

**CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER & TAX COLLECTOR**

**INVESTMENT POLICY**

Effective September 2023

**1.0 Policy**

It is the policy of the Office of the Treasurer & Tax Collector of the City and County of San Francisco (Treasurer's Office) to invest public funds in a manner which will preserve capital, meet the daily cash flow demands of the City, and provide a market rate of return while conforming to all state and local statutes governing the investment of public funds.

**2.0 Scope**

This investment policy applies to all funds over which the Treasurer's Office has been granted fiduciary responsibility and direct control for their management.

**3.0 Prudence**

The standard of prudence to be used by the Treasurer's Office shall be the Prudent Investor Standard as set forth by California Government Code, Section 53600.3 and 27000.3. The Section reads as follows: The Prudent Investor Standard states that when investing, reinvesting, purchasing, acquiring, exchanging, selling, or managing public funds, a trustee shall act with care, skill, prudence, and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing, including, but not limited to, the general economic conditions and the anticipated needs of the Treasurer's Office, that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiarity with those matters would use in the conduct of funds of a like character and with like aims, to safeguard the principal and maintain the liquidity needs of the Treasurer's Office.

This standard of prudence shall be applied in the context of managing those investments that fall under the Treasurer's direct control. Investment officers acting in accordance with written procedures and this investment policy and exercising due diligence shall be relieved of personal responsibility for an individual security's credit risk or market price changes provided deviations from expectations are reported in a timely fashion and appropriate action is taken to control adverse developments.

**4.0 Objective**

The primary objectives, in priority order, of the Treasurer's Office's investment activities shall be:

4.1 Safety: Safety of principal is the foremost objective of the investment program. Investments of the Treasurer's Office shall be undertaken in a manner that seeks to ensure the preservation of capital. To attain this objective, the Treasurer's Office will diversify its investments.

4.2 Liquidity: The Treasurer's Office investment portfolio will remain sufficiently liquid to enable the Treasurer's Office to meet cash flow needs which might be reasonably anticipated.

4.3 Return on Investments: The portfolio shall be designed with the objective of generating a market rate of return without undue compromise of the first two objectives.

## **5.0 Delegation of Authority**

The Treasurer of the City and County of San Francisco (Treasurer) is authorized by Charter Section 6.106 to invest funds available under California Government Code Title 5, Division 2, Part 1, Chapter 4, Article 1. The Treasurer shall submit any modification to this Investment Policy to the Treasury Oversight Committee members within five (5) working days of the adoption of the change.

## **6.0 Authorized Broker/Dealer Firms**

The City seeks to employ a fair and unbiased broker-dealer selection process, which culminates in an array of small / medium and large-sized firms that provide the best investment opportunities and service to the City.

The Treasurer's Office will evaluate and classify broker-dealers based on the qualifications of the firm and firm's assigned broker.

When evaluating Broker-Dealers, the Treasurer's Office will strongly consider the Minority / Historically Disadvantaged status of both the firm's ownership and the assigned broker.

All broker-dealers are encouraged to apply for consideration. All applicants will be evaluated and classified based on the qualifications of the firm and the firm's assigned individual. \

All approved broker-dealers will be re-assessed on an on-going basis.

The inclusion of a Broker-Dealer on TTX's approved list does not guarantee that the firm will be successful in doing business with TTX.

All securities shall be purchased and sold in a competitive environment and investment decisions will be made based on best execution.

The Treasurer's Office will not do business with a firm which has, within any consecutive 48-month period following January 1, 1996, made a political contribution in an amount exceeding the limitations contained in Rule G-37 of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, to the Treasurer, any member of the Board of Supervisors, or any candidate for those offices.

## **7.0 Authorized & Suitable Investments**

Investments will be made pursuant to the California Government Code (including Section 53601 et seq.) and this investment policy to ensure sufficient liquidity to meet all anticipated disbursements.

Unless otherwise noted, the maximum maturity from the settlement date can be no longer than five years with a trade date no longer than 45 days from settlement date. .

All exposure limits defined below will be measured against total portfolio par value (unless otherwise specified) and at time of purchase.

Types of investment vehicles not authorized by this investment policy are prohibited.

