

Washington Federal, Inc.
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON FEDERAL DECLARES 97th CONSECUTIVE CASH DIVIDEND

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON – The Board of Directors of Washington Federal, Inc. (NASDAQ-WFSL), parent company of Washington Federal Savings, today announced a quarterly cash dividend of 20.5 cents per share. The dividend will be payable April 20, 2007 to common stockholders of record on April 6, 2007.

This is Washington Federal's 97th consecutive quarterly cash dividend.

Washington Federal Savings provides residential real estate loans, checking, money market accounts and certificates of deposit through 136 offices in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, Texas and New Mexico. Established in 1917, the Company reported \$9.2 billion in assets and \$5.4 billion in deposits as of December 31, 2006.

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