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## February 28, 2011 Activity Report

By the [Division of Banks](#)

### BOARD OF BANK INCORPORATION

#### Applications Pending

[Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. \(the "Petitioner"\), Pittsfield, Massachusetts](#) – permission to acquire Rome Bancorp, Inc., Rome, New York. Rome Bancorp, Inc. is the holding company for The Rome Savings Bank, Rome, New York. In the Commonwealth, the Petitioner is the holding company for Berkshire Bank, Pittsfield, Massachusetts. Comment period ends March 11, 2011.

[Lowell Five Cent Savings Bank, Lowell](#) – permission to establish a mutual savings bank in conjunction with its multi-step reorganization into a mutual holding company, Lowell Five Bancorp, MHC, with a mid-tier holding company, Lowell Five Bancorp, Inc. The continuing bank will operate under the name Lowell Five Cent Savings Bank. Comment period ended February 25, 2011.

[Mechanics' Co-operative Bank, Taunton](#) – permission to establish a mutual co-operative bank in conjunction with its multi-step reorganization into a mutual holding company, Mechanics Bancorp, MHC, with a mid-tier holding company, Mechanics Bancorp, Inc. The continuing bank will operate under the name Mechanics' Co-operative Bank. Comment period ended February 25, 2011.

### DIVISION OF BANKS

#### Decisions/Notices

[Boston Private Bank & Trust Company, Boston](#) – notice to establish a branch office at the Prudential Center Complex, 111 Huntington Avenue, Boston – non-objection issued February 28, 2011.

[Fall River Municipal Credit Union, Fall River](#) – notice to establish a branch office at 755 G.A.R. Highway, Swansea – non-objection issued February 16, 2011.

[Hometown Bank \("Hometown"\), A Co-operative Bank, Webster](#) and [Athol-Clinton Co-operative Bank \("Athol-Clinton"\), Athol](#) – permission to merge under the charter, by-laws and name of Hometown Bank, A Co-operative Bank. The main office of Hometown would remain the main office of the continuing institution and the banking offices of Athol-Clinton would be retained as branch offices – approved February 28, 2011.

[Hingham Institution for Savings, Hingham](#) – notice to establish a branch office at 80 Charles Street, Boston – non-objection issued February 22, 2011.

[The Bank of Canton, Canton](#) – permission to close a branch office located at 145 Barnstable Road, Hyannis – approved February 11, 2011.

#### Applications/Notices Pending

[Alden Credit Union, Chicopee](#) – permission to close a branch office located at 515 College Highway, Southwick. Comment period ends March 18, 2011.

[Berkshire Bank \("Berkshire"\), Pittsfield, Massachusetts](#) and [The Rome Savings Bank \("Rome"\),](#)

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Rome, New York – permission to merge under the charter, by-laws and name of Berkshire Bank. The main office of Berkshire would remain the main office of the continuing institution and the banking offices of Rome would be retained as branch offices. Comment period ends March 11, 2011.

Berkshire Bank, Pittsfield, Massachusetts – permission to establish a branch office at 1925 Curry Road, Rotterdam, New York. Filed February 22, 2011.

Boston Private Bank & Trust Company ("Boston Private"), Boston, Massachusetts – permission to merge with its three affiliated banks: Borel Private Bank & Trust Company ("Borel"), San Mateo, California; First Private Bank & Trust ("First"), Encino, California; and Charter Private Bank ("Charter"), Bellevue, Washington. Borel, First and Charter will merge under the charter, by-laws and name of Boston Private Bank & Trust Company. The main office of Boston Private would remain the main office of the continuing institution and the banking offices of Borel, First and Charter would be retained as branch offices. Comment period ends March 11, 2011.

Eastern Bank, Boston – permission to relocate a branch office from 1300 Belmont Street, Brockton to 1313 Belmont Street, Brockton. Comment period ends March 4, 2011.

Lowell Five Cent Savings Bank, Lowell – permission to reorganize into a mutual holding company, Lowell Five Bancorp, MHC, with a mid-tier holding company, Lowell Five Bancorp, Inc., as part of a multi-step transaction. Comment period ended February 25, 2011.

Mechanics' Co-operative Bank, Taunton – permission to reorganize into a mutual holding company, Mechanics Bancorp, MHC, with a mid-tier holding company, Mechanics Bancorp, Inc., as part of a multi-step transaction. Comment period ended February 25, 2011.

