



Washington Federal Savings

Washington Federal, Inc.
425 Pike Street
Seattle, WA 98101
(206) 777-8246 Contact: Cathy Cooper

Monday September 26, 2005
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington Federal Declares 91st 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 cents per share. The dividend will be payable October 21, 2005 to common stockholders of record on October 7, 2005.

This is Washington Federal's 91st consecutive quarterly cash dividend.

Washington Federal Savings provides residential real estate loans, checking, money market accounts and certificates of deposit through 122 offices in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Arizona and Texas. Established in 1917, the Company reported \$7.9 billion in assets and \$4.8 billion in deposits as of June 30, 2005.

###