



Washington Federal Savings

Washington Federal, Inc.
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON FEDERAL DECLARES 89th CONSECUTIVE CASH DIVIDEND

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON – March 21, 2005 -- The Board of Directors of Washington Federal, Inc. (NASDAQ-WFSL), parent company of Washington Federal Savings, today announced a quarterly cash dividend of 19 cents per share. The dividend will be payable April 15, 2005 to common stockholders of record on April 1, 2005.

This is Washington Federal's 89th consecutive quarterly cash dividend.

Washington Federal Savings provides residential real estate loans, checking, money market accounts and certificates of deposit through 121 offices in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Arizona and Texas. Established in 1917, the Company reported \$7.5 billion in assets and \$4.7 billion in deposits as of December 31, 2004.

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