Metro Credit Union ("Metro"), Chelsea – permission to (1) merge with University Credit Union, ("University") Boston; (2) relocate the current main office of University from 846 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, to 922 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston; and (3) as part of this merger transaction, amend the by-laws of Metro to change membership eligibility. Under the terms of the merger, University will merge with and into Metro under the charter, by-laws and name of Metro Credit Union. The main office of Metro would remain the main office of the continuing credit union and the banking offices of University would be retained as branch offices of Metro. Comment periods end March 14, 2011.

Metro Credit Union, Chelsea – permission to close a branch office located at 135 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston. Comment period ends March 11, 2011.

### MARCH 2011 FILING DATE

Complete applications for the March Activity Report must be received by the Division or the Board on or before 5:00 P.M., Tuesday, March 15, 2011.

### COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT DESCRIPTIVE RATINGS AND EVALUATIONS WHICH BECAME PUBLIC DURING THE MONTH

The following state-chartered banks and credit unions and licensed mortgage lenders have Community Reinvestment Act descriptive ratings and evaluations describing the basis for the rating issued by the Division of Banks. The ratings, as set out in statute, for a bank's or credit union's record of meeting community credit needs are: Outstanding ("O"); High Satisfactory ("HS"); Satisfactory ("S"); Needs to Improve ("NI"); and Substantial Noncompliance ("SNC"). Licensed mortgage lenders are also assigned one of these ratings to describe their record of meeting the mortgage credit needs in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

A consolidated list of all ratings can be found at [www.mass.gov/dob](http://www.mass.gov/dob).

A copy of an individual CRA evaluation is available directly from the bank, credit union, or mortgage lender which is required by law to make the material available upon request, or from the Division's web site.

Bank/Credit Union	Rating	Date of Examination
Northern Bank & Trust Company, Woburn	S	09/13/10

		Date of

Mortgage Lender	Rating	Examination
Reliant Mortgage Company, LLC	S	11/08/10

### APPLICATIONS TO SELL INSURANCE

Boston Firefighters Credit Union - pending

Leominster Credit Union – pending

### CHECK CASHER LICENSES

#### Decisions

Currency Exchange International Corp., Orlando, Florida – permission to operate a check casher office at 100 Huntington Avenue, Level 2, Center Court, Boston, Massachusetts – approved February 4, 2011.

#### Applications Pending

Bennington Convenience Store, Inc. d/b/a Sava's Market, East Boston – permission to operate a check casher office at 150 Bennington Street, East Boston. Comment period ended June 18, 2009.

Braz Transfers, Inc., Somerville – permission to operate a check casher office at 377 Somerville, Ave., Somerville. Comment period ended September 24, 2009.

Hidalgo Multiservices, Inc., Lawrence – permission to operate a check casher office at 174 South Union Street, Lawrence. Comment period ends March 7, 2011.

Jaya Multiple Services, Inc., Lawrence – permission to operate a check casher office at 268 Lawrence Street, Lawrence. Comment period ends March 2, 2011.

Maruti Convenience, LLC, Fitchburg – permission to operate a check casher office at 288 South Street, Fitchburg. Comment period ended December 21, 2010.

St. James Checking, Inc., Springfield – permission to operate a check casher office at 70 Main Street, Greenfield. Comment period ended September 7, 2010.

## BANK AND CREDIT UNION APPLICATION PROCESS TIMING

As a general rule, applications by banks and credit unions other than those that are subject to a review period set out in statute are intended to be processed and completed within the monthly cycle for which the bank and credit union applies. That review period for such processing is approximately 45 days or less from the date the application is filed with the Division. A decision on the application is generally issued within 5 business days after the review period is completed. The decision then will be reported on the monthly Activity Report for the month in which the decision was issued. The timing of the overall review process including the issuance of a decision and the listing on the monthly Activity Report will be dependent on the applicant's compliance with all statutory, regulatory and administrative requirements. Applications before the Massachusetts Board of Bank Incorporation are subject to separate timing schedules as set out in the applications of the Board.

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If you need assistance or have questions, please contact Bernard N. Waxman at 617.956.1571.

For information relative to current Activity Reports please contact the [Consumer Assistance Unit](#).