



NEWS RELEASE

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

For release:
December 3, 1997

Contact: Charles B. Henderson
(314) 444-8311

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 notification of The Banc Ed Corp., Edwardsville, Illinois, to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Omni Financial Corporation, Pontoon Beach, Illinois, thereby indirectly acquiring its subsidiary bank, Omni Bank, Pontoon Beach, Illinois.

* * *