

PRESS RELEASE

FROM: Robert H. Gaughen, Jr., President

Hingham Institution for Savings

Hingham, MA (NASDAQ – HIFS)

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10% INCREASE IN ANNUAL EARNINGS

HINGHAM INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS (Nasdaq - HIFS), Hingham, Massachusetts announced its earnings for 2012. Net income for the year ended December 31, 2012 was \$13,290,000 or \$6.25 per share (basic and diluted) as compared to \$12,062,000 or \$5.68 per share basic and \$5.67 diluted for 2011. Net income for the fourth quarter 2012 was \$3,354,000 or \$1.58 per share (basic and diluted) as compared to \$3,107,000 or \$1.46 per share (basic and diluted) for the fourth quarter 2011. The Bank's return on average equity for the year ending December 31, 2012 was 15.05%, and the return on average assets was 1.15%.

Deposits increased by \$82 million, or 10%, net loans increased by 12% and total assets by 7% from December 31, 2011 to December 31, 2012. Total assets were \$1,205,884,000 at December 31, 2012 as compared to \$1,127,276,000 at December 31, 2011. Book value per share increased to \$43.65 per share at December 31, 2012 from \$38.70 per share at December 31, 2011. At December 31, 2012 non-performing assets totaled 0.28% of total assets compared to 0.92% of total assets at December 31, 2011.

President Robert H. Gaughen, Jr. stated, "We are pleased to report another year of record earnings, representing a 10% increase over those of 2011. Over the past several years, despite the challenging business environment, we have developed a track record for delivering consistently strong performance. Although the current interest rate environment is challenging, our focus on measured organic growth, effective cost control and aggressive management of asset quality have produced real bottom line results. We remain focused on increasing shareholder value through the careful construction of an outstanding community banking organization."

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 offices are located on Main Street, Hingham, Massachusetts 02043, phone (781) 749-2200. The Bank also maintains branch offices in South Hingham and the neighboring towns of Cohasset, Hull, Scituate, Norwell, Weymouth as well as branches in the South End of Boston and on Beacon Hill.

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)	December 31, 2012		December 31, 2011	
(Unaudited) ASSETS				
Cash and due from banks Short-term investments Cash and cash equivalents	\$	7,961 79,373 87,334	\$	8,918 107,422 116,340
Certificates of deposit		13,737		13,405
Securities available for sale, at fair value Federal Home Loan Bank stock, at cost		102,866 14,105		96,689 13,373
Loans, net of allowance for loan losses of \$7,999 at December 31, 2012 and \$7,516 at December 31, 2011		949,662		849,776
Foreclosed assets Bank-owned life insurance		471 14,945		3,629 14,524
Premises and equipment, net Accrued interest receivable		14,180 2,667		10,597 2,858
Prepaid FDIC assessment Deferred income tax asset, net		1,364 2,621		1,871 3,425
Other assets Total assets	\$	1,932 1,205,884	\$	789 1,127,276
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY				
Deposits	\$	869,886	\$	787,573
Federal Home Loan Bank advances Mortgage payable		234,355 1,065		247,471 1,107
Mortgagors' escrow accounts		3,231		2,517
Accrued interest payable		478		475
Other liabilities		4,070		5,868
Total liabilities	_	1,113,085		1,045,011
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		2,126		2,126
Additional paid-in capital		10,519		10,500
Undivided profits Accumulated other comprehensive income		79,930 224		69,404 235
Total stockholders' equity	_	92,799		82,265
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$	1,205,884	\$	1,127,276

HINGHAM INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS Consolidated Statements of Income

		nths Ended	Twelve Months Ended December 31,		
	2012	2011	2012	2011	
(Unaudited)	(In thousands, except per share amounts)				
Interest and dividend income:					
Loans	\$ 12,126	\$ 11,943	\$ 47,753	\$ 47,191	
Debt securities	111	146	526	749	
Equity securities	70	52	198	153	
Short-term investments and certificates of deposit	92	90	354	351	
Total interest and dividend income	12,399	12,231	48,831	48,444	
Interest expense:					
Deposits	1,467	1,547	5,858	6,751	
Federal Home Loan Bank advances	1,282	1,348	5,014	5,799	
Mortgage payable	16	17	65	68	
Total interest expense	2,765	2,912	10,937	12,618	
Net interest income	9,634	9,319	37,894	35,826	
Provision for loan losses	150	225	725	1,100	
Net interest income, after provision for loan losses	9,484	9,094	37,169	34,726	
Other income:				 -	
Customer service fees on deposits	253	259	1,008	987	
Increase in bank-owned life insurance	102	108	421	450	
Miscellaneous	73	79	237	263	
Total other income	428	446	1,666	1,700	
Operating expenses:					
Salaries and employee benefits	2,506	2,263	9,643	8,894	
Data processing	234	224	884	883	
Occupancy and equipment	438	413	1,709	1,528	
Deposit insurance	164	159	611	701	
Foreclosure	5	429	336	1,038	
Marketing	157	171	654	650	
Other general and administrative	750	626	2,597	2,397	
Total operating expenses	4,254	4,285	16,434	16,091	
Income before income taxes	5,658	5,255	22,401	20,335	
Income tax provision	2,304	2,148	9,111	8,273	
Net income	\$ 3,354	3,107	\$ 13,290	\$ 12,062	
Weighted average common shares outstanding:	_				
Basic	2,126	2,126	2,126	2,125	
Diluted	$\frac{2,128}{2,128}$		$\frac{2,120}{2,127}$	2,126	
Diluted	2,120	2,127	2,127	2,120	
Earnings per common share:					
Basic	\$ 1.58	\$ 1.46	\$ 6.25	\$ 5.68	
Diluted	\$ 1.58	\$ 1.46	\$ 6.25	\$ 5.67	

