Act.

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The OCC charters, regulates and examines approximately 2,100 national banks and 52 federal branches of foreign banks in the U.S., accounting for more than 55 percent of the nation's banking assets. Its mission is to ensure a safe and sound and competitive national banking system that supports the citizens, communities and economy of the United States.