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Dear Valued Customer,

Enclosed is the latest update for *Bank Security Desk Reference*. This update discusses the following topics:

- *FBI crime statistics*. Chapter 2 has been updated with the crime statistics provided by the FBI. All the tables analyzing robbery, kidnapping, and other attacks at financial institutions have been updated.
- *FBI Financial Institution Fraud and Failure Report*. According to the FBI, areas of primary investigative interest relative to financial institution fraud include mortgage and loan fraud, insider fraud, check fraud, counterfeit negotiable instruments, check kiting, and financial institution failures. The findings of the *FBI Financial Institution Fraud and Failure Report* for FY 2007 is discussed in Chapter 2.
- *Check fraud*. Check fraud continues to be a major concern of bank security officers. The American Bankers Association (ABA), in a 2007 check fraud survey report, estimated the total amount of attempted check fraud against commercial banks amounted to \$12.2 billion with 92 percent of this potential loss prevented by the banks' check fraud prevention programs. See Chapter 2.
- *Suspicious activity reporting*. FinCEN reported that during the period April 1, 1996 through June 30 2008, financial institutions filed 3,753,591 Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs). The incidence of SAR reporting has increased significantly since 1996, when 62,388 SARs were filed, to 649,176 filings by financial institutions in 2007. Significant points in its report, *The SAR Activity Review — By the Numbers*, issued November, 2008, are discussed in Chapter 2.
- *Contingency planning*. Chapter 6 has been updated with an alert issued by the FBI regarding threatening letters, some with powdery substances. This section also discusses what your staff should do if this occurs at your institution.
- *Security training for employees*. An updated section in Chapter 9 discusses what your employees should do should the hold-up alarm is falsely activated.
- *Money laundering*. The section regarding recordkeeping requirements has been updated with information clarifying initial designation of exempt persons and the review of exempt person designations.

Our goal is to make *Bank Security Desk Reference* your go-to source for all things security. If you have any suggestions regarding this manual, please let us know! You can e-mail me directly at diane.calmes@sheshunoff.com. You can also call our customer service representatives at 1-800-456-2340 if you have any questions regarding any of our products.

Sincerely,

Diane L. Calmes
Editor