

Texas Department of Banking

Press Release

Texas Banking Commissioner Issues Advisory to Texas State Chartered Banks Affected by Hurricane Rita

Date: September 20, 2005

Randall S. James, Texas Banking Commissioner, today advised Texas state-chartered banks with offices in areas affected by Hurricane Rita to take appropriate precautions to safeguard property and personnel. Commissioner James observed that state-chartered banks in Texas have the authority, under Section 37.002 of the Texas Finance Code, to close offices threatened by an emergency if the banking commissioner is notified as promptly as possible, by any means available.

In issuing this advisory Mr. James said he expects that only those bank offices directly affected by the severe weather will close. Any office closed under this authority should make every effort to reopen as quickly as possible to address the banking needs of their customers, he added.