

PRESS RELEASE

FROM: Robert H. Gaughen, Jr., President

Hingham Institution for Savings Hingham, MA (NASDAQ – HIFS)

DATE: July 19, 2012

CONTACT: William M. Donovan, Jr., Vice President-Administration (781) 749-2200

14% INCREASE IN QUARTERLY EARNINGS

HINGHAM INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS (NASDAQ – HIFS), Hingham, Massachusetts announced second quarter earnings for 2012. Net income for the quarter ended June 30, 2012 was \$3,368,000 or \$1.58 per share (basic and diluted) as compared to \$2,967,000 or \$1.40 per share (basic and diluted) for the same period last year. The Bank's annualized return on average equity for the second quarter of 2012 was 15.40%, and the annualized return on average assets was 1.18%. Net income for the six months ended June 30, 2012 was \$6,609,000 or \$3.11 per share (basic and diluted) as compared to \$5,847,000 or \$2.75 per share (basic and diluted) for the same period last year. The Bank's annualized return on average equity for the first six months of 2012 was 15.35% and the annualized return on average assets was 1.16%.

Strong growth trends of recent years continued, as deposits increased by \$39.3 million from December 31, 2011 and \$71.2 million from June 30, 2011, representing a 10% annualized growth year to date and 9% from June 30, 2011. Net loans increased by \$33.4 million from December 31, 2011 and \$56.3 million from June 30, 2011, representing 8% annualized growth year to date and 7% growth from June 30, 2011. Total assets increased by \$31.7 million from December 31, 2011 and \$92.4 million from June 30, 2011, representing a 6% annualized growth year to date and 9% from June 30, 2011. Stockholders' equity increased to \$87.8 million as of June 30, 2012, representing a 13% annualized growth year to date and a 13% increase from June 30, 2011. Book value per

share increased to \$41.29 per share at June 30, 2012 from \$38.70 per share at December 31, 2011 and \$36.54 per share at June 30, 2011.

At June 30, 2012, non-performing assets totaled 0.74% of total assets, a decrease from 0.92% at December 31, 2011 and 1.10% at June 30, 2011. For the quarter ended June 30, 2012, a provision of \$200,000 was made to the allowance for loan losses compared to \$300,000 for the same period in 2011. Foreclosure related expenses totaled \$44,000 for the quarter ended June 30, 2012 compared to \$185,000 for the quarter ended June 30, 2011.

President Robert H. Gaughen, Jr. stated, "We are pleased to report that our current quarterly earnings represent a 14% increase over the second quarter and our year to date earnings were 13% over the first half of 2011. We are also pleased to report the ongoing improvement in non-performing assets as the Bank makes considerable progress in resolving our already modest level of problem credits. We continue to see strong performance year over year, reflecting our continued commitment to shareholder value through quality growth and effective cost control."

Hingham Institution for Savings is a Massachusetts-chartered savings bank located in Hingham, Massachusetts. Incorporated in 1834, it is the oldest financial institution headquartered in Hingham and one of the oldest in the Commonwealth. The Bank's main office is located on Main Street, Hingham, Massachusetts. The Bank also maintains branch offices in South Hingham and the neighboring towns of Cohasset, Hull, Scituate, Weymouth and Norwell as well as two branches in Boston.

The Bank's shares of common stock are listed and traded on The NASDAQ Stock Market under the symbol HIFS.

HINGHAM INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS Consolidated Balance Sheets

