WASHINGTON, D.C., Nov. 16, 1999 - Beginning today it is easier to identify persons banned from the banking industry by the Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS). The agency has posted on its web site the names of persons it has banned from the industry for violating federal laws or regulations.

The OTS list includes former thrift employees, officers and directors, as well as attorneys, accountants and appraisers who worked for thrifts. The OTS has joined the other federal banking agencies in posting notices of those prohibited for life from serving in any federally insured thrift, bank or credit union.

The OTS web page is located at: www.ots.treas.gov. From the home page, click on the Public Information category to get to the Enforcement Orders page. Click on the Prohibition Orders Database to search for banned persons by their name or the name of the institution that formerly employed them.

Also on the Enforcement Orders page are monthly enforcement statistics news releases and links to enforcement pages of other regulatory agencies. At a later date, OTS plans to expand the content to include other types of enforcement actions, such as civil money penalties and cease and desist orders.

The Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act (FIRREA) mandated that enforcement orders issued after the August 9, 1989, effective date of the law are public. They have been announced through monthly OTS news releases, which are also available on the Enforcement Orders page underneath the new searchable database. Orders issued before FIRREA are not public. Copies of public orders are available from the OTS Public Reading Room - phone: 202/906-5900; fax: 202/906-7755; e-mail: public.info@ots.treas.gov.

###
The Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS), a bureau of the U.S. Treasury, regulates and supervises the nation's thrift industry. OTS' mission is to ensure the safety and soundness of thrift institutions and to support their role as home mortgage lenders and providers of other community credit and financial services. For copies of news releases or other documents visit the OTS web page at www.ots.treas.gov.