

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

### **RE: FIRST CENTRAL FINANCIAL CORP. \$3.78 MILLION CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**

#### **BASED UPON YOUR PREVIOUSLY FILED PROOF OF CLAIM, YOU ARE AUTOMATICALLY APPROVED FOR ADDITIONAL PAYMENT. PLEASE SEE BELOW.**

Dear Claimant:

We