August 29, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: George Althoff, Communications Director, 608-261-4504

Net income up nearly 29%
at state-chartered banks

MADISON – Wisconsin’s state-chartered banks grew earnings by nearly 29% in the first six months of 2013 compared to the same period last year, according to data released today by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. Net income was $231.1 million, compared to $179.8 million in 2012.

According to the FDIC’s 2nd-quarter data, Wisconsin’s 194 state-chartered banks:
• Improved their return on assets from 0.80% to 1.03%, the first time ROA has topped 1.0% since the third quarter of 2007.
• Grew capital levels to 11.51%, up from 11.29%.
• Reduced the past-due loan ratio to 2.83%, down from 3.98%.

“Earnings are up, capital levels are at near-record levels and loan quality is steadily improving,” said Peter Bildsten, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions, the agency that oversees state-chartered banks. Bildsten also pointed to growth in farm loans and commercial/industrial loans as being noteworthy.

“Year over year, farms loans were up 4.2% and commercial/industrial loans grew by 1.7%,” he said. “That bodes well for the Wisconsin economy.”

Mike Mach, Administrator of DFI’s Division of Banking, said that loan quality “continues to be an area of emphasis for Wisconsin bankers,” noting that improvement was made in all major asset categories – including real estate, consumer and commercial.

Mach added that all but eight state-chartered banks were profitable through the second quarter, an improvement from 2012 when 13 were unprofitable.

###