

OFFICE OF THRIFT SUPERVISION

**APPROVAL OF APPLICATION TO PURCHASE STOCK
PURSUANT TO 12 C.F.R. § 563b.3(i)(3)**

Order No.: 2000-99

Date: November 9, 2000

Re: Docket Nos. H-3915,5109

Allegiant Bancorp, Inc., Clayton, Missouri (the Holding Company), Allegiant Trust Company, St. Louis, Missouri, and Allegiant Acquisition Corporation have applied to the Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS), pursuant to 12 C.F.R. § 563b.3(i)(3) to acquire Equality Bancorp, Inc., St. Louis, Missouri and its wholly-owned subsidiary Equality Savings Bank, St. Louis, Missouri (the Savings Bank) (the Application).

OTS has considered the Application under the standards set forth in 12 C.F.R. § 563b.3(i)(5). In addition, OTS has considered a digest prepared by the OTS Midwest Regional Office, an analysis prepared by the Office of Examination and Supervision, and a legal opinion issued by the Business Transactions Division (collectively, the Staff Memoranda). For the reasons set forth in the Staff Memoranda, OTS finds that the Application satisfies the applicable approval standards. Accordingly, the Application is hereby approved.

By order of the Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision, or her designee, effective November 9, 2000.



Scott M. Albinson
Managing Director
Office of Supervision