HINGHAM INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS

Net Interest Income Analysis

	Three Months Ended December 31,						
	2012			2011			
	AVERAGE BALANCE	INTEREST	YIELD/ RATE	AVERAGE BALANCE	INTEREST	YIELD/ RATE	
(Dollars in thousands) (Unaudited)							
Loans (1) (2) Securities (3) (4) Short-term investments and certificates of deposit Total earning assets Other assets Total assets	\$ 938,446 115,630 119,942 1,174,018 36,189 \$ 1,210,207	\$ 12,126 181 92 12,399	5.17 % 0.63 0.31 4.22	\$ 849,581 91,098 120,079 1,060,758 37,218 \$ 1,097,976	\$ 11,943 198 90 12,231	5.62 % 0.87 0.30 4.61	
Interest-bearing deposits (5) Borrowed funds Total interest-bearing liabilities Demand deposits Other liabilities Total liabilities Stockholders' equity Total liabilities and stockholders' equity Net interest income	\$ 777,259 258,641 1,035,900 77,972 4,298 1,118,170 92,037 \$ 1,210,207	1,467 1,298 2,765 \$ 9,634	0.75 2.01 1.07	\$ 710,878	1,547 1,365 2,912 \$ 9,319	0.87 2.30 1.23	
Weighted average spread			3.15 %			3.38 %	
Net interest margin (6)			3.28 %			3.51 %	
Average interest-earning assets to average interest-bearing liabilities (7)			<u>113.33</u> %			<u>111.81</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

Net Interest Income Analysis

	Twelve Months Ended December 31,						
		2012		2011			
	AVERAGE		YIELD/	AVERAGE		YIELD/	
	BALANCE	INTEREST	RATE	BALANCE	INTEREST	RATE	
(Dollars in thousands) (Unaudited)							
Loans (1) (2)	\$ 896,372	\$ 47,753	5.33 %	\$ 828,460	\$ 47,191	5.70 %	
Securities (3) (4)	111,430	724	0.65	99,998	902	0.90	
Short-term investments and certificates of deposit	114,845	354	0.31	93,867	351	0.37	
Total earning assets	1,122,647	48,831	4.35	1,022,325	48,444	4.74	
Other assets	36,623			35,502			
Total assets	\$ 1,159,270			\$ 1,057,827			
Interest-bearing deposits (5)	\$ 752,516	5,858	0.78	\$ 699,897	6,751	0.96	
Borrowed funds	243,162	5,079	2.09	217,324	5,867	2.70	
Total interest-bearing liabilities	995,678	10,937	1.10	917,221	12,618	1.38	
Demand deposits	70,946			58,885			
Other liabilities	4,357			3,068			
Total liabilities	1,070,981			979,174			
Stockholders' equity	88,289			78,653			
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ <u>1,159,270</u>			\$ <u>1,057,827</u>			
Net interest income		\$ 37,894			\$ 35,826		
Weighted average spread			3.25 %			3.36 %	
Net interest margin (6)			3.38 %			3.50 %	
Average interest-earning assets to average interest-bearing liabilities (7)			112.75 %			111.46%	

- (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 December 31,		Twelve Months Ended December 31,		
	2012	2011	2012	2011	
(Unaudited)					
Key Performance Ratios					
Return on average assets (1)	1.11 %	1.13 %	1.15 %	1.14 %	
Return on average equity (1)	14.58	15.23	15.05	15.34	
Interest rate spread (1) (2)	3.15	3.38	3.25	3.36	
Net interest margin (1) (3)	3.28	3.51	3.38	3.50	
Non-interest expense to average assets (1)	1.41	1.56	1.42	1.52	
Efficiency ratio (4)	42.28	43.88	41.54	42.88	
Average equity to average assets	7.61	7.43	7.62	7.44	
Average interest-bearing assets to average interest					
bearing liabilities	113.33	111.81	112.75	111.45	
	D	ecember 31, 2012	December 31, 2011		
(Unaudited)				-	
Asset Quality Ratios					
Allowance for loan losses/total loans		0.84 %	0.88 %		
Allowance for loan losses/non-performing loans		273.66	111.30		
Non-performing loans/total loans		0.31	0.79		
Non-performing loans/total assets		0.24	0.60		
Non-performing assets/total assets		0.28	0.92		
Share Related					
Book value per share	\$	43.65	\$ 38.70		
Market value per share	\$	62.60	\$ 47.80		
Shares outstanding at end of period		2,125,750	2,125,750		

⁽¹⁾ Annualized

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