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**REPORT OF  
BANK HOLDING  
COMPANY INSPECTION**

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BHC Name: SVB FINANCIAL GROUP

Start Date: DECEMBER 27, 2016

Location: SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA

Financial Statements as of: SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

RSSD Number: 1031449

Examination Date as of: SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

Concluded on: MARCH 3, 2017

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**FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF SAN FRANCISCO**

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REPORT OF

**BANK HOLDING COMPANY**

**INSPECTION**

<u>SVB Financial Group</u>					
Bank Holding Company Name					
Physical Location			Mailing Address		
Street:	3003 Tasman Drive		Street/Box:	3003 Tasman Drive	
City:	Santa Clara		City:	Santa Clara	
County:	Santa Clara		State:	California	
State:	California		ZIP Code:	95054-1191	
	Joint		Concurrent	X	Independent
			Redacted		
			Federal Reserve Bank Examiner-in-Charge		

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Note: Except as indicated, amounts in tables are shown to the nearest thousand dollars.

Date of previous inspection: 11/9/15





**MATTERS REQUIRING BOARD ATTENTION**

SUMMARY OF NEW FINDINGS	
Matters Requiring Attention	
Issue	Expected Completion Date
Risk Management	12/31/17
Compliance Program	9/30/17

SUMMARY OF OUTSTANDING FINDINGS				
Matters Requiring Attention				
Issue	Main Category	Status	Comments	Timeframe for Completion Date
Cross-functional Risk Processes	Management-Risk Management	Close	A new MRA will be cited requiring sufficient progress in implementing the new framework.	Closed during current inspection.
Liquidity Risk Management Policies	Market/Liquidity Risk Management	Close		Closed during current inspection.
Capital Adequacy and Contingency Planning	Capital	Close		Closed during current inspection.
Bank Secrecy Act/AML	BSA/AML Issues Risk Management	Pending Verification	The remediation of this MRA required additional time to complete.	3/31/17
Model Risk Management	Management - Risk Management	Open		9/30/17

## INSPECTION CONCLUSIONS AND COMMENTS

## HOLDING COMPANY UNIFORM COMPOSITE RATING

Safety and Soundness Inspection Ratings			
Inspection Start Date	Current Inspection	Prior Inspection	Prior Inspection
	12/27/16	11/09/15	10/06/14
Risk Management	2	2	2
Board/Senior Management Oversight	2	2	2
Policies, Procedures & Limits	2	2	2
Risk Monitoring & MIS	3	2	2
Internal Controls	2	2	2
Financial Condition	2	2	2
Capital	2	2	2
Asset Quality	2	2	2
Earnings	2	2	2
Liquidity	1	1	1
Impact	2	2	2
Composite Rating	2	2	2
Depository Institution	2	2	2

SVBFG has been assigned a uniform composite rating of 2. This rating is defined as follows:

**Composite 2**

A composite rating of “2” is assigned. Holding companies in this group are fundamentally sound but may have modest weaknesses in risk management or financial condition. The weaknesses could develop into conditions of greater concern but are believed correctable in the normal course of business. As such, the supervisory response is limited. Cash flow is adequate to service obligations, and the nondepository entities are unlikely to have a significant negative impact on the subsidiary depository institution(s).



**INSPECTION CONCLUSIONS AND COMMENTS**

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The potential of significant negative impact by the holding company and nonbank subsidiaries to SVB is limited. On a standalone basis, the parent company is in satisfactory condition. No significant financial weaknesses are at the nonbanks. The parent company has sufficient cash flow to fund operating expenses. The firm remains in compliance with laws and regulations, including Regulation W. However, as previously noted, a denial of the extension request to comply with the Volcker Rule may require SVBFG to liquidate covered funds at distressed prices. Although risk is mitigated by the sound financial condition of the parent company, the early divestiture of covered funds could disrupt the bank's relationships with fund managers and portfolio companies.