In an effort to limit credit exposure, the Treasurer’s Office will maintain Eligible Issuer, Eligible Counterparty and Eligible Money Market lists for security types where appropriate. These lists are intended to guide investment decisions. Investments, at time of purchase, are limited solely to issuers, counterparties and money market funds listed; however, investment staff may choose to implement further restrictions at any time.

The Treasurer’s Office shall establish a Credit Committee comprised of the Treasurer, Chief Assistant Treasurer, Chief Investment Officer and additional investment personnel at the Treasurer’s discretion. The Committee shall review and approve all eligible issuers and counterparties prior to inclusion on the aforementioned Eligible Issuer, Eligible Counterparty and Eligible Money Market lists. The Committee shall also be charged with determining the collateral securing the City’s repurchase agreements.

In the event of a downgrade of the issuer’s credit rating below the stated requirements herein, the Credit Committee shall convene and determine the appropriate action.

In addition, the Treasurer’s Office shall conduct an independent credit review, or shall cause an independent credit review to be conducted, of the collateralized CD issuers to determine the creditworthiness of the financial institution. The credit review shall include an evaluation of the issuer’s financial strength, experience, and capitalization, including, but not limited to leverage and capital ratios relative to benchmark and regulatory standards (See Section 7.4). The following policy shall govern unless a variance is specifically authorized by the Treasurer and reviewed by the Treasury Oversight Committee pursuant to Section 5.0.

**7.1 U.S. Treasuries**

United States Treasury notes, bonds, bills or certificates of indebtedness, or those for which the full faith and credit of the United States are pledged for the payment of principal and interest.

Allocation Maximum	Issuer Limit Maximum	Issue Limit Maximum	Maturity/Term Maximum
100% of the portfolio value	100%	100%	5 years

**7.2 Federal Agencies**

Federal agency or United States government-sponsored enterprise obligations, participations, or other instruments, including those issued by or fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by federal agencies or United States government-sponsored enterprises.

Allocation Maximum	Issuer Limit Maximum	Issue Limit Maximum	Maturity/Term Maximum
100% of the portfolio value	100%	100%	5 years

### 7.3 State and Local Government Agency Obligations

The Treasurer's Office may purchase bonds, notes, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness of any local or State agency within the 50 United States, including bonds payable solely out of the revenues from a revenue-producing property owned, controlled, or operated by the local agency or State, or by a department, board, agency, or authority of the local agency or State.

Allocation Maximum	Issuer Limit Maximum	Issue Limit Maximum	Maturity/Term Maximum
20% of the portfolio value	5%	No Limit	5 years

Issuer Minimum Credit Rating: Issuers must possess either a short-term rating of the highest ranking or long-term credit rating (dependent upon maturity length) of the second highest ranking or better (irrespective of +/-) from at least one NRSRO (Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization). This limitation applies to all local and State agencies within the 50 United States with the exception of the State of California.

### 7.4 Public Time Deposits (Term Certificates of Deposit)

The Treasurer's Office may invest in either:

1. Non-negotiable time deposits (Certificates of Deposit or CDs) that have FDIC or similar deposit insurance; or
2. Fully collateralized CDs in approved financial institutions.

The Treasurer's Office will invest in CDs and Time Deposits only with those firms having at least one branch office within the boundaries of the City and County of San Francisco. As required by Government Code Section 53649, the Treasurer's Office shall have a signed agreement with any depository accepting City funds.

For Public Time Deposits not employing deposit insurance (such as FDIC), the Treasurer's Office is authorized to accept two forms of collateral:

A. Deposit Collateral. Collateralized CDs are required to be fully collateralized with 110% of the type of collateral authorized in California Government Code, Section 53651 (a) through (i). The Treasurer's Office, at its discretion, may waive the collateralization requirements for any portion that is covered by deposit insurance.

B. Letters of Credit Issued by the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco. As authorized by Section 53651 (p) of the California Government Code, Letter of Credit may be accepted as collateral and shall conform to the requirements of Section 53651.6 of the California Government Code include the following terms:

- (1) The Administrator, as defined by Section 53630 (g) of the California Government Code, shall be the beneficiary of the letter of credit; and

(2) The letter of credit shall be clean and irrevocable, and shall provide that the Administrator may draw upon it up to the total amount in the event of the failure of the depository savings association or federal association or if the depository savings association or federal association refuses to permit the withdrawal of funds by a treasurer.

