

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF SAN FRANCISCO
101 MARKET STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94105

February 14, 2003

**BANKING SUPERVISION AND REGULATION:
GUIDANCE ON PROTECTIVE MEASURES**

To State Member Banks, Bank
Holding Companies, U.S. Branches
and Agencies of Foreign Banks,
and Others Concerned,
in the Twelfth Federal Reserve District

Precautions in Heightened Threat Environment (Information Bulletin 03-002)

On Friday, February 7, 2003, the Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS) was raised to Orange (High) from Yellow (Elevated). All financial institutions are encouraged to become familiar with the precautions recommended to protect against this heightened threat environment that are contained on the Department of Homeland Security's Web site at <http://www.dhs.gov>.

The National Infrastructure Protection Center (NIPC) has issued the *Suggested Guidance on Protective Measures* (Information Bulletin 03-002, February 7, 2003). The communication provides guidance for developing protective measures based on the heightened threat condition. Although the guidance is directed to critical infrastructure providers, including the critical financial infrastructure providers, it offers suggestions on security measures that should be considered by all financial firms. NIPC bulletins and other alert information are published on its public Web site at <http://www.nipc.gov>. This bulletin will be posted on the Board's public Web site at <http://www.federalreserve.gov>.

Additional Information

All circulars and documents are available on the Internet through the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco's Internet site, at <http://www.frbsf.org/banking/letters>. Paper copies of the *Suggested Guidance on Protective Measures* are available from our Corporate Services Department. To request copies to be sent by mail, please call (415) 974-2060.

For additional information about precautions in a heightened threat environment, please contact our Banking Supervision and Regulation Department at (415) 974-3007.

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Attachment:

[Suggested Guidance on Protective Measures](#)