

Development Corporation, Nashville, Tennessee, and thereby engage in community development activities, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(12) of Regulation Y.

In addition, AmSouth Bancorporation and First American corporation each have applied to acquire up to 19.9 percent of the other's voting shares pursuant to stock options granted in connection with the proposal. The options would terminate on consummation of the proposal.

2. *Synovus Financial Corporation*, Columbus, Georgia; to merge with Merit Holding Corporation, Tucker, Georgia, and thereby indirectly acquire Mountain National Bank, Tucker, Georgia, and Charter Bank and Trust Company, Marietta, Georgia.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, July 1, 1999.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 99-17269 Filed 7-7-99; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1843). Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank

indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than August 2, 1999.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (Randall C. Sumner, Vice President) 411 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2034:

1. *Arvest Bank Group, Inc.*, Bentonville, Arkansas; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Delaware Bancshares, Inc., Jay, Oklahoma, and thereby indirectly acquire The Delaware County Bank, Jay, Oklahoma.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, July 2, 1999.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Associate Secretary of the Board.

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FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies; Correction

This notice corrects a notice (FR Doc. 99-16703) published on page 35660 of the issue for Thursday, July 1, 1999.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago heading in paragraph A. and the entry for HSBC Holdings plc, London, United Kingdom, HSBC Finance, Netherlands, London, England, HSBC Holdings BV, Amsterdam, Netherlands, and a newly established intermediate holding company, (USHoldco, New York, New York) are corrected to read as follows

A. Federal Reserve Bank of New York (Betsy Buttrill White, Senior Vice President) 33 Liberty Street, New York, New York 10045-0001:

1. *HSBC Holdings plc*, London, United Kingdom (HSBC Holdings), HSBC Finance, Netherlands, London, England, HSBC Holdings BV, Amsterdam, Netherlands, and a newly established intermediate holding company (USHoldco, New York, New York), to acquire all of the voting shares of Republic New York Corporation, New York, New York (RNYC), and thereby acquire the following bank subsidiaries of RNYC: Republic National Bank of New York, New York, New York (Republic Bank), and Republic Bank California, National Association, Beverly Hills, California. Following these transactions, HSBC would merge RNYC with and into HSBC Americas, Inc., Buffalo, New York, a bank holding company that is the current parent of HSBC Bank USA, Buffalo, New York. RNYC would survive this merger and be renamed HSBC USA. HSBC Holdings and its subsidiaries (collectively HSBC) may form one or more intermediate bank holding companies to facilitate these transactions.

In connection with the proposed transaction, HSBC has provided notice to acquire all of the nonbank subsidiaries of RNYC and to engage, directly or indirectly through such nonbank subsidiaries, in a variety of nonbanking activities that previously have been determined to be permissible for bank holding companies. HSBC also would continue to control all its existing bank and nonbank subsidiaries. The nonbanking companies that HSBC proposes to acquire are listed in the notice filed with the Board and include Republic Bank Delaware, National Association, Wilmington, Delaware; Republic New York Securities Corporation, New York, New York (RNYSC); Republic Business Credit Corporation, New York, New York. The nonbanking activities of the companies to be acquired also are listed in the notice and include extending credit and servicing loans, pursuant to 12 CFR 225.28(b)(1); performing functions or activities that may be performed by a trust company, pursuant to 12 CFR 225.28(b)(5); providing securities brokerage, riskless principal, private placement, futures commission merchant, and other agency transactional services, pursuant to 12 CFR 225.28(b)(7); and underwriting and dealing in government obligations and money market instruments, engaging in certain investing and trading activities as principal, and buying and selling bullion and related activities, pursuant to 12 CFR 225.28(b)(8).

In connection with the proposed transaction, HSBC also has applied to acquire an option to purchase up to 19.9 percent of the outstanding shares of RNYC common stock. This option would expire upon consummation of the merger.

Comments on this application must be received by July 26, 1999.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, July 2, 1999.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 99-17335 Filed 7-7-99; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Notice of Proposals to Engage in Permissible Nonbanking Activities or to Acquire Companies that are Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities

The companies listed in this notice have given notice under section 4 of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. 1843) (BHC Act) and Regulation Y, (12 CFR Part 225) to engage *de novo*, or to