



Monthly Bulletin

Volume 11, Number 4

October 2007

Southern California Fires Update

Due to the fire emergency in Southern California, Interim Commissioner of Financial Institutions Carol D. Chesbrough, authorized banks located in the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara and Ventura declared to be in a state of emergency due to the fire emergency to close any or all of their offices on October 22, 2007 pursuant to California Financial Code Section 3600, the "Bank Extraordinary Situation Closing Act". The order authorizing banks to close was lifted on October 29, 2007.

During that time, the Department of Financial Institutions (DFI) requested and received information from its licensees about branch offices that closed due to the fire emergency. The Department would like to thank and acknowledge its licensees that responded to this emergency request.

DFI recognizes the serious impact the Southern California fires have had and will continue to have on financial institutions and the communities they serve. We encourage our licensees to work with customers who have been affected by the fires and we acknowledge the actions of licensees that are assisting in the recovery effort. Pacific Western Bank, San Diego has [announced](#) that it is donating \$1 million to the Pacific Western Fund at the [San Diego Foundation](#). The donation will be used initially to help fund recovery efforts stemming from the October 2007 wildfires and on an ongoing basis for projects in the region geared toward improving the local communities. Of the donation, \$100,000 has been designated to benefit families of firefighters and policemen. The donation is the largest in the history of Pacific Western and its parent, First Community Bancorp.

The Department of Consumer Affairs, in partnership with the Governor's Office and the State and Consumer Services Agency has developed a Consumer Protection Hotline for the people that have been impacted by the Southern California Wild Fires. Please inform your customers who were affected by this tragic event that they can call 1-800-952-5210 or go to www.rebuildyourlife.ca.gov for consumer protection

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) has issued a [Financial Institution Letter](#) giving guidance to banks on supervisory practices regarding depository institutions and borrowers affected by the fires.

111 Pine Street, Suite 1100, San Francisco, CA 94111-5613
300 South Spring Street, Suite 15513, Los Angeles, CA 90013-1204
1810—13th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-7118
7575 Metropolitan Drive, Suite 108, San Diego, CA 92108-4421
Consumer Compliance

(415) 263-8500
(213) 897-2085
(916) 322-5966
(619) 682-7227
(800) 622-0620

Information Technology Systems Survey

The California Department of Financial Institutions (DFI) will be reinstating its Information Technology (IT) examination process in 2008 for our commercial bank, industrial bank, foreign bank, and trust company licensees. To enable DFI to gain a better understanding of the IT activities within your financial institution, an IT Systems Survey is being sent out in November 2007. It is very important that you take the necessary time and effort to ensure this Survey is accurately completed and submitted in a timely manner to the DFI. This will enable the DFI to appropriately allocate on-site examination hours for your financial institution. Should you have any questions regarding the Survey, please contact Robert J. Lipot, IT- Senior Financial Institution Examiner, in our Los Angeles office at (213) 897-2978 or by email at rlipot@dfi.ca.gov.

SCO to Resume Receiving Unclaimed Property

On Thursday, October 18, 2007 the United States District Court lifted the injunction on the State Controllers Office (SCO) that had since June 1 enjoined the SCO from receiving, selling or otherwise disposing of unclaimed property until the SCO issued rules providing that unclaimed property holders receive “fair notice”. Subsequently, the SCO added language to a state budget bill, [SB 86](#) that required the SCO to notify unclaimed property holders by mail that the SCO was holding their property. Governor Schwarzenegger signed SB 86 into law on August 24, 2007. For more information, visit the State Controller’s Office [Web site](#) or email the SCO at ucpreporting@sco.ca.gov.

DFI Attends the Interagency Consumer Complaint Conference

DFI staff attended the 2007 Interagency Consumer Complaint Conference sponsored by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) in Houston, Texas on October 15-17. The theme of the conference was “building partnerships and improving technology to improve and enhance the consumer experience”. This theme was echoed by John Ryan of the Conference of State Bank Supervisors, who reported on their efforts to identify best practices for handling consumer complaints.

