



FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TODAY

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

Monthly Bulletin #10

October 2014

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Department Issues Proposed Rulemaking and Provides Opportunity to Comment

On November 3, 2014, pursuant to the provisions of the Georgia Administrative Procedure Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-13-1 et seq., and by the authority of O.C.G.A. §§ 7-1-61, 7-1-1012, 7-9-13 and other cited statutes, the Department of Banking and Finance ("Department") gave notice of its intent to adopt new rules.

Comments to the Department must be received by the close of business on **Thursday, December 4, 2014.**

The Proposed Rules may be viewed or downloaded from the Department's website at: <http://dbf.georgia.gov/documents/2014-dbf-proposed-rulemaking-11-3-2014>.

Annual Assessment for State-Chartered Financial Institutions

Annual assessment fee letters will be e-mailed to banks and credit unions in November, and the **fees will be assessed on December 31, 2014.**

Please complete and submit any change of information by December 31, 2014, using the Electronic Funds Transfer ("EFT") Authorization Form. The EFT Authorization Form and Instructions can be found on the Department's website at: <http://dbf.georgia.gov/documents/electronic-funds-transfer-authorization-form-and-instructions>.

Please e-mail or call Chris Pittman with any questions at cpittman@dbf.state.ga.us or 770-986-1641.

DBF Outreach AND UPCOMING SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Commissioner Hagler will be participating on a regulatory panel on **December 4th** during the Georgia Bankers Association's 2014 Credit Conference being held at the Atlanta Marriott Century Center. [Learn more about this event.](#)

"Safeguarding Georgia's Financial Services"

Annual Assessment for Bank Holding Companies

Annual assessment fee letters will be e-mailed to bank holding companies in November 2014. **The fees are due by December 31, 2014, and online reporting/payment is mandatory** from the Department's website at: <https://bkgfin.dbf.state.ga.us/HCAssessments.html>.

Please e-mail or call Chris Pittman with any questions at cpittman@dbf.state.ga.us or 770-986-1641.

PLEASE NOTE: The Department will be utilizing Official Payments Corporation as its credit card service provider for the payment of fees due to the Department. In order to process your payment by credit or debit card, Official Payments Corporation charges a nominal convenience fee based on the amount of the transaction. The convenience fee is 2.50% of the payment amount, with a minimum service fee of \$1.00 per payment transaction.

Action on Applications for the Month of October:

The following is a summary of official action taken on applications by State Financial Institutions under Title 7, Chapter 1 of the O.C.G.A. and petitions for Certificate of Incorporation of Financial Institutions and other matters of interest during the month of October 2014.

APPLICATIONS TO ESTABLISH A BRANCH OFFICE

<u>FINANCIAL INSTITUTION</u>	<u>BRANCH OFFICE</u>	<u>APPROVAL</u>	<u>BEGIN BUSINESS</u>
HeritageBank of the South Albany	Norcross Branch Office 3169 Holcomb Bridge Road Norcross, GA 30071 Gwinnett County	10-30-2014	
Southern Bank & Trust Clarkesville	Blairsville Branch Office 361 Blue Ridge Street Blairsville, GA 30512 Union County	Pending	
Pinnacle Bank Elberton	Covington Branch Office 6124 Highway 278 Northeast Covington, GA 30014 Newton County	Pending	
The Citizens Exchange Bank Pearson	Main Office 1500 Newcastle Street Brunswick, GA 31520 Glynn County	Pending	
The Citizens Exchange Bank Pearson	Saint Simons Island Branch Office 60 Midway Square Saint Simons Island, GA 31522 Glynn County	Pending	
Guardian Bank Valdosta	Pearson Branch Office 82 Railroad Avenue East Pearson, GA 31642 Atkinson County	Pending	

APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE LOCATION

<u>FINANCIAL INSTITUTION</u>	<u>CHANGE LOCATION OF</u>	<u>APPROVAL</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
NOA Bank Duluth	From: Main Office 2476 Pleasant Hill Road Duluth, 30096 Gwinnett County To: 2385 Pleasant Hill Road Duluth, GA 30096 Gwinnett County	10-21-2014	
Ameris Bank Moultrie	From: Drayton Street Branch Office 18 West Bryan Street Savannah, GA 31401 Chatham County To: 26 Drayton Street Savannah, GA 31401 Chatham County	10-06-2014	

