



**Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation**

550 17th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20429-9990

**Financial Institution Letter**

**FIL-64-2017**

**December 22, 2017**

## Collaborative Relationships with Minority Depository Institutions

**Summary:** Insured depository institutions may realize business and regulatory benefits from partnerships and other collaborative relationships with minority depository institutions (MDIs). This Financial Institution Letter describes some of the ways that financial institutions, including community banks, can partner with MDIs to the benefit of all institutions involved, as well as the communities they serve.

**Statement of Applicability to Institutions under \$1 Billion in Total Assets:** This Financial Institution Letter is applicable to all FDIC-supervised insured depository institutions.

**Distribution:**

FDIC-Supervised Financial Institutions

**Suggested Routing:**

Board of Directors  
Chief Executive Officer  
Chief Lending Officer

**Related Topics:**

Minority Depository Institutions  
Lending  
Investments  
Community Reinvestment Act

**Attachments:**

[Collaboration with Minority Depository Institutions](#)

**Contact:** Acting National MDI Director  
Serena L. Owens at 972-761-8200 or  
[sowens@fdic.gov](mailto:sowens@fdic.gov)  
[Regional MDI Coordinators](#)  
[Community Affairs Managers and Specialists](#)

**Note:**

FDIC Financial Institution Letters (FILs) may be accessed from the FDIC's website at <https://www.fdic.gov/news/news/financial/2017/>.

To receive FILs electronically, please visit <https://www.fdic.gov/about/subscriptions/fil.html>.

Paper copies may be obtained through the FDIC's Public Information Center, 3501 Fairfax Drive, E-1002, Arlington, VA 22226 (877-275-3342 or 703-562-2200).

**Highlights:**

- Collaboration among MDIs or between MDIs and non-MDIs can provide viable options for sound and profitable lending and investments that meet the needs of underserved communities.
- By collaborating with each other or with other community banks, MDIs may be able to enhance product and service offerings to unbanked and underbanked consumers located in low- to moderate-income geographies.
- In many cases, institutions engaging in collaborative activities and partnerships with MDIs may receive Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) consideration for such activities.
- Institutions interested in pursuing collaborative relationships with MDIs may contact the appropriate Regional Director or Regional MDI Coordinator for insight on possible collaboration opportunities with specific MDIs. Institutions may also pursue such collaborative opportunities directly.