

Regional Bulletin: 08 – 01



2008 National Interagency Community Reinvestment Conference

Dear Chief Executive Officer:

On behalf of the Office of Thrift Supervision and our sister federal banking agencies, I would like to invite you and members of your financial institution to attend the 2008 National Interagency Community Reinvestment Conference. This important biennial event will be held at the San Francisco Fairmont Hotel located at 950 Mason Street, San Francisco, California. The conference, which commences on Sunday, March 30 and concludes on Wednesday, April 2, 2008, is designed as an educational and outreach training event. OTS Director John Reich and senior officials from the other federal banking agencies have committed to participate in the 2008 conference. We expect a large turnout for the upcoming 2008 event, so I encourage you to register early.

The timing of the 2008 conference is critical in view of the current stresses in the housing and mortgage markets, as well as recent delinquency and foreclosure trends. Accordingly, a comprehensive agenda has been developed that features breakout sessions that focus on best practices in foreclosure prevention, strategic community partnerships, and other initiatives to help borrowers affected by the current housing and mortgage loan issues. Other discussion topics include "CRA Examination Training," "Best Practices and Innovations in Community Development Lending, Investments, and Financial Services," "Strategies for Reaching the Unbanked," "Creative Strategies for Community Development," and "CRA Rule Changes." The training topics are applicable for both recently hired and seasoned CRA officials. A series of local tours have also been organized to highlight innovative, creative, and successful community development and affordable housing programs. Opportunities to network with peers and meet with your regulator are also planned during the 2 1/2 day conference.

Enclosed for your benefit is the brochure for the 2008 National Interagency Community Reinvestment Conference. The brochure provides detailed information about the conference agenda, community tours, transportation, and hotel accommodations. A limited block of guest rooms, at special conference rates, has also been reserved for conference attendees. Please follow the instructions provided to complete your conference and hotel registrations. (You may also view the conference brochure and register on-line at the following website: www.frbsf.org/community/conference08.html.) If you have questions about conference registration, please direct your inquiries to Lauren Mercado-Briosos at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco by phone at (415) 974-2765 or by email at: lauren.mercado-briosos@sf.frb.org. You may also contact Jim Woods, West Region Community Affairs Liaison at (650) 746-7040 or email at: james.woods@ots.treas.gov.

I look forward to seeing you at the 2008 National Interagency Community Reinvestment Conference in San Francisco.

Sincerely,

Darrel W. Dochow
Regional Director

Enclosure