



NEWS RELEASE

Comptroller of the Currency
Administrator of National Banks

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Federal Bank and Thrift Regulatory Agencies Issue Statement On Possible Temporary Balance Sheet Growth

WASHINGTON -- The Federal bank and thrift regulatory agencies issued a statement today addressing the possibility of temporary balance sheet growth in the aftermath of the tragic events of September 11. The statement can be found on the OCC's Internet site, www.occ.treas.gov, under issuances.

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The OCC charters, regulates and examines approximately 2,200 national banks and 52 federal branches of foreign banks in the U.S., accounting for more than 54 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.