MEMORANDUM FOR:  CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

FROM: Scott M. Albinson

SUBJECT: Information Technology Examination Handbook-Updated Information Security Booklet

The Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS), along with the other federal banking agencies, has released the revised Information Security Booklet and an Executive Summary of the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council’s (FFIEC) Information Technology Examination Handbook.

The revised Information Security Booklet, which replaces the 2003 version of the booklet, provides updated guidance for examiners, savings associations, and technology service providers to use in identifying information security risks and evaluating the adequacy of controls and risk management practices. The revised guidance addresses changes in technology, risk assessments, mitigation strategies, and regulatory guidance. New or revised material is included regarding authentication, monitoring programs, and software trustworthiness. Many additional topics including malware, wireless banking, remote access, and trust services have also been incorporated or revised. An electronic version of the Information Security Booklet is available on the FFIEC website at www.ffiec.gov/ffiecinfobase/html_pages/it_01.html.

In addition to the revised Information Security Booklet, FFIEC released an Executive Summary of the Information Technology Examination Handbook. The Executive Summary contains high-level synopses of each of the twelve booklets that compose the Information Technology Examination Handbook. In addition, it describes the processes used to develop and maintain the booklets. The Executive Summary is also available on the FFIEC Website.

Questions regarding this guidance should be directed to Lewis C. Angel, Technology Program Manager, Technology Risk Management, (202) 906-5645. For further information on technology risk management issues, see OTS’s Internet site at www.ots.treas.gov/supervision/issuances.