Allocation Maximum	Issuer Limit Maximum	Issue Limit Maximum	Maturity/Term Maximum
\$80mm	\$20mm	N/A	6 months

Issuer Minimum Credit Rating (applies to collateralized CDs only): Maintenance of the minimum standards for “well-capitalized” status as established by the Federal Reserve Board. The current standards are as follows:

- Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 8% or greater
- Combined Tier 1 and Tier 2 capital ratio of 10% or greater
- Leverage ratio of 5% or greater

Failure to maintain minimum standards may result in early termination, subject to the discretion of the Treasurer’s Office.

## 7.5 Negotiable Certificates of Deposit / Yankee Certificates Of Deposit

Negotiable certificates of deposit issued by a nationally or state-chartered bank, a savings association or a federal association (as defined by Section 5102 of the Financial Code), a state or federal credit union, or by a state-licensed branch of a foreign bank. Yankee certificates of deposit are negotiable instruments that are issued by a branch of a foreign bank.

Allocation Maximum	Issuer Limit Maximum	Issue Limit Maximum	Maturity/Term Maximum
30% of the portfolio value	No Limit	N/A	5 years

Issuer Minimum Credit Rating: Issuers must possess either a short-term rating of the highest ranking or long-term credit rating (dependent upon maturity length) of the second highest ranking or better (irrespective of +/-) from at least one NRSRO.

The purchase of Canadian Yankee CDs shall be limited to maturities of less than 400 days.

## 7.6 Bankers Acceptances

Bills of exchange or time drafts drawn on and accepted by a commercial bank, otherwise known as bankers' acceptances.

Allocation Maximum	Issuer Limit Maximum	Issue Limit Maximum	Maturity/Term Maximum
40% of the portfolio value	30%	No Limit	180 days

Issuer Minimum Credit Rating: None

## 7.7 Commercial Paper

Obligations issued by a corporation or bank to finance short-term credit needs, such as accounts receivable and inventory, which may be unsecured or secured by pledged assets.

Allocation Maximum	Issuer Limit Maximum	Issue Limit Maximum	Maturity/Term Maximum
25% of the portfolio value	10%	None	270 days

Issuer Minimum Credit Rating: Issuers must possess a short-term credit rating of the highest ranking (irrespective of +/-) from at least one NRSRO.

## 7.8 Medium Term Notes

Medium-term notes, defined as all corporate and depository institution debt securities with a maximum remaining maturity of five years or less, issued by corporations organized and operating within the United States or by depository institutions licensed by the U.S. or any state, and operating within the U.S.

Allocation Maximum	Issuer Limit Maximum	Issue Limit Maximum	Maturity/Term Maximum
30% of the portfolio value	10%	5%	5 Years

Maturity Allocation Buckets:

- a. More than 4 years to Maturity: No more than 5% of Pool Par Value;
- b. 3 to 4 years to Maturity: No more than 5% of Pool Par Value; and
- c. 2 to 3 years to Maturity: No more than 5% of Pool Par Value.

Percentage of Pool Par Value is determined at the time a security is purchased. If subsequent to purchases, a Maturity bucket exceeds the 5% allocation, investment staff may continue to hold existing positions.

Issuer Minimum Credit Rating: Issuers must possess either a short-term rating of the highest ranking or long-term credit rating (dependent upon maturity length) of the second highest ranking or better (irrespective of +/-) from at least one NRSRO.

### 7.9 Repurchase Agreements

To the extent that the Treasurer's Office utilizes this investment vehicle, said collateral shall be delivered to a third-party custodian, so that recognition of ownership of the City and County of San Francisco is perfected.

Type of Collateral	Allocation Maximum	Issuer Limit Maximum	Maturity/Term Maximum
Government securities	No Limit	N/A	1 year
Securities permitted by CA Government Code, Sections 53601 and 53635	10%	N/A	1 year

### 7.10 Reverse Repurchase and Securities Lending Agreements

This procedure shall be limited to occasions when the cost effectiveness dictates execution, specifically to satisfy cash flow needs or when the collateral will secure a special rate. A reverse repurchase agreement shall not exceed 45 days; the amount of the agreement shall not exceed \$75MM; and the offsetting purchase shall have a maturity not to exceed the term of the repo.