The depository institution remains in satisfactory condition. SVB is the only depository institution of SVBFG and was assigned a satisfactory composite CAMELS rating during the most recent roll-up examination, conducted jointly by the FRB and CDBO as of September 30, 2016. In addition, the FRB Consumer Compliance and Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) examinations resulted in satisfactory ratings. However, in the examination report transmitted to the bank on October 21, 2016, the Reserve Bank noted weaknesses in bank procedures and staff knowledge that led to isolated violations of the flood hazard insurance provisions of Regulation H and Regulation CC (Expedited Funds Availability Act). Management has already taken steps to correct and prevent these issues from occurring in the future. The October 26, 2016 CFPB report also noted violations in loan originator compensation and Home Mortgage Disclosure Act reporting. The CFPB report cited MRAs to ensure that corrective action is performed to address the violations and the incorrect data related to mortgage originations and the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act. The Reserve Bank concurs with those findings.

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**Redacted**  
Examiner-in-Charge

**RISK MANAGEMENT**

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COMPONENT RATING: **2**

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Risk management remains satisfactory. Management of risk is largely effective and includes appropriate risk management practices over the credit, liquidity, market and legal functions. Board and senior management have demonstrated the ability and willingness to address problem areas, such as information technology, by providing sufficient resources and appropriate oversight to remediate issues. Model risk management has improved since the October 2016 DFAST target. Policies, procedures, and limits are satisfactory, cover all major business areas, and are appropriate for the firm's significant activities. Internal controls remain satisfactory, primarily due to an effective audit program that continues to provide a reliable and effective assessment of internal control, governance, and risk management processes. However, the risk monitoring and MIS subcomponent is downgraded to fair due to ineffective risk identification and monitoring processes in the BSA/AML, compliance, and ERM programs. Although many of the weaknesses in these functions were identified by internal audit, these deficiencies resulted in the issuance of a MOU to address BSA/AML deficiencies and MRAs to improve compliance and risk management. Risk monitoring practices will require significant improvement to ensure compliance with laws, regulations, and supervisory requirements.

*Enterprise Risk Management*

Management has developed an ERM framework that aggregates risks on a consolidated basis across the organization, but implementation is ongoing. A multi-year implementation roadmap has been established to ensure consistency and completeness of risk management processes throughout the organization. The initial phase of the plan includes enhancing the RCSA process, collecting and analyzing the data from the RCSAs into an aggregated risk register to support the identification of horizontal risks, and producing a risk report that includes the firm's cross-functional risks. The effectiveness of the risk management program will be assessed when these processes and results can be evaluated. Management committed to implement the initial phase of the plan by December 31, 2017.

*Corporate Compliance*

The compliance function is undergoing a significant reorganization to ensure that appropriate policies, controls, and risk monitoring systems are in place to comply with laws, regulations, and supervisory requirements. The October 2016 bank examination identified weaknesses in the compliance function, including inconsistent documentation, outdated policies, and instances where the business line was not fully compliant with internal policies and regulatory guidance. During a review of merchant banking activity, weaknesses were also noted in the tracking of ownership information for the holding company's private equity investments, potentially resulting in inaccurate regulatory reports and information for risk management purposes. This report includes an MRA requiring management to improve the compliance program to meet regulatory standards and ensure that the compliance framework is appropriate for the firm's business lines and activities. Management committed to address this MRA by September 30, 2017.



**RISK MANAGEMENT**

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SVBFG comply with applicable regulatory limitations. Gaps in monitoring processes could result in inaccurate regulatory reports and information for risk management purposes. Finally, the implementation of the new ERM framework to aggregate risks on a consolidated basis is still in the beginning stages. Until the ERM program is fully implemented, management's ability to identify cross-functional risks within the firm's highly complex and interdependent business model will remain constrained.

**Internal Controls – 2**

Internal controls remain satisfactory. The system of internal controls adequately covers the firm's major risks and business areas. The audit program continues to provide a reliable and effective assessment of internal control, governance, and risk management processes. Risk from process gaps, such as those noted in the compliance function, is mitigated by the strength of the internal audit program which effectively identifies and escalates weaknesses within the institution.