(Dollars in thousands except per share data)	June 30, 2012		December 31, 2011		June 30, 2011	
(Unaudited) ASSETS						
Cash and due from banks Short-term investments	\$	7,833 100,261	\$	8,918 107,422	\$	5,315 82,873
Cash and cash equivalents		108,094	-	116,340		88,188
Certificates of deposit		13,804		13,405		14,228
Securities available for sale, at fair value Federal Home Loan Bank stock, at cost		103,068 13,406		96,689 13,373		87,556 13,373
Loans, net of allowance for loan losses of \$7,821 at June 30, 2012, \$7,516 at December 31, 2011				13,373		13,373
and \$7,222 at June 30, 2011		883,221		849,776		826,877
Foreclosed assets Bank-owned life insurance		3,161 14,734		3,629 14,524		3,277 14,304
Premises and equipment, net		10,456		10,597		9,977
Accrued interest receivable		2,860		2,858		2,990
Prepaid FDIC assessment		1,616		1,871		1,929
Deferred income tax asset, net		3,458		3,425		2,784
Other assets		1,127		789		1,115
Total assets	\$	1,159,005	\$	1,127,276	\$	1,066,598
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY						
Deposits	\$	826,845	\$	787,573	\$	755,621
Federal Home Loan Bank advances		236,414		247,471		227,019
Mortgage payable		1,086		1,107		1,127
Mortgagors' escrow accounts		2,700		2,517		2,319
Accrued interest payable		454		475		535
Other liabilities		3,742		5,868		2,356
Total liabilities		1,071,241		1,045,011		988,977
Stockholders' equity: Preferred stock, \$1.00 par value,						
2,500,000 shares authorized, none issued				_		
Common stock, \$1.00 par value, 5,000,000 shares						
authorized; 2,125,750 shares issued and outstanding at June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011; 2,124,250 issued						
and outstanding at June 30, 2011.		2,126		2,126		2,124
Additional paid-in capital		10,519		10,500		10,447
Undivided profits		74,929		69,404		64,805
Accumulated other comprehensive income Total stockholders' equity		190 87.764		235		245 77,621
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$	87,764 1,159,005	\$	82,265 1,127,276	\$	1,066,598
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HINGHAM INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS Consolidated Statements of Income

	Three Mor	Six Months Ended June 30,		
	June			
	2012	2011	2012	2011
(Unaudited)	(In thousands, except per share a			nounts)
Interest and dividend income:				
Loans	\$ 11,926	\$ 11,743	\$ 23,769	\$ 23,311
Debt securities	139	215	288	454
Equity securities	44	. 35	86	69
Short-term investments and certificates of deposit	92	96	181	178
Total interest and dividend income	12,201	12,089	24,324	24,012
Interest expense:				
Deposits	1,436	1,764	2,942	3,522
Federal Home Loan Bank advances	1,235	1,487	2,475	2,979
Mortgage payable	17	17	33	34
Total interest expense	2,688	3,268	5,450	6,535
Net interest income	9,513	8,821	18,874	17,477
Provision for loan losses	200	300	425	600
Net interest income, after provision for loan losses	9,313	8,521	18,449	16,877
Other income:		<u> </u>		
Customer service fees on deposits	253	247	506	482
Increase in bank-owned life insurance	113	114	210	230
Miscellaneous	58	60	115	120
Total other income	424	421	831	832
Operating expenses:				
Salaries and employee benefits	2,368	2,205	4,703	4,355
Data processing	213	217	444	438
Occupancy and equipment	428	349	847	704
Deposit insurance	156	263	289	582
Foreclosure	44	185	244	353
Marketing	215	142	349	253
Other general and administrative	645	598	1,270	1,185
Total operating expenses	4,069	3,959	8,146	7,870
Income before income taxes	5,668	4,983	11,134	9,839
Income tax provision	2,300	2,016	4,525	3,992
Net income	\$ 3,368	\$ 2,967	\$ 6,609	\$ 5,847
Weighted average common shares outstanding:				
Basic	2,126	2,124	2,126	2,124
Diluted	2,127	2,126	2,127	2,125
Earnings per common share:				
Basic	\$ 1.58	\$ 1.40	\$ 3.11	\$ 2.75
Diluted	\$ 1.58	\$ 1.40	\$ 3.11	\$ 2.75

HINGHAM INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS Net Interest Income Analysis

	Three Months Ended June 30,						
	2012			2011			
	AVERAGE		YIELD/	AVERAGE		YIELD/	
	BALANCE	INTEREST	RATE	BALANCE	INTEREST	RATE	
(Dollars in thousands)							
(Unaudited)							
Loans (1) (2)	\$ 882,684	\$ 11,926	5.40 %	\$ 819,037	\$ 11,743	5.74 %	
Securities (3) (4)	108,318	183	0.68	104,597	250	0.96	
Short-term investments and certificates of deposit	117,639	92	0.31	92,929	96	0.41	
Total earning assets	1,108,641	12,201	4.40	1,016,563	12,089	4.76	
Other assets	37,467			34,913			
Total assets	\$1,146,108			\$ 1,051,476			
Interest-bearing deposits (5)	\$ 742,847	1,436	0.77	\$ 705,540	1,764	1.00	
Borrowed funds	242,903	1,252	2.06	208,568	1,504	2.88	
Total interest-bearing liabilities	985,750	2,688	1.09	914,108	3,268	1.43	
Demand deposits	68,750			56,883			
Other liabilities	4,100			3,028			
Total liabilities	1,058,600			974,019			
Stockholders' equity	87,508			77,457			
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 1,146,108			\$ 1,051,476			
Net interest income		\$ 9,513			\$ 8,821		
Weighted average spread			3.31 %			3.33 %	
Net interest margin (6)			3.43 %			3.47 %	
Average interest-earning assets to average interest-bearing liabilities (7)			112.47 %			111.21 %	

- (1) Before allowance for loan losses.
- (2) Includes non-accrual loans.
- (3) Excludes the impact of the average net unrealized gain or loss on securities available for sale.
- (4) Includes Federal Home Loan Bank stock.
- (5) Includes mortgagors' escrow accounts.
- (6) Net interest income divided by average total earning assets.
- (7) Total earning assets divided by total interest-bearing liabilities.

