Summary: This Bulletin introduces a series of educational pamphlets being published by the Division of Compliance Programs designed to provide compliance assistance to member institutions on areas of concern to the industry and announces the availability of the first pamphlet in the series, Bank Secrecy Act. This first pamphlet will be sent to each institution with the Compliance Activities Handbook in April 1989.

For Further Information Contact: The FHLBank District in which you are located or the Compliance Programs Division of the Office of Regulatory Activities, Washington, D.C.

Supplementary Information: One of the principal missions of the Division of Compliance Programs is to provide and promote educational services for member institutions on compliance issues. As part of that mission, the Division of Compliance Programs has created the Compliance Assistance Series to provide informative and educative material to member institutions about compliance matters.

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The first pamphlet in the series, titled Bank Secrecy Act, assists member institutions with Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) compliance issues. This pamphlet contains background information on the BSA and related regulations and emphasizes the importance and awareness of compliance with this timely and important subject. Preventive and corrective actions are provided for the most common violations of the implementing regulations issued by the U.S. Treasury Department and the Federal Home Loan Bank Board.

The pamphlet should assist institutions with the development or evaluation of existing compliance programs to help safeguard against violations and substantial civil and criminal penalties. Increased enforcement actions by the Treasury Department are resulting in millions of dollars in penalties to financial institutions.

A copy of each of the pamphlets in this series will be provided to member institutions. Institutions are free to reprint or copy the pamphlets for their own internal use. Information about the availability of additional copies may be obtained from the Office of Regulatory Activities, Publications, 801 17th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20006, (202) 785-5400.

The Division of Compliance Programs is interested in providing member institutions with timely and informative material. Suggestions from member institutions and other interested parties regarding compliance topics where educative materials may be helpful would be welcome. Please address your suggestions to Educational Activities Specialist, Division of Compliance Programs, Office of Regulatory Activities, 801 17th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20006.