**FINANCIAL CONDITION**

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increase. The shift in concentration levels has reduced some of the risk in the loan portfolio. The ALLL remains sufficient to absorb credit losses in the portfolio.

The quality of the investment portfolio is acceptable. Investments primarily consist of US Government backed securities and have historically represented approximately 50 percent of total assets. Nonbank investments totaled \$397.0 million and represented 1.0 percent of total consolidated assets as of September 30, 2016. These investments primarily consist of investment in funds that totaled \$251.6 million and warrants with a balance of \$145.3 million.

Earnings - 2

Consolidated earnings performance remains satisfactory due to strong loan growth, gains on equity warrants, and satisfactory asset quality. Earnings continue to fully support operations, sufficiently fund the loan loss reserve, and augment capital. The company reported consolidated net income for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 of \$283.2 million for a return on average assets (ROAA) of 0.87 percent. Consolidated earnings include \$4.9 million from SVB Capital. Net income increased slightly by \$26.8 million from prior year; however, the ROAA has remained stable due to strong asset growth. The net interest margin has improved due to the shift in earning assets from securities to loans.

Liquidity – 1

Consolidated liquidity remains strong. Liquidity levels, supplemented by cash flows from the investment portfolio, are sufficient to meet operational needs and fund client loans. Consolidated liquid assets, which include \$2.3 billion in cash and cash equivalents, provide substantial coverage of projected cash outflows. Excess funding has been deployed to the bank's investment portfolio, which, at \$20.5 billion with available unpledged liquidity of \$17.8 billion, also serves as a significant source of liquidity. Secondary sources of liquidity include \$1.7 billion in Federal Home Loan Borrowing lines and \$813.0 million at the FRB discount window.

Liquidity risk management is adequate. The bank remediated the MRA from the prior year to incorporate liquidity risk management practices in holding company policies. The board has approved a separate parent liquidity policy that clearly outlines the parent liquidity limit of two times parent annual operating expenses. ALCO reports include stand-alone parent liquidity cash flow projections and stress testing which support the current levels of cash held at the holding company. Cash flow projections and stress testing practices are adequate; however, the documentation of the distributions and capital calls related to SVB Capital, which can vary from period to period, could be enhanced and reviewed by model risk management to ensure that projections of cash flow remain reliable.

**IMPACT**

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COMPONENT RATING: **2**

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The bank holding company and its nonbank subsidiaries pose limited likelihood of significant negative impact to SVB. On a standalone basis, the parent company is in satisfactory condition. Overall risk management of parent and nonbank activities remains adequate, and the parent's financial and managerial resources continue to support SVB as needed.

Risk management practices remain appropriate. Oversight of the parent company's strategic investing and funds management business, primarily conducted through SVB Capital, remains satisfactory. Although SVB Capital's activities have inherently higher levels of operational, legal, and reputational risk, risk is mitigated by an experienced management team. The firm remains in compliance with laws and regulations, including Regulation W. However, management is currently awaiting the status of an extension request to comply with the Volcker Rule. If the extension is not granted, SVBFG may be required to liquidate approximately \$194 million in covered funds at distressed prices. While the parent company is capable of absorbing potential losses, the early divestiture of covered funds could impact the bank's business relationships with fund managers and portfolio companies. Weaknesses were also noted in the monitoring of merchant banking activities, which could result in inaccurate regulatory reports and information for risk management purposes. Management committed to address the MRA to improve monitoring practices by September 30, 2017.

