March 25, 2019

To: Presidents/Chief Executive Officers of FDIC Regulated Financial Institutions

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's (FDIC) Financial Institution Diversity Program is responsible for assessing the diversity policies and practices of FDIC-regulated financial institutions. On January 17, 2019, the FDIC sent letters encouraging the financial institutions we regulate to submit their 2018 diversity self-assessments. I am contacting you now as a reminder to participate in this important program by conducting a self-assessment of your diversity policies and practices, as outlined in the Interagency Policy Statement Establishing Joint Standards for Assessing the Diversity Policies and Practices of Entities Regulated by the Agencies (Policy Statement).

The FDIC is pleased by the participation thus far, and I extend my appreciation for your time and commitment in voluntarily assessing and submitting information about your diversity and inclusion practices. Be assured that the FDIC treats all information you provide as confidential commercial information, as appropriate.

An analysis of the assessment information reported for 2016 and 2017 demonstrates a broad recognition by financial institutions of the value diversity and inclusion play in the financial services industry. The completion of the self-assessment will help your institution focus on and evaluate its diversity program, and can be a valuable planning tool for enhancements. The results will also showcase best practices and ideas that can be shared within the banking and financial services communities.

A diversity toolkit was developed to provide resources, including Frequently Asked Questions and Guidance to enable you to conduct a self-assessment. These resources, as well as the complete 2016 and 2017 analyses, are available at <u>https://www.fdic.gov/about/diversity/dibanking.html</u>.

Please pass this information to your Chief Diversity Officer and/or Supplier Diversity Officer, or their equivalents. I urge all FDIC-regulated financial institutions with 100 or more employees to conduct a self-assessment against the Standards identified in the Policy Statement, and submit the assessment by the extended submission date of **April 30, 2019** to <u>Section342@fdic.gov</u>.

For further information related to the Policy Statement and the submission of the diversity self-assessments, please contact me, Saul Schwartz, OMWI Director at (703) 562-2305, or by email at <u>Section342@fdic.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Saul Schwartz Director