

Community Affairs

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OCC Update August – October 2009

OCC Update is an electronic newsletter that provides information about the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency's (OCC) work in the fair treatment and fair access to financial services of all Americans.

1. Community Affairs News

OCC Receives Leadership Award

The National Association of State and Local Equity Funds (NASLEF) presented its 2009 Leadership Award to the OCC September 24, 2009, for its nationwide efforts to educate banks about investing in Low-Income Housing Tax Credits. <u>View the news release</u>.

Comptroller Testifies on Financial Reform

Comptroller Dugan <u>testified</u> October 29, 2009, before the House Financial Services Committee on proposed financial reform legislation.

National Banks Can Withstand Declining Asset Quality

Comptroller Dugan told a Senate subcommittee October 14, 2009, that while credit quality is continuing to worsen, the vast majority of national banks are strong and have the financial capacity to withstand declining asset quality. <u>View the news release</u>.

Comptroller Defends Strong National Standards for Financial Providers

In <u>remarks</u> before Women in Housing and Finance on September 24, 2009, Comptroller Dugan urged Congress to strengthen federal consumer protection rules and ensure they are applied to providers of the same financial products.

Also, see the Comptroller's July 24, 2009, <u>testimony</u> on regulatory reform before the House Financial Services Committee and his August 4, 2009, <u>testimony</u> before the Senate Committee on Banking.

Comptroller Highlights Interagency Work to Promote Community Development

In <u>remarks</u> before the Interagency Community Affairs Conference on August 26, 2009, Comptroller Dugan described interagency efforts to encourage community reinvestment and help banks meet their community development goals.

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- OCC Issues Additional Guidance on Credit Card Account Rate Increases
- Senior Supervisors
 Group Issues Report on
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- Comptroller Comments on Prepaid FDIC Assessment
- <u>Joint Forum Releases</u> <u>Report on Special</u> Purpose Entities
- Credit Quality Declines in Annual Shared National Credits Review
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2. Mortgage Lending and Foreclosures

OCC Releases Consumer Advisory on Reverse Mortgages

The OCC issued on September 25, 2009, a <u>consumer advisory</u> to help consumers better understand reverse mortgages.

OCC and OTS Release Mortgage Metrics Report

On September 30, 2009, the OCC and OTS released the mortgage loan data <u>report</u> for the second quarter 2009.

OCC Report Focuses on FHA's Rehabilitation Financing Program

The OCC's *Community Developments Insights* report issued August 6, 2009, provides an overview of the FHA's 203(k) Home Rehabilitation Mortgage Insurance Program.

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3. Community Reinvestment

OCC Hosts Web and Telephone Seminar on SBA Lending Programs

The OCC hosted September 21, 2009, a live Web and telephone seminar on SBA Lending Programs and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. <u>View</u> the news release.

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4. Enforcement

OCC Enforcement Actions

- News Release 2009-122 announces 29 enforcement actions and 3 terminations of existing enforcement actions taken against national banks and individuals currently and formerly affiliated with national banks (CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, IA, KS, MI, MN, NC, NV, OH, PA, SD, TX, WA, WI).
- News Release 2009-108 announces 16 enforcement actions and 5 terminations of existing enforcement actions taken against national banks and individuals currently and formerly affiliated with national banks (AZ, CA, CO, CT, IL, KS, KY, MN, NJ, NY, NC, NV, OH, TX, WA).
- News Release 2009-97 announces 10 enforcement actions and 3 terminations of existing enforcement actions taken against national banks and individuals currently and formerly affiliated with national banks (AK, CO, FL, IL, KS, MI, MN, MO, NJ).

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5. Supervision

Financial Regulators Adopt Commercial Real Estate Loan Workout Guidance

The Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council released a <u>policy statement</u> October 30, 2009, supporting prudent commercial real estate (CRE) loan workouts.

OCC Issues Additional Guidance on Credit Card Account Rate Increases OCC Bulletin 2009-29 issued August 26, 2009, describes the interim final rule dealing with provisions of the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009 that require banks to notify customers 45 days in advance of any rate increase or significant changes in credit card account terms.

Senior Supervisors Group Issues Report on Risk Management Practices On October 21, 2009, senior financial supervisors from seven countries issued a report that evaluates how weaknesses in risk management and internal controls contributed to industry distress during the financial crisis.

Comptroller Comments on Prepaid FDIC Assessment

Comptroller Dugan made a <u>statement</u> at the September 29, 2009, FDIC meeting regarding proposals that would raise funds for liquidity needs through a prepaid assessment.

Joint Forum Releases Report on Special Purpose Entities

On September 29, 2009, the Joint Forum of the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision released the final version of its paper entitled *Report on Special Purpose Entities*.

Credit Quality Declines in Annual Shared National Credits Review

The 2009 national credits <u>program review</u> released September 24, 2009, shows that credit quality declined sharply for loan commitments of \$20 million or more held by multiple federally supervised institutions.