### 7.11 Money Market Funds

Shares of beneficial interest issued by diversified management companies that are money market funds registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. Sec. 80a-1, et seq.).

Fund Type	Allocation Maximum	Issuer Limit Maximum	Percentage of Fund's Net Assets Maximum	Maturity/Term Maximum
Institutional Government	20% of Total Pool assets	N/A	5%	N/A

Issuer Minimum Credit Rating: Fund must be rated in the highest rating category from not less than two NRSROs .

### 7.12 Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)

Investments in LAIF, a California state investment fund available to California municipalities, are authorized.

### 7.13 Supranationals

United States dollar denominated senior unsecured unsubordinated obligations issued or unconditionally guaranteed by:

- International Bank for Reconstruction and Development;
- International Finance Corporation; or
- Inter-American Development Bank;

Allocation Maximum	Issuer Limit Maximum	Issue Limit Maximum	Maturity/Term Maximum
30%	None	None	5 years

Issuer Minimum Credit Rating: Issuers must possess either a short-term credit rating of the highest ranking or long-term credit rating (dependent upon maturity length) of the second highest ranking or better (irrespective of +/-) from at least one NRSRO.

### 8.0 Interest and Expense Allocations

The costs of managing the investment portfolio, including but not limited to: investment management; accounting for the investment activity; custody of the assets, managing and accounting for the banking; receiving and remitting deposits; oversight controls; and indirect and overhead expenses are charged to the investment earnings based upon actual labor hours worked in respective areas. Costs of these respective areas are accumulated and charged to the Pooled Investment Fund on a quarterly basis, with the exception of San Francisco International Airport costs which are charged directly through a work order.

The San Francisco Controller allocates the net interest earnings of the Pooled Investment Fund. The earnings are allocated monthly based on average balances.

### 9.0 Safekeeping and Custody

All security transactions, including collateral for repurchase agreements, entered into by the Treasurer's Office shall be conducted on a delivery-versus-payment (DVP) basis pursuant to approved custodial safekeeping agreements. Securities will be held by a third party custodian designated by the Treasurer and evidenced by safekeeping receipts.

### 10.0 Deposit and Withdrawal of Funds

California Government Code Section 53684 et seq. provides criteria for outside local agencies, where the Treasurer does not serve as the agency's treasurer, to invest in the County's Pooled Investment Fund, subject to the consent of the Treasurer. Currently, no government agency outside the geographical boundaries of the City and County of San Francisco shall have money invested in City pooled funds.



The Treasurer will honor all requests to withdraw funds for normal cash flow purposes that are approved by the San Francisco Controller. Any requests to withdraw funds for purposes other than cash flow, such as for external investing, shall be subject to the consent of the Treasurer. In accordance with California Government Code Sections 27136 et seq. and 27133(h) et seq., such requests for withdrawals must first be made in writing to the Treasurer. These requests are subject to the Treasurer's consideration for the stability and predictability of the Pooled Investment Fund, or the adverse effect on the interests of the other depositors in the Pooled Investment Fund. Any withdrawal for such purposes shall be at the value shown on the Controller's books as of the date of withdrawal.

### **11.0 Limits on Receipt of Honoraria, Gifts and Gratuities**

In accordance with California Government Code Section 27133(d) et seq., this Investment Policy hereby establishes limits for the Treasurer, individuals responsible for management of the portfolios, and members of the Treasury Oversight Committee on the receipt of honoraria, gifts and gratuities from advisors, brokers, dealers, bankers or others persons with whom the Treasurer conducts business. Any individual who receives an aggregate total of gifts, honoraria and gratuities in excess of those limits must report the gifts, dates and firms to the Treasurer and complete the appropriate State disclosure.

These limits may be in addition to the limits set by a committee member's own agency, by state law, or by the California Fair Political Practices Commission. Members of the Treasury Oversight Committee also must abide by the following sections of the Treasurer's Office Statement of Incompatible Activities: Section III(A)(l)(a), (b) and (c) entitled "Activities that Conflict with Official Duties," and Section III(C) entitled "Advance Written Determination".