Comptroller of the Currency John Dugan spoke on the need for state and federal bank regulators to take an integrated approach to consumer complaint resolution. He acknowledged that the structure of the banking regulatory system can be intimidating for consumers who need to file a complaint against their financial institution, which makes it incumbent upon regulators to coordinate their consumer assistance efforts. In addition to providing an enhanced consumer experience, improving the interface will result in better information gathering from the complaint process that can be leveraged to provide guidance to financial institutions and to substantiate enforcement actions. Proposed solutions included a gateway website, interagency-sponsored call routing system and common complaint referral system.

Representatives of the consumer affairs sections of all the federal bank regulatory agencies and 13 state banking departments were present.

The Federal Reserve Bank will host the next conference, which is scheduled to take place in Kansas City, Missouri on April 16 -19, 2009.

Commercial Bank Activity

New Bank

Access Business Bank

7700 Irvine Center Drive, Irvine, Orange County

Correspondent: Tom S. Byington

30200 Rancho Viejo Road, Suite C

San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

(949) 777-5577 ext. 121

Address changed: on 1/23/07 from vicinity of 184 Technology Drive, Irvine, Orange County

Withdrawn: 10/12/07

American Cedars Bank

500 North Central Avenue, Glendale, Los Angeles County

Correspondent: David E. Abshier

LECG

550 South Hope Street, Suite 2150

Los Angeles, CA 90071

(213) 243-3700

Filed: 9/28/07

American Principle Bank

4051 Broad Street, City and County of San Luis Obispo

805-547-2800

805-547-2801 (fax)

Officers: David Booker, President and Chief Executive Officer

Mark Andino, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer

William Filippin, Chief Credit Officer

Capitalization: \$42,242,850

Website: <http://www.americanprinciplebank.com>

Opened: 10/15/07

Community Valley Bank

1489 W. State Street, El Centro, Imperial County

(760) 352-1889

(760) 352-2889 (fax)

Officers: Robert Hahn, President and Chief Executive Officer

Charles Tarquini, Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer

James Bilotta, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Capitalization: \$13,341,980.00

Website: <http://www.YourCVB.com>

Opened: 10/1/07

New Bank (Continued)

Lighthouse Bank

111 Mission Street, City and County of Santa Cruz

(831) 600-4000

(831) 427-2260 (fax)

Officers: Richard G. Hoefstetter, President and Chief Executive Officer

Donald H. Somans, Chief Financial Officer

Lane S. Lawson, Chief Credit Officer

Capitalization: \$18,530,280.00

Website: <http://www.lighthousebank.net>

Opened: 10/29/07

Santa Ana Business Bank

1666 N. Main Street, Santa Ana, Orange County

(714) 415-1700

(714) 415-1799 (fax)

Officers: Larry Frampton, President and Chief Executive Officer

Lynn Jarmon, Chief Financial Officer

Herbert E. Slezinger, Chief Credit Officer

Capitalization: \$12,375,730.00

Website: <http://www.santaanabb.com/>

Opened: 10/9/07

Merger

Business First National Bank, Santa Barbara, to merge with and into Heritage Oaks Bank, Paso Robles

Effected: 10/12/07

Acquisition of Control

Security Business Bancorp, to acquire control of Security Business Bank

Filed: 9/26/07

Security Pacific Bancorp, Inc. to acquire control of Pacific Premier Bancorp, Inc. / Pacific Premier Bank

Filed: 9/14/07

Industrial Bank Activity

Conversion to State Charter

Tustin Community Bank, Tustin, to convert to a state-chartered commercial bank

Effected: 7/26/07

Premium Finance Company Activity

New Premium Finance Company

1st Choice Premium Financing, Inc.
6715 N. Palm Avenue, City and County of Fresno
Filed: 10/9/07

DG Holdings, Inc.
16438 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys, Los Angeles County
Opened: 10/22/07

Foreign (Other Nation) Bank Activity

New Office

eBANK Corporation
City and County of San Francisco (Representative Office)
Approved: 10/18/07

Credit Union Activity

Field of Membership

One credit union received approvals to add two new fields of membership during September 2007.

Merger

Great American Credit Union, San Diego, to merge with into Wescom Central Credit Union, Pasadena
Approved: 10/2/07

Transmitter of Money Abroad Activity

Voluntary Surrender of License

Euronet Payments and Remittance, Inc.
Effected: 6/5/07

CAROL D. CHESBROUGH
Interim Commissioner of Financial Institutions

Bulletin for Month ended
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to Financial Code section 258



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