February 4, 2010

To State Member Banks, Bank Holding Companies, Financial Holding Companies, and Foreign Bank Offices in the Twelfth Federal Reserve District

Agencies Release Annual CRA Asset-Size Threshold Adjustments for Small and Intermediate Small Institutions

The federal bank regulatory agencies announced on December 22, 2009 the annual adjustment to the asset-size thresholds used to define "small bank," "small savings association," "intermediate small bank" and "intermediate small savings association" under the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) regulations. The annual adjustments for banks are required by the 2005 CRA regulatory amendments and for savings associations by the Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS) 2007 CRA regulatory amendments.

Annual adjustments to these asset-size thresholds are based on the year-to-year change in the average of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, not seasonally adjusted, for each 12-month period ending in November, with rounding to the nearest million.

As a result of the 0.98 percent decrease in the CPI index for the period ending in November 2009, the definitions of small and intermediate small institutions for CRA examinations will change as follows:

- "Small bank" or "small savings association" means an institution that, as of December 31 of either of the prior two calendar years, had assets of less than \$1.098 billion.
- "Intermediate small bank" or "intermediate small savings association" means a small institution with assets of at least \$274 million as of December 31 of both of the prior two calendar years, and less than \$1.098 billion as of December 31 of either of the prior two calendar years.

These asset-size threshold adjustments became effective January 1, 2010. The agencies have published the adjustments in the *Federal Register*. In addition, the agencies posted a list of the current and historical asset-size thresholds on the website of the <u>Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council</u>.

Additional Information

All circulars and documents are available on the Internet through the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco's website, at <u>http://www.frbsf.org/banking/letters</u>.

For additional information, please contact:

Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco Banking Supervision and Regulation (415) 974-2955

Attachment: Federal Register notice: <u>HTML | 51 KB PDF</u>