### **12.0 Reporting**

In accordance with the provisions of California Government Code Section 53646, which states that the Treasurer may render a quarterly report or a monthly report on the status of the investment portfolio to the Board of Supervisors, Controller and Mayor; the Treasurer regularly submits a monthly report. The report includes the investment types, issuer, maturity date, par value, and dollar amount invested; market value as of the date of the report and the source of the valuation; a statement of compliance with the investment policy or an explanation for non-compliance; and a statement of the ability or inability to meet expenditure requirements for six months, as well as an explanation of why moneys will not be available if that is the case.

### **13.0 Social Responsibility**

In addition to and subordinate to the objectives set forth in Section 4.0 herein, investment of funds should be guided by the following socially responsible investment goals when investing in corporate securities and depository institutions. Investments shall be made in compliance with the forgoing socially responsible investment goals to the extent that such investments achieve substantially equivalent safety, liquidity and yield compared to investments permitted by state law.

#### **13.1 Social and Environmental Concerns**

Investments are encouraged in entities that support community well-being through safe and environmentally sound practices and fair labor practices. Investments are encouraged in entities that support

equality of rights regardless of sex, race, age, disability or sexual orientation. Investments are discouraged in entities that manufacture tobacco products, firearms, or nuclear weapons. In addition, investments are encouraged in entities that offer banking products to serve all members of the local community, and investments are discouraged in entities that finance high-cost check-cashing, deferred deposit (payday-lending) businesses and organizations involved in financing, either directly or indirectly, the Dakota Access Pipeline or, as determined by the Treasurer, similar pipeline projects. Prior to making investments, the Treasurer's Office will verify an entity's support of the socially responsible goals listed above through direct contact or through the use of a third party such as the Investors Responsibility Research Center, or a similar ratings service. The entity will be evaluated at the time of purchase of the securities.

### **13.2 Community Investments**

Investments are encouraged in entities that promote community economic development. Investments are encouraged in entities that have a demonstrated involvement in the development or rehabilitation of low income affordable housing, and have a demonstrated commitment to reducing predatory mortgage lending and increasing the responsible servicing of mortgage loans. Securities investments are encouraged in financial institutions that have a Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) rating of either Satisfactory or Outstanding, as well as financial institutions that are designated as a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) by the United States Treasury Department, or otherwise demonstrate commitment to community economic development.

### **13.3 City Ordinances**

All depository institutions are to be advised of applicable City contracting ordinances, and shall certify their compliance therewith, if required.

### **14.0 Treasury Oversight Committee**

A Treasury Oversight Committee was established by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in Ordinance No. 316-00. The duties of the Committee shall be the following:

- (a) Review and monitor the investment policy described in California Government Code Section 27133 and prepared annually by the Treasurer.
- (b) Cause an annual audit to be conducted to determine the Treasurer's compliance with California Government Code Article 6 including Sections 27130 through 27137 and City Administrative Code Section 10.80-1. The audit may examine the structure of the investment portfolio and risk. This audit may be a part of the County Controller's usual audit of the Treasurer's Office by internal audit staff or the outside audit firm reviewing the Controller's Annual Report.
- (c) Nothing herein shall be construed to allow the Committee to direct individual decisions, select individual investment advisors, brokers, or dealers, or impinge on the day-to-day operations of the Treasurer. (See California Government Code, Section 27137.)

## APPENDIX

### **Glossary**

**AGENCIES:** Federal agency securities and/or Government-sponsored enterprises.

**ASK/OFFER:** The price at which securities are offered.

**BANKERS' ACCEPTANCE (BA):** A draft or bill of exchange accepted by a bank or trust company. The accepting institution guarantees payment of the bill, as well as the issuer.

**BENCHMARK:** A comparative base for measuring the performance or risk tolerance of the investment portfolio. A benchmark should represent a close correlation to the level of risk and the average duration of the portfolio's investments.

**BID:** The price offered by a buyer of securities. (When you are selling securities, you ask for a bid.) See Offer.

**BROKER:** A broker brings buyers and sellers together for a commission.

**CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT (CD):** A time deposit with a specific maturity evidenced by a Certificate. Large-denomination CD's are typically negotiable.

