



NEWS RELEASE

The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
St. Louis Little Rock Louisville Memphis

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Charles B. Henderson, (314) 444-8311

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 17, 1996

ST. LOUIS - The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, acting pursuant to delegated authority for the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, today approved the applications of Mercantile Bancorporation Inc., St. Louis, Missouri ("MBI"), to indirectly acquire 100 percent of the outstanding voting shares of Today's Bancorp, Inc., Freeport, Illinois ("TBI"), thereby indirectly acquiring TBI's subsidiary banks, Today's Bank-East, Freeport, Illinois, and Today's Bank-West, Galena, Illinois, as well as TBI's nonbank subsidiary, Today's Insurance Source Agency, Inc., East Dubuque, Illinois. Through Today's Insurance Source Agency, Inc., MBI proposes to indirectly engage in general insurance agency activities, pursuant to Section 225.25(b)(8)(iii) of Regulation Y.

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