Agencies Seek Comment on Proposed Regulatory Capital Standards

The federal banking and thrift regulatory agencies sought comment August 26, 2009, on a proposed regulatory capital <u>rule</u> related to the Financial Accounting Standards Board's adoption of Statements of Financial Accounting Standards Nos. 166 and 167.

OCC Supports Statement on Responsible Loss Mitigation Activities

The OCC released a statement August 6, 2009, that encourages national banks to review the new Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC) <u>statement</u> aimed at preserving homeownership.

OCC Bulletin 2009-28 issued August 13, 2009, offers guidance related to Title VII of the Helping Families Save Their Homes Act of 2009, which provides tenant protections from eviction.

OCC Bulletin 2009-27 issued August 10, 2009, describes new and revised examination procedures in the electronic version of the "Other Consumer Protection Laws and Regulations" booklet (Other Consumer booklet) of the Comptroller's Handbook.

OCC Bulletin 2009-26 issued August 6, 2009, describes the revised Interagency Questions and Answers Regarding Flood Insurance.

Electronic Interpretations and Actions, August - October 2009

- <u>View August</u> *Electronic Interpretations and Actions.*
- <u>View September</u> *Electronic Interpretations and Actions*.
- <u>View October</u> *Electronic Interpretations and Actions.*

View The OCC's Fourth Quarter 2009 CRA Examination Schedule.

CRA Evaluations

- <u>CRA Evaluations for 24 National Banks</u> (CA, FL, IL, KS, LA, MN, ND, NM, NY, OH, OK, TN, TX, WI).
- <u>CRA Evaluations for 35 National Banks</u> (AL, AR, FL, IL, IN, KS, KY, ME, MI, OH, OK, PA, TN, TX, VA, VT).
- <u>CRA Evaluations for 20 National Banks</u> (CA, CO, GA, IL, KY, MI, NE, NY, OH, PA, TX, WV).

OCC Supports Protect Your Identity Week

The OCC joined the public-private coalition that supported the second annual Protect Your Identity Week (PYIW), October 17 – 24, 2009. <u>View the news release</u>.

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6. Web Resources

The OCC's Web Sites

The OCC's Web site www.helpwithmybank.gov has information links and provides answers to questions frequently asked by national bank customers.

Non-OCC Web Sites

The following Web resources are related to OCC news topics, but are not produced by the OCC and do not appear on the OCC's public Web site. Note that the privacy policies of those sites may differ from the OCC's privacy policy.

Government

The President's Council on Financial Literacy and the Financial Literacy and Education Commission promote access to financial education tools and help all Americans make wiser financial choices. The U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Financial Education coordinates the efforts of the Commission and the President's Council.

The U.S. government's Web site www.mymoney.gov is dedicated to teaching all Americans about financial education. The site provides financial education resources

and on-line financial tools and calculators. The site includes Money Math: Lessons for Life curriculum designed to teach mathematical concepts using personal finance scenarios. View the curriculum now.

Go Direct is the direct deposit campaign sponsored by the U.S. Treasury Department and Federal Reserve banks. The Treasury Department has also launched <u>Direct Express</u> prepaid debit card for unbanked federal beneficiaries.

The IRS has launched a campaign to help new small businesses. <u>View the release</u> now.

The Federal Trade Commission Web site www.ftc.gov/MoneyMatters is for people dealing with debt; struggling to find a job; or trying to save, and spend wisely. Money Matters offers short, practical tips, videos, and links to reliable resources. The FTC asks people to report foreclosure rescue and mortgage modification scams to www.FTC.gov or by calling 1-877-FTC-HELP. The FTC also released "Real People. Real Stories," a three-and-a-half minute video that features people targeted by foreclosure rescue scammers sharing lessons learned from their experiences. The FTC is distributing the video in English and Spanish and posting them at www.FTC.gov/yourhome and www.YouTube.com/FTCVideos.

Industry

<u>MyMoneyManagement.net</u> is a unique industry-wide effort to provide consumers with comprehensive financial education resources to help guide their personal finance decision-making. The Web site provides information and encouragement to consumers in financial distress to contact their lenders or a U.S. Department of Justice-certified credit counselor.

A National Ad Council campaign promotes the <u>888-995-HOPE</u> service. The campaign's television and radio advertisements urge homeowners in financial difficulty to call the hotline to find solutions that can prevent foreclosures. The <u>Consumer Bankers Association initiatives</u>, including the "Credit Fairy" and "Hit the Books Running" campaigns, are committed to expanding financial education and improving consumers' understanding of the complexities of consumer financial services.

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Congress created the OCC to charter national banks, to oversee a nationwide system of banking institutions, and to assure that national banks are safe and sound, competitive and profitable, and capable of serving in the best possible manner the banking needs of their customers.

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