



FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TODAY

News and topics of interest to financial institutions regulated by the Department of Banking and Finance

June 2025

Inside this issue:

Cyber Threats and
Advisories

2

Applications

3

Annual Assessment Notices—Banks, Credit Unions, and Holding Companies

The bank and credit union annual assessments are due no later than September 30, 2025. An email will be sent to each institutions' primary contact from GADBF@micropact.com at the beginning of September, with the annual assessment invoice. The Department will initiate an ACH debit for the assessment fee for regulated banks and credit unions unless stated otherwise in the body of the assessment notice.

The assessment fee for holding companies will need to be paid through the [Department's online portal](#). Holding company assessments are due no later than September 15th. If you do not receive the annual assessment invoice email at the beginning of September or have any questions on using the online portal, please contact Director for Supervision Kevin Vaughn at KVaughn@dbf.state.ga.us or Business Analysis Director Heather Ensminger at HEnsminger@dbf.state.ga.us.

Federal Bank Regulatory Agencies Seek Comment to Address Payments and Check Fraud

On June 16, 2025, the federal bank regulatory agencies announced a [request for comment](#) on potential actions to help consumers, businesses, and financial institutions mitigate risk of payments fraud, with a particular focus on check fraud.

Because payments fraud may involve multiple institutions and payment methods, no single agency or private-sector entity can address payments fraud on its own. Therefore, the agencies are seeking public comment on discrete actions, collectively or independently, to mitigate payments fraud, including check fraud, within their respective bank regulation and payment authorities.

Input is requested on five potential areas for improvement and collaboration:

- External collaboration among the agencies, Federal Reserve Banks, and industry stakeholders;
- Consumer, business, and industry education by the agencies and Federal Reserve Banks to educate about payment fraud;
- Regulation and supervision to mitigate payments fraud, including opportunities the Board may have related to check fraud;
- Payments fraud data collection and information sharing; and
- Federal Reserve Banks' operator tools and services to reduce payments fraud.

Comments must be received by September 18, 2025. Detailed instructions for submitting comments can be found [here](#).

The Department will continue to engage in opportunities to support and partner with Georgia-chartered financial institutions as part of these efforts. In 2023, financial institutions in Georgia widely responded to the check fraud survey issued in partnership with Georgia Bankers Association, Community Bankers Association of Georgia, and The

League of Credit Unions and Affiliates. The goal was to gather data to understand the financial and operational impact of check fraud in order to support efforts to evaluate and pursue possible multi-faceted solutions to effectively combat this escalating issue. The Department encourages the industry to contribute comments that reflect the significant work and insight that has already been undertaken.

Cyber Threats and Advisories

The Department encourages all financial institutions to stay abreast of cyber threats. The Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) tracks and shares information about the latest cybersecurity threats to protect our nation against serious, ever-evolving cyber dangers.

For more information regarding alerts and advisories issued by CISA go to [Cyber Threats and Advisories | Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency CISA](#).

ACTION ON APPLICATIONS FOR THE MONTH

The following is a summary of official action taken by the Department on certain applications by Georgia state-chartered financial institutions, petitions for certificate of incorporation of financial institutions, and other matters of recent interest:

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

<u>FINANCIAL INSTITUTION</u>	<u>APPROVAL DATE</u>	<u>BEGIN BUSINESS DATE</u>
Stripe MALPB Atlanta, Georgia	06/30/2025	

APPLICATIONS TO ESTABLISH A BRANCH OFFICE

<u>FINANCIAL INSTITUTION</u>	<u>BRANCH OFFICE</u>	<u>APPROVAL DATE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
American Pride Bank Macon, Georgia	6121 W. Sitka Street Tampa, Florida 33634	06/03/2025	
Colony Bank Fitzgerald, Georgia	1201 Town Park Lane Evans, Georgia 30809	06/13/2025	
Ameris Bank Atlanta, Georgia	200 Forsyth Street Jacksonville, Florida 32202	12/03/2024	06/09/2025
Southern Georgia Bank Glennville, Georgia	2839 Central Avenue Augusta, Georgia 30309	12/10/2024	06/10/2025

APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE LOCATION

<u>FINANCIAL INSTITUTION</u>	<u>CHANGE LOCATION OF</u>	<u>APPROVAL DATE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
The Southern Credit Union Fayetteville, Georgia	From: 6 Jefferson Parkway, Suite E Newnan, Georgia 30263 To: 232 Bullsboro Drive Newnan, Georgia 30263	06/13/2025	

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL INSTITUTION MERGERS

<u>SURVIVOR</u>	<u>MERGED INSTITUTION</u>	<u>APPROVAL DATE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
Metro City Bank Doraville, Georgia	First IC Bank Doraville, Georgia	06/12/2025	

APPLICATIONS TO ACQUIRE A FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

<u>SURVIVOR</u>	<u>ACQUIRED INSTITUTION</u>	<u>APPROVAL DATE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
MetroCity Bankshares, Inc. Doraville, Georgia	First IC Corporation Doraville, Georgia	06/12/2025	

SUBSCRIBE TO RECEIVE THIS PUBLICATION

Subscribe to Receive this Publication: Notice of this publication is delivered to interested parties via e-mail. To subscribe to this publication as well as other items of interest, please visit our website at <https://dbf.georgia.gov/>.

Department of Banking and Finance

2990 Brandywine Road, Suite 200
Atlanta, Georgia 30341-5565
Phone: (770) 986-1633

The Department is the state agency that regulates and examines Georgia state-chartered banks, state-chartered credit unions, state-chartered trust companies, international banking organizations, and bank holding companies that own Georgia state-chartered financial institutions. The Department also has responsibility for the supervision, regulation, and examination of merchant acquirer limited purpose banks chartered in Georgia.

In addition, the Department has regulatory and/or licensing authority over mortgage brokers, lenders and processors, mortgage loan originators, consumer installment loan companies, check cashers, sellers-issuers of payment instruments, and money transmitters.

Our Mission is to promote safe, sound, competitive financial services in Georgia through innovative, responsive regulation and supervision.