Parent liquidity remains sufficient to meet ongoing capital and funding needs. Forecasted cash inflows, which include dividends from the bank, warrant monetization, and cash from investments managed by SVB Capital, are expected to outpace cash outflows through September 2018. Cash at the holding company, totaling \$450.3 million as of September 30, 2016, is sufficient to meet obligations over the next 24 months. Leverage is moderate, with debt service limited to interest payments. As of September 30, 2016, holding company debt represented 20.7 percent of equity capital and the double leverage ratio is relatively low at 97.9 percent. The bank resumed paying dividends to the holding company during the third quarter of 2016. Dividends, which are projected to total approximately 20 percent of net income each quarter, are reasonable based on the satisfactory condition of the bank and earnings performance.

**DEPOSITORY INSTITUTIONS**

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COMPONENT RATING: **2**

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The subsidiary bank remains in satisfactory condition. This assessment is based on the roll-up examination conducted jointly by the CDBO and the FRB as of September 30, 2016. Asset quality is satisfactory with a manageable level of problem assets. Capital levels are satisfactory and commensurate with the bank's risk profile. Earnings are satisfactory and sufficient to support operations, adequately fund the loan loss reserve, and augment capital. Liquidity remains strong, benefiting from substantial deposits that are invested in short-term, low risk securities. Sensitivity to market risk is adequately managed, and the balance sheet is well positioned to benefit from rising interest rates.

**OTHER MATTERS**

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BSA/AML and Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) Compliance Program

The company's BSA/AML and OFAC compliance programs were considered less than satisfactory during the August 2016 BSA target. A MOU was executed on January 26, 2017 to address deficiencies in internal controls processes, as well as improve the oversight of the BSA/AML program. Board and senior management have hired a new BSA manager with the requisite subject matter expertise to remediate the deficiencies described in the MOU. The BSA oversight MRA that was cited in 2015 remains in place until weaknesses in the BSA/AML risk assessment process are remediated and verified by examiners.

Information Technology

The Information Technology (IT) target examination report transmitted to the bank on June 14, 2016 noted that IT remains less than satisfactory, but has improved. The board has provided the necessary resources to address IT weaknesses, including hiring qualified IT leaders. However, IT management was not yet considered stable as management required additional time to execute on their plans to upgrade IT processes, people, and technology. The bank has also complied with the Board Resolution (BR) by submitting appropriate action plans to address deficiencies and return IT to a satisfactory condition. The status of the BR will be updated following the February 2017 IT examination.

The cybersecurity program remains effective. Management has effectively integrated cybersecurity into its risk management and information security programs, and the bank remains in compliance with the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act. The Security Office has leveraged the FFIEC Cybersecurity Assessment Tool to evaluate the bank's cybersecurity preparedness and reported the results to executive management and the board.

**SIGNATURE OF DIRECTORS**

We, the undersigned directors of SVB Financial Group, have personally reviewed the contents of the Report of Bank Holding Company Inspection as of September 30, 2016.

Signature of Directors

Date

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 Greg W. Becker

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 Eric A. Benhamou

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 David M. Clapper

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 Roger F. Dunbar

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 Joel P. Friedman

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 Lata Krishnan

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 Jeffrey N. Maggioncalda

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 Mary J. Miller

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 Kate D. Mitchell

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 John F. Robinson

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 Garin K. Staglin

NOTE: This form should remain attached to the Report of Bank Holding Company Inspection and be retained in the holding company's file for review during subsequent inspections. The signature of committee members will suffice only if the committee includes outside directors and a resolution has been passed by the full board delegating the review to such committee.

**CONFIDENTIAL**



**CONFIDENTIAL SECTION**  
**PRINCIPAL OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

Name Address	Meetings Missed <sup>1</sup>	Years on Board	Shares Owned	Compensation (Bonus)	Occupation or Principal Business Affiliation
Mitchell, Kate <b>Redacted</b> (2)(3)(6)	0	6	7,949	113,250 (100,046)	Co-founder and Managing Partner of Scale Venture Partners; Board member of National Venture Capital Association
Robinson, John <b>Redacted</b> (1)(2)(3)(6)	0	6	6,456	135,000 (100,046)	Former Deputy Comptroller of the Currency and EVP of Washington Mutual Bank
Staglin, Garin <b>Redacted</b> (2)(5)	0	5	12,391	79,500 (100,046)	Proprietor of Staglin Family Vineyards

Compensation from Proxy Statement and amounts are as of December 31, 2016. Bonus in the form of stock awards.

