

Hingham Institution for Savings Announces Strong Quarterly Earnings

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HINGHAM, Mass.--(<u>BUSINESS WIRE</u>)--Oct. 18, 2004--HINGHAM INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS (Nasdaq - HIFS), Hingham, Massachusetts, announced third quarter earnings for 2004. Net income for the quarter ended September 30, 2004 was \$1,499,000 or \$0.72 per share (basic) as compared to net income of \$1,533,000 or \$0.74 per share (basic) for the same period last year. "While earnings remained strong, the slight decrease was a result of continued compression of the Bank's net interest margin which was reduced to 3.43% for the third quarter of 2004, as compared to 3.77% for the same quarter of 2003. Expenses, which rose commensurate with the size of the balance sheet, were offset in large measure by growth in earning assets, stated President Robert H. Gaughen, Jr."

Assets as of September 30, 2004 were \$529,183,000 and represented an 11.3% increase over September 30, 2003. Asset growth was most notable in the loan category which increased \$49.9 million or 14.3% over the same period last year, and deposits increased \$30.3 million or 10.2% over the same period last year.

The annualized Return on Average Assets and Return on Average Equity for the quarter were 1.15% and 13.88% respectively.

Increases in capital were also noted and at September 30, 2004, the Bank reported book value per share of \$21.03, an 8.5% increase from September 30, 2003.

Asset quality remains strong. As of September 30, 2004, the Bank had no foreclosed property and only two nonperforming loans, representing a minimal 0.10% of total assets.

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, and Weymouth.

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

	September 30 2004		September 30, 2003	
(Unaudited)	<pre>(\$ in thousands except per share amounts)</pre>			
ASSETS	share amounts)			
Cash and due from banks	\$ 6,185	\$	5,814	
Short-term investments	10,703		-	
Cash and cash equivalents	16,888		22,738	
Certificates of deposit	5,091		4,882	
Securities available for sale, at fair value	80,703		75,928	
Federal Home Loan Bank stock, at cost	8,084		73,328	
Loans, net of allowance for loan losses of \$3,030,000 in 2004 and \$2,945,000 in	,,,,,		,	
2003	399,742		349,831	
Cash value of life insurance	11,209		7,659	
Banking premises and equipment, net	3,505		3,676	
Accrued interest receivable	2,107		1,924	
Deferred income tax asset, net	1,242		1,033	
Other assets	612		655	
Total assets	-		475,534 ======	
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY				
Deposits	\$ 327,612	\$	297,354	
Federal Home Loan Bank advances	154,656		135,038	
Mortgagors' escrow accounts	1,403		1,347	
Accrued interest payable	436		424	
Other liabilities	1,302		1,092	
Total liabilities	485,409	-	435,255	

Commitments and contingencies

Stockholde	nc' an	uity:
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Preferred stock, \$1.00 par value,			
2,500,000 shares authorized; none			
issued			
Common stock, \$1.00 par value,			
5,000,000 shares authorized;			
2,081,250 and 2,077,250			
shares issued and outstanding at			
September 30, 2004 and 2003,			
respectively		2,081	2,077
Additional paid-in capital		9,485	9,400
Undivided profits		32,807	28,932
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		(599)	(130)
	-		
Total stockholders'			
equity		43,774	40,279
	-		
Total liabilities and stockholders'			
equity	\$	529,183 \$	475,534
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Book value per share	\$	21.03 \$	19.39

HINGHAM INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS

Consolidated Statements of Income

	Three Mont	ths Ended	Nine Mon	ths Ended
	Septemb	per 30,	Septem	ber 30,
(In Thousands, Except for Per Shar	e			
Amounts)	2004	2003	2004	2003
(Unaudited)				

Interest and dividend income:

Loans	\$5,937	\$ 5,817	\$17,379	\$17,365
Debt and trust preferred				
securities		579	•	1,471
Other equity securities	70	55	175	175
Short term investments and				
certificates of deposit	51	57 	153	189
Total interest and dividend				
income	6,609	6,508	19,245	19,200
Interest expense:				
Deposits	1,123	1,035	3,134	3,335
Borrowed funds	1,202	1,215	3,565	3,492
Total interest expense	2,325	2,250	6,699	-
Net interest income		4,258		
Provision (credit) for loan losses				135
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Net interest income after provision (credit) for loan				
losses	4,292	4,213	12,507	12,238
Other income:				
Customer service fees on deposits	211	189	597	560
Gain on sale of loans and			00	464
securities available for sale			00	
Other .	153	111	488	351
Total other income	364	300	1,165	1,375
Operating expenses:				
Salaries and employee benefits	1 264	1 104	1 007	2 E <i>CA</i>
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Data processing	202			
Occupancy and equipment		206		
Legal		15		
Other .	470	441	•	-
Total operating expenses	2,253	2,030	6,831	6,229
Income before income taxes	2,403	2,483	6,841	

Income tax provision		950		
Net income	\$1,499	\$ 1,533	\$ 4,294	
Cash dividends declared per common	١			
share	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.55	\$ 0.53
	=====	======	======	======
Weighted average shares outstanding	•	2,072	2,081	2,070
	=====	======	======	======
Diluted	2,101	2,095	2,101	2,091
	=====	======	======	======
Earnings per share				
Basic	\$ 0.72	\$ 0.74	\$ 2.06	\$ 1.86
				======
Diluted		\$ 0.73	•	•
	=====	======	======	======
Return on average equity	13.88		% 13.46	% 13.14 % ======
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Contacts

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1