March 29, 1998

Any attachments to this document are rescinded only as they relate to national banks and federal savings associations.

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** 

Chief Executive Officers

FROM:

John E. Ryan Acting Executive Director, Supervision

SUBJECT:

Financial Regulatory Fellows Program

After a successful introduction last year, the Office of Thrift Supervision is again organizing a financial regulatory fellows program for 1998-99. Comprising eight to ten fellowships that concentrate on vital thrift regulatory issues, the program brings top-grade talent into the OTS for a year of augmenting and mentoring the regulatory staff, and generally introducing the staff to innovations in supervision.

The need for outside expertise is driven by recent federal thrift chartering activity as well as portfolio changes arising from enhanced lending powers granted to thrifts by Congress in 1996. Although there are fewer thrifts today than ten years ago, those that remain are thriving. They are exploring new businesses as well as new ways of conducting existing business. They are being joined in these endeavors by new charters belonging to holding companies that have never owned a thrift institution.

Among the disciplines for which fellows are being sought are positions in risk management, trust activities, small business lending, retail credit, economic analysis, quality assurance, credit scoring, law, and capital markets. The OTS is looking for mid- or late-career individuals who have a high interest in addressing these financial services issues from the regulatory standpoint during the year starting in September 1998.

We encourage your referral of this memorandum to whomever you believe may be interested in this program. A descriptive brochure is available on request from Lyman Coddington at 202-906-6620; from the OTS's Publifax service at any time by telephoning 202-906-5660 and asking for document number 25150; or from the agency's Web site at http://www.ots.treas.gov.