**Principal Officers**

Becker, Greg W.	1993		130,287	925,000 (1,225,000)	President and Chief Executive Officer of SVB and SVBFG
Cardieux, Marc C.	1992		30,697	450,000 (350,000)	Chief Credit Officer
China, John D	1998		33,218	500,000 (525,000)	Head of Relationship Banking
Cox, Philip C.	2009			300,000 (286,765)	Head of EMEA and India; President of U.K. Branch
Descheneaux, Michael R	2006		38,680	600,000 (575,000)	Chief Financial Officer
Draper, Michelle A.	2013			390,000 (375,000)	Chief Marketing Officer

**CONFIDENTIAL SECTION**  
**PRINCIPAL OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

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Name	Year joined SVBFG	Shares Owned	Compensation (Bonus)	Occupation or Principal Business Affiliation
Dreyer, Michael	2016		N/A	Chief Operations Officer
Edmonds-Waters, Christopher D.	2003		375,000 (280,000)	Head of Human Resources
Izurieta, Laura	2016		410,000	Chief Risk Officer
Leone, Roger	2015		350,000 (250,000)	Chief Information Officer
Wallace, Bruce E.	1994		475,000 (440,000)	Chief Digital Officer
Zuckert, Michael S.	2014		450,000 (330,000)	General Counsel

Regular schedule of board of directors' meetings: Quarterly

Committees (Chair in Bold):

- (1) Audit
- (2) Compensation
- (3) Credit
- (4) Finance
- (5) Governance
- (6) Risk

<sup>1</sup> Number of meetings missed out of a total of 10 held since the previous inspection.

**CONFIDENTIAL SECTION**  
**CONDITION OF THE BANK HOLDING COMPANY**

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**1. Scope of inspection.**

Inspection findings contained in this report were based upon financial statements as of September 30, 2016. During the on-site inspection, the bank holding company's board minutes, corporate records, and financial statements were reviewed, and discussions were held with management. The parent company was reviewed using current internal management reports and financial statements. Components analyzed which had a direct bearing on its overall rating included cash flow, leverage, and liquidity. The inspection scope included a review of the company's corporate governance structure, corporate compliance program, model risk management function, and the ERM program. The subsidiary bank analysis was based on the examination conducted jointly by the CDBO and the FRB as of September 30, 2016. The inspection also leveraged examination work and continuous monitoring activity conducted during the 2016 supervisory cycle.

**2. Prospects of the holding company.**

The prospects for the holding company remain favorable. The company continues to approach the \$50 billion large bank threshold, beyond which will require compliance with heightened regulatory standards. Given the company's growth plans and regulatory requirements, management and the board have made significant changes to the risk management and compliance framework. Management continues to allocate resources to address deficiencies in the BSA/AML/OFAC and compliance programs. Credit quality remains manageable; classified assets have increased since the prior inspection. The majority of problem assets are in the pre-profit and leveraged loan portfolios, which were adversely affected by market uncertainty and lower than normal investor sentiment during the end of the 2015 investment cycle. Management is closely tracking the performance of leveraged loans to determine if losses or deterioration are indicative of a systemic weakness in the credit portfolio.

Management has a positive outlook for 2017, as they believe that improving business conditions and exit markets will drive the formation of new companies and investments. Challenges noted include global market volatility and uncertainty which may affect the firm's clients. Management is also unclear on how the new administration's trade and tax policies will affect their clients that conduct business globally.

**3. Evaluate management and the board of directors. In addition, appraise the policies with respect to the level of control and supervision exercised over subsidiaries, including risk evaluation and control, and management information systems.**

All relevant and material rationale supporting the evaluation of management and the board of directors has been sufficiently documented in the open section of the report. Policies and procedures are adequate and discussed in the open section of the report.





