

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation 550 17th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20429-9990

Financial Institution Letter FIL-25-2006 March 15, 2006

INFLUENZA PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS Interagency Advisory

Summary: The FDIC, the Federal Reserve Board, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and the Office of Thrift Supervision are issuing the attached interagency advisory to raise awareness about the threats of a pandemic influenza outbreak and similar events, and their potential impact on the delivery of critical financial services.

Distribution: FDIC-Supervised Banks (Commercial and Savings)

Suggested Routing:

Chief Executive Officer Information Security Officer

Related Topics: Business Continuity Planning

Attachment:

Interagency Advisory on Influenza Pandemic Preparedness

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Note:

FDIC Financial Institution Letters (FILs) may be accessed from the FDIC's Web site at www.fdic.gov/news/news/financial/2006/index.html.

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Highlights:

- The attached interagency advisory is intended to raise awareness about the threat of a pandemic influenza outbreak and its potential impact on the delivery of critical financial services.
- On November 1, 2005, the White House issued the National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza, which discusses the threat and potential impact of a pandemic influenza outbreak and outlines financial institutions' roles and responsibilities should an outbreak occur.
- The current threat originates from an outbreak of avian flu in Asia. It is unknown whether an avian virus will result in a human pandemic. The widespread nature of this virus in birds and the possibility that it may mutate over time raise concerns that it will become transmissible among humans, with potentially devastating consequences.
- Financial institutions should consider this potential pandemic (and similar threats) in their event response and contingency strategies.
- Please distribute this information to the appropriate personnel in your institution.