HINGHAM INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS

Net Interest Income Analysis

	Six Months Ended June 30,						
	2012			2011			
	AVERAGE		YIELD/	AVERAGE		YIELD/	
	BALANCE	INTEREST	RATE	BALANCE	INTEREST	RATE	
(Dollars in thousands) (Unaudited)							
Loans (1) (2)	\$ 873,408	\$ 23,769	5.44 %	\$ 812,909	\$ 23,311	5.74 %	
Securities (3) (4)	107,884	374	0.69	106,262	523	0.98	
Short-term investments and certificates of deposit	116,672	181	0.31	82,704	178	0.43	
Total earning assets	1,097,964	24,324	4.43	1,001,875	24,012	4.79	
Other assets	37,152			34,560			
Total assets	\$ 1,135,116			\$ 1,036,435			
Interest-bearing deposits (5)	\$ 739,249	2,942	0.80	\$ 693,958	3,522	1.02	
Borrowed funds	239,860	2,508	2.09	207,553	3,013	2.90	
Total interest-bearing liabilities	979,109	5,450	1.11	901,511	6,535	1.45	
Demand deposits	66,051			55,560			
Other liabilities	3,824			3,146			
Total liabilities	1,048,984			960,217			
Stockholders' equity	86,132			76,218			
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 1,135,116			\$ 1,036,435			
Net interest income		\$ 18,874			\$ 17,477		
Weighted average spread			3.32 %			3.34 %	
Net interest margin (6)			3.44 %			3.49 %	
Average interest-earning assets to average interest-bearing liabilities (7)			112.14 %			<u>111.13</u> %	

- (1) Before allowance for loan losses.
- (2) Includes non-accrual loans.
- (3) Excludes the impact of the average net unrealized gain or loss on securities available for sale.
- (4) Includes Federal Home Loan Bank stock.
- (5) Includes mortgagors' escrow accounts.
- (6) Net interest income divided by average total earning assets.
- (7) Total earning assets divided by total interest-bearing liabilities.

HINGHAM INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS **Selected Financial Ratios**

Three Months Ended

Six Months Ended

	June 30,		June 30,		
	2012	2011	2012	2011	
(Unaudited)	<u> </u>				
Key Performance Ratios					
Return on average assets (1)	1.18 %	1.13 %	1.16 %	1.13 %	
Return on average equity (1)	15.40	15.32	15.35	15.34	
Interest rate spread (1) (2)	3.31	3.33	3.32	3.34	
Net interest margin (1) (3)	3.43	3.47	3.44	3.49	
Non-interest expense to average assets (1)	1.42	1.51	1.44	1.52	
Efficiency ratio (4)	40.95	42.84	41.34	42.98	
Average equity to average assets	7.64	7.37	7.59	7.35	
Average interest-bearing assets to average interest					
bearing liabilities	112.47	111.21	112.14	111.13	
	June 30, 2012		ber 31, 11	June 30, 2011	
(Unaudited)	2012			2011	
Asset Quality Ratios					
Allowance for loan losses/total loans	0.88	8 %	0.88 %	0.87 %	
Allowance for loan losses/non-performing loans	144.94	4 1	11.30	85.77	
Non-performing loans/total loans	0.6	1	0.79	1.01	
Non-performing loans/total assets	0.4	7	0.60	0.79	
Non-performing assets/total assets	0.74	4	0.92	1.10	

(1) Annualized

Share Related

Book value per share

Market value per share

Shares outstanding at end of period

(2) Interest rate spread represents the difference between the yield on earning assets and cost of interest-bearing liabilities.

\$

\$

41.29

60.47

2,125,750

38.70

47.80

2,125,750

\$

36.54

52.93

\$ 2,124,250

- (3) Net interest margin represents net interest income divided by average earning assets.
- (4) The efficiency ratio represents non-interest expense, divided by the sum of net interest income and non-interest income.