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN NAME

<u>PREVIOUS NAME</u>	<u>NEW NAME</u>	<u>APPROVAL</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
The Citizens Exchange Bank Pearson	South Coast Bank & Trust	Pending	

FINANCIAL INSTITUTION MERGERS

<u>FINANCIAL INSTITUTION (SURVIVOR)</u>	<u>MERGED INSTITUTION</u>	<u>APPROVAL</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
Members First Credit Union Decatur, GA	Fidelity Federal Credit Union Sandy Springs, GA	09-03-2014	10-01-2014
The Farmers Bank Forsyth, GA	Spivey State Bank Swainsboro, GA	Pending	
The Farmers Bank Forsyth, GA	The Peoples Bank Covington, GA	Pending	
The Farmers Bank Forsyth, GA	The Bank of Perry Perry, GA	Pending	
Community Bank & Trust - West Georgia LaGrange, GA	Community Bank & Trust- Alabama Union Springs, AL	Pending	
State Bank and Trust Company Macon, GA	Bank of Atlanta Atlanta, GA	09-17-2014	10-01-2014
First Landmark Bank Marietta, GA	Midtown Bank & Trust Company Atlanta, GA	09-12-2014	10-20-2014
Southeastern Federal Credit Union Valdosta, GA	Nashville Credit Union Nashville, GA	10-06-2014	

**APPLICATIONS TO BECOME A BANK HOLDING COMPANY
AND/OR TO ACQUIRE VOTING STOCK OF A FINANCIAL INSTITUTION**

<u>BANK HOLDING COMPANY</u>	<u>TO ACQUIRE</u>	<u>APPROVAL</u>
<u>FORMATIONS</u>		
MetroCity Bankshares, Inc. Doraville, GA	Metro City Bank Doraville, GA	Pending
LBC Bancshares, Inc. LaGrange, GA	LaGrange Banking Company LaGrange, GA	Pending
Liberty First Bancshares, Inc. Monroe, GA	Liberty First Bank Monroe, GA	Withdrawn 10-31-2014
<u>ACQUISITIONS</u>		
State Bank Financial Corporation Atlanta, GA	First Bank of Georgia Augusta, GA	Pending
WB&T Bankshares, Inc. Waycross, GA	The Citizens Exchange Bank Pearson, GA	10-30-2014

Action on MALPB Applications for the Month of October:

The following is a summary of official action taken on applications for a Merchant Acquirer Limited Purpose Bank ("MALPB") charter under Title 7, Chapter 9 of the O.C.G.A. during the month of October 2014.

APPLICATION FOR AN MALPB CHARTER

<u>NAME</u>	<u>APPROVAL</u>	<u>BEGIN BUSINESS</u>
Credorax Bank North America, MALPB c/o Margaret D. Higginbotham, CPA 970 York Cove Milton, GA 30004 Fulton County	Pending	

UPCOMING 2014 HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

This is a reminder that the Department will be closed on Tuesday, November 11th for Veterans' Day,
Thursday, November 27th for Thanksgiving Day, and
Friday, November 28th in observance of Robert E. Lee's Birthday.

**DEPARTMENT OF
BANKING AND FINANCE**

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The Department is the state agency that regulates and examines Georgia state-chartered banks, state-chartered credit unions, and state-chartered trust companies. The Department also has responsibility for the supervision, regulation, and examination of Merchant Acquirer Limited Purpose Banks (MALPBs) chartered in Georgia.

In addition, the Department has regulatory and/or licensing authority over mortgage brokers, lenders and processors, mortgage loan originators, check cashers, sellers-issuers of payment instruments, money transmitters, international banking organizations, and bank holding companies conducting business in Georgia.

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

Our **Vision** is to be the best financial services industry regulator in the country – Progressive. Proactive. Service-Oriented.

We're on the Web!

**Visit our website at:
dbf.georgia.gov**

Our Motto is: "Safeguarding Georgia's Financial Services"

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