## CONFIDENTIAL SECTION

### CONDITION OF THE BANK HOLDING COMPANY

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customization of <sup>Redacted</sup> has been outsourced to <sup>Redacted</sup>. Both systems are running parallel and use a communicator to interface. The IT organization also supports SVBFG and the other nonbank affiliated companies.

SVB provides online banking services to both commercial and retail customers through two separate websites. The Private Bank offers retail banking services such as bill pay, money and wire transfers, remote deposit capture and mobile banking to its high net worth clients who are normally associated with companies using SVB's commercial banking products through a third party provider. The bank's proprietary commercial online application, **Redacted**, provides clients with a suite of banking products including bill pay, ACH, sweep account services, DDA, remote deposit capture, lockbox and wire transfers. The **Redacted** system also has a UK component for use by clients located in Great Britain or U.S. customers who need international banking services. It offers a limited suite of services including ACH and expedited money transfers. Each on-line banking platform relies heavily on vendor services that are either directly integrated in the system or seamlessly transferred to the vendor's website. Of note, SVB converted to **Redacted** for ACH processing in 2016. Some services are not integrated within the online platforms and clients must login directly to those vendor websites to utilize those services. SVB is currently working on a front-end system (**Redacted**) that would significantly improve its customers' online banking experience. SVB's **Redacted** technology was developed in-house and interfaces with both the <sup>Redacted</sup> and **Redacted**core systems. The Private Bank's online system has been outsourced and is powered by **Redacted**.

SVB's employs a multi-sourcing strategy where vendor-sourced labor complements existing staff. SVB uses strategic outsourcing partners with U.S. and offshore operations, for various services such as application support, development, testing, service desk, and release management. Management is implementing a vendor consolidation strategy to reduce system complexity, to gain greater leverage in vendor relationships, to improve service performance, and to move institutional knowledge in-house.



**CONFIDENTIAL SECTION  
ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

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Final meeting date: March 16, 2017

Final meeting held with: Senior management was represented by President and Chief Executive Officer Greg Becker, Chief Risk Officer Laura Izurieta, Chief Financial Officer Mike Descheneaux, Treasurer Mike Kruse, **Redacted**, **Redacted**, Head of Internal Audit John Peters, **Redacted**, Chief Accounting Officer Kamran Husain, Head of Regulatory Relations Suanne Mingrone, and **Redacted**. The FRB was represented by CPC **Redacted** and EIC **Redacted**. **Redacted**.

Contact person(s) for records of bank holding company: Suanne Mingrone, Head of Regulatory Relations **Redacted**









**CONFIDENTIAL SECTION**  
**CONSOLIDATED CAPITAL CALCULATIONS**


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	Period Ended 09/30/16	Year Ended 12/31/15	Year Ended 12/31/14
Tier 1 Common RBC	12.75	12.28	12.68
Tier 1 RBC	13.21	12.83	12.91
Total RBC	14.22	13.84	13.92
Tier 1 Leverage	8.35	7.63	7.74
Tangible Tier 1 Leverage	0.00	0.00	7.48
Equity Cap/Total Assets	8.30	7.15	7.16
Cash Dividends/Net Income	0.00	0.00	0.00
Equity Capital Growth Rate	13.17	13.50	43.30
Asset Growth Rate	3.72	13.59	48.96
<b>Selected \$ Amounts</b>			
Tier 1 Capital	3,621,798	0	2,808,948
Tier 2 Capital	276,676	261,221	221,203
Total Risk Based Capital	3,898,474	3,586,466	3,030,151
Total Risk Weighted On-BS	0	0	16,470,797
Total Risk Weighted Off-BS	0	0	5,291,306
Total On & Off Balance Sheet	27,407,758	25,919,594	21,762,103
Total Risk Weighted Assets	27,407,758	25,919,594	21,762,103
Avg Assets (Qtr Ended)	43,356,375	43,589,850	36,273,168
Cash Dividends	0	0	0