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BANK CUSTOMERS TO ENJOY \$25 MILLION IN FDIC INSURANCE COVERAGE

Hollywood, FL (February 13, 2006) – Promontory Interfinancial Network today announced that, beginning March 1, it will raise to \$25 million the level of FDIC insurance coverage its member banks can offer a customer.

Currently, Promontory member banks can offer a customer up to \$20 million through Promontory’s premier service CDARS.

“Interest rates are higher than they have been in years, so bank certificates of deposit have become an even more attractive investment option” said Promontory Chairman and CEO Eugene Ludwig. “This 25 percent increase in CDARS coverage could not have come at a better time for bank customers. It is particularly helpful for trustees, charities, membership associations, municipalities and of course high net worth individuals.”

Promontory announced the increase at the American Bankers Association (ABA) National Conference for Community Bankers. The ABA has endorsed the CDARS service.

Currently, 1,130 banks are members of the Promontory Network. Member banks operate 12,500 offices nationwide.

“Our member banks asked for the higher limit to meet institutional and local government customer demand – and we are delighted that the Network is now able to deliver,” said Mark P. Jacobsen, Promontory President and COO.

Promontory began offering CDARS in January of 2003, at first offering \$250,000 in coverage. Since then it has raised coverage several times. CDARS – pronounced “cedars” – is short for “Certificate of Deposit Account Registry Service.”

CDARS is a deposit placement service. To offer CDARS, a bank must be a member of the Promontory Network. When a customer places a large deposit with a Network member, the bank arranges for the placement of funds into CDs issued by other Network banks – in increments of less than \$100,000 to ensure that both principal and

interest are eligible for full FDIC protection. Deposits placed through CDARS meet the pass-through insurance coverage guidelines established by the FDIC.

From the customer point of view, CDARS is one-stop shopping. Regardless of the number of CDs they receive, CDARS customers work with only one bank, sign only one agreement, and receive one interest rate and one account statement.
