TO: The Chief Operating Officer of each financial institution and others concerned in the Eleventh Federal Reserve District

SUBJECT

Distribution Plan for the Series 2004 $50 Notes

DETAILS

As you know, the United States Treasury is issuing redesigned $50 notes in an effort to stay ahead of counterfeiting. The new notes will feature subtle background colors of blue and red, an image of a waving American flag, and a small, metallic, silver-blue star. The redesigned currency will be safer, smarter, and more secure: safer because it is harder to counterfeit and easier to check; smarter to stay ahead of tech-savvy counterfeiters; and more secure to protect the integrity of U.S. currency. The Series 2004 $50 notes will be issued beginning on Tuesday, September 28, 2004.

From September 28 through Friday, October 15, 2004, all Federal Reserve offices will distribute the new $50 notes when filling customer orders for $50s. All Federal Reserve offices have accumulated an inventory of the new notes for this purpose. If the inventory of Series 2004 $50 notes at any specific office is depleted before October 15, 2004, that office will revert to the Federal Reserve’s regular practice of filling orders with fit notes of the current series.

After October 15, all Federal Reserve Offices will fill orders with fit notes or with new notes when fit notes are not available. The Federal Reserve System currently has an inven-
tory of previous Series 1996 $50 notes that will be used to fill orders for $50s after October 15 until the entire supply has been exhausted.

*Previous series of $50 notes are not being recalled or devalued.* Neither depository institutions nor individuals need to exchange their older notes for the new series, as both the new notes and the older design notes will co-circulate and continue to be honored at full face value. However, in anticipation of strong public interest in the new currency, we encourage you to order sufficient quantities of the new notes to meet your customers’ demands. Accordingly, the Federal Reserve will not enforce our cross-shipping guidelines for $50 notes from September 28 through October 15, 2004.

**MORE INFORMATION**

To learn more about the new $50 notes or to order free educational materials, please visit the Bureau of Engraving and Printing’s web site at [www.moneyfactory.com/newmoney](http://www.moneyfactory.com/newmoney). For questions about the Series 2004 $50 notes or other cash matters, please contact your local Cash Services Department at one of the following offices:

- **Dallas** Malissa Roberts (214) 922-6838
- **El Paso** Susie Jimenez (915) 521-8266
- **Houston** Connie Martin (713) 276-4253
- **San Antonio** Mike Ellsworth (210) 978-1301

Paper copies of this notice or previous Federal Reserve Bank notices can be printed from our web site at [www.dallasfed.org/banking/notices/index.html](http://www.dallasfed.org/banking/notices/index.html).

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Helen E. Holcomb