**COLLATERAL:** Securities, evidence of deposit or other property, which a borrower pledges to secure repayment of a loan. Also refers to securities pledged by a bank to secure deposits of public monies.

**COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (CAFR):** The CAFR is the City's official annual financial report. It consists of three major sections: introductory, financial, and statistical. The introductory section furnishes general information on the City's structure, services, and environment. The financial section contains all basic financial statements and required supplementary information, as well as information on all individual funds and discretely presented component units not reported separately in the basic financial statements. The financial section may also include supplementary information not required by GAAP. The statistical section provides trend data and nonfinancial data useful in interpreting the basic financial statements and is especially important for evaluating economic condition.

**COUPON:** (a) The annual rate of interest that a bond's issuer promises to pay the bondholder on the bond's face value. (b) A certificate attached to a bond evidencing interest due on a payment date.

**DEALER:** A dealer, as opposed to a broker, acts as a principal in all transactions, buying and selling for his own account.

**DEBENTURE:** A bond secured only by the general credit of the issuer.

**DELIVERY VERSUS PAYMENT:** There are two methods of delivery of securities: delivery versus payment and delivery versus receipt. Delivery versus payment is delivery of securities with an exchange of money for the securities. Delivery versus receipt is delivery of securities with an exchange of a signed receipt for the securities.

**DEPOSITORY INSTITUTIONS:** These institutions hold City and County moneys in the forms of certificates of deposit (negotiable or term), public time deposits and public demand accounts.

**DERIVATIVES:** (1) Financial instruments whose return profile is linked to, or derived from, the movement of one or more underlying index or security, and may include a leveraging factor, or (2) financial contracts based upon notional amounts whose value is derived from an underlying index or security (interest rates, foreign exchange rates, equities or commodities).

**DISCOUNT:** The difference between the cost price of a security and its maturity when quoted at lower than face value. A security selling below original offering price shortly after sale also is considered to be at a discount.

**DISCOUNT SECURITIES:** Non-interest bearing money market instruments that are issued a discount and redeemed at maturity for full face value, e.g., U.S. Treasury Bills.

**DIVERSIFICATION:** Dividing investment funds among a variety of securities offering independent returns.

**FDIC DEPOSIT INSURANCE COVERAGE:** The FDIC is an independent agency of the United States government that protects against the loss of insured deposits if an FDIC-insured bank or savings association fails. Deposit insurance is backed by the full faith and credit of the United States government. Since the FDIC was established, no depositor has ever lost a single penny of FDIC-insured funds. FDIC insurance covers funds in deposit accounts, including checking and savings accounts, money market deposit accounts and certificates of deposit (CDs). FDIC insurance does not, however, cover other financial products and services that insured banks may offer, such as stocks, bonds, mutual fund shares, life insurance policies, annuities or municipal securities. There is no need for depositors to apply for FDIC insurance or even to request it. Coverage is automatic. To ensure funds are fully protected, depositors should understand their deposit insurance coverage limits. The FDIC provides separate insurance coverage for deposits held in different ownership categories such as single accounts, joint accounts, Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) and trust accounts.

Basic FDIC Deposit Insurance Coverage Limits\*

Single Accounts (owned by one person) \$250,000 per owner

Joint Accounts (two or more persons) \$250,000 per co-owner

IRAs and certain other retirement accounts \$250,000 per owner

Trust Accounts \$250,000 per owner per beneficiary subject to specific limitations and requirements\*\*

\*The financial reform bill, officially named the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, signed into law on July 21, 2010, made the \$250,000 FDIC coverage limit permanent.

**FEDERAL CREDIT AGENCIES:** Agencies of the Federal government set up to supply credit to various classes of institutions and individuals, e.g., S&L's, small business firms, students, farmers, farm cooperatives, and exporters.

**FEDERAL FUNDS RATE:** The rate of interest that depository institutions lend monies overnight to other depository institutions. Also referred to as the overnight lending rate. This rate is currently pegged by the Federal Reserve through open-market operations.

**FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANKS (FHLB):** Government sponsored wholesale banks (currently 12 regional banks), which lend funds and provide correspondent banking services to member commercial banks, thrift institutions, credit unions and insurance companies. The mission of the FHLBs is to liquefy the housing related assets of its members who must purchase stock in their district Bank.

**FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION (FNMA):** FNMA, like GNMA was chartered under the Federal National Mortgage Association Act in 1938. FNMA is a federal corporation working under the auspices of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It is the largest single

provider of residential mortgage funds in the United States. Fannie Mae, as the corporation is called, is a private stockholder-owned corporation. The corporation's purchases include a variety of adjustable mortgages and second loans, in addition to fixed-rate mortgages. FNMA's securities are also highly liquid and are widely accepted. FNMA assumes and guarantees that all security holders will receive timely payment of principal and interest.

**FEDERAL HOME LOAN MORTGAGE CORPORATION (FHLMC):** Freddie Mac's mission is to provide liquidity, stability and affordability to the housing market. Congress defined this mission in (their) 1970 charter. Freddie Mac buys mortgage loans from banks, thrifts and other financial intermediaries, and re-sells these loans to investors, or keeps them for their own portfolio, profiting from the difference between their funding costs and the yield generated by the mortgages.

**FEDERAL OPEN MARKET COMMITTEE (FOMC):** Consists of seven members of the Federal Reserve Board and five of the twelve Federal Reserve Bank Presidents. The President of the New York Federal Reserve Bank is a permanent member, while the other Presidents serve on a rotating basis. The Committee periodically meets to set Federal Reserve guidelines regarding purchases and sales of Government Securities in the open market as a means of influencing the volume of bank credit and money.

**FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM:** The central bank of the United States created by Congress and consisting of a seven member Board of Governors in Washington, D.C., 12 regional banks and about 5,700 commercial banks that are members of the system.

**GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION (GNMA or Ginnie Mae):** Securities influencing the volume of bank credit guaranteed by GNMA and issued by mortgage bankers, commercial banks, savings and loan associations, and other institutions. Security holder is protected by full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. Ginnie Mae securities are backed by the FHA, VA or FmHA mortgages. The term "pass-throughs" is often used to describe Ginnie Maes.

**GOVERNMENT SECURITIES:** Obligations of the U.S. Government and its agencies and instrumentalities.

**LIQUIDITY:** A liquid asset is one that can be converted easily and rapidly into cash without a substantial loss of value. In the money market, a security is said to be liquid if the spread between bid and asked prices is narrow and reasonable size can be done at those quotes.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT POOL (LGIP):** The aggregate of all funds from political subdivisions that are placed in the custody of the State Treasurer for investment and reinvestment.

**MARKET VALUE:** The price at which a security is trading and could presumably be purchased or sold.

**MASTER REPURCHASE AGREEMENT:** A written contract covering all future transactions between the parties to repurchase—reverse repurchase agreements that establishes each party's rights in the transactions. A master agreement will often specify, among other things, the right of the buyer-lender to liquidate the underlying securities in the event of default by the seller borrower.

**MATURITY:** The date upon which the principal or stated value of an investment becomes due and payable.

**MONEY MARKET:** The market in which short-term debt instruments (bills, commercial paper, bankers' acceptances, etc.) are issued and traded.

**NRSRO:** Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization; Credit rating agencies that are registered with the SEC. Such agencies provide an opinion on the creditworthiness of an entity and the financial obligations issued by an entity.

**OFFER:** The price asked by a seller of securities. (When you are buying securities, you ask for an offer.) See Asked and Bid.

**OPEN MARKET OPERATIONS:** Purchases and sales of government and certain other securities in the open market by the New York Federal Reserve Bank as directed by the FOMC in order to influence the volume of money and credit in the economy. Purchases inject reserves into the bank system and stimulate growth of money and credit; sales have the opposite effect. Open market operations are the Federal Reserve's most important and most flexible monetary policy tool.

**PAR VALUE:** The principal amount of a bond returned by the maturity date.

**PORTFOLIO:** Collection of securities held by an investor.

**PRIMARY DEALER:** A group of government securities dealers who submit daily reports of market activity and positions and monthly financial statements to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and are subject to its informal oversight. Primary dealers include Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)-registered securities broker-dealers, banks, and a few unregulated firms.

**PRUDENT PERSON RULE:** An investment standard. In some states the law requires that a fiduciary, such as a trustee, may invest money only in a list of securities selected by the custody state—the so-called legal list. In other states the trustee may invest in a security if it is one which would be bought by a prudent person of discretion and intelligence who is seeking a reasonable income and preservation of capital.

**PUBLIC TIME DEPOSITS (Term Certificates Of Deposit):** Time deposits are issued by depository institutions against funds deposited for a specified length of time. Time deposits include instruments such as deposit notes. They are distinct from certificates of deposit (CDs) in that interest payments on time deposits are calculated in a manner similar to that of corporate bonds whereas interest payments on CDs are calculated similar to that of money market instruments.

**QUALIFIED PUBLIC DEPOSITORIES:** A financial institution which does not claim exemption from the payment of any sales or compensating use or ad valorem taxes under the laws of this state, which has segregated for the benefit of the commission eligible collateral having a value of not less than its maximum liability and which has been approved by the Public Deposit Protection Commission to hold public deposits.

**QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL BUYER:** A purchaser of [securities](#) that is deemed financially sophisticated and is legally recognized by securities market regulators to need less protection from issuers than most public investors.

**RATE OF RETURN:** The yield obtainable on a security based on its purchase price or its current market price. This may be the amortized yield to maturity on a bond the current income return.

**REPURCHASE AGREEMENT (RP OR REPO):** A holder of securities sells these securities to an investor with an agreement to repurchase them at a fixed price on a fixed date. The security “buyer” in effect lends the “seller” money for the period of the agreement, and the terms of the agreement are structured to compensate him for this. Dealers use RP extensively to finance their positions. Exception: When the Fed is said to be doing RP, it is lending money that is, increasing bank reserves.

**RULE 144A.** A safe harbor exemption from the registration requirements of Section 5 of the Securities Act for certain offers and sales of qualifying securities by certain persons other than the issuer of the securities. The exemption applies to resales of securities to qualified institutional buyers, who are commonly referred to as “QIBs.”

**SAFEKEEPING:** A service to customers rendered by banks for a fee whereby securities and valuables of all types and descriptions are held in the bank’s vaults for protection.

**SECONDARY MARKET:** A market made for the purchase and sale of outstanding issues following the initial distribution.

**SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION:** Agency created by Congress to protect investors in securities transactions by administering securities legislation.

**SEC RULE 15(C)3-1:** See Uniform Net Capital Rule.

**STRUCTURED NOTES:** Notes issued by Government Sponsored Enterprises (FHLB, FNMA, SLMA, etc.) and Corporations, which have imbedded options (e.g., call features, step-up coupons, floating rate coupons, derivative-based returns) into their debt structure. Their market performance is impacted by the fluctuation of interest rates, the volatility of the imbedded options and shifts in the shape of the yield curve.

**TREASURY BILLS:** A non-interest bearing discount security issued by the U.S. Treasury to finance the national debt. Most bills are issued to mature in three months, six months, or one year.

**TREASURY BONDS:** Long-term coupon-bearing U.S. Treasury securities issued as direct obligations of the U.S. Government and having initial maturities of more than 10 years.

**TREASURY NOTES:** Medium-term coupon-bearing U.S. Treasury securities issued as direct obligations of the U.S. Government and having initial maturities from two to 10 years.

**UNIFORM NET CAPITAL RULE:** Securities and Exchange Commission requirement that member firms as well as nonmember broker-dealers in securities maintain a maximum ratio of indebtedness to liquid capital of 15 to 1; also called net capital rule and net capital ratio. Indebtedness covers all money owed to a firm, including margin loans and commitments to purchase securities, one reason new public issues are spread among members of underwriting syndicates. Liquid capital includes cash and assets easily converted into cash.

**YIELD:** The rate of annual income return on an investment, expressed as a percentage. (a) **INCOME YIELD** is obtained by dividing the current dollar income by the current market price for the security. (b) **NET YIELD** or **YIELD TO MATURITY** is the current income yield minus any premium above par or plus any discount from par in purchase price, with the adjustment spread over the period from the date of purchase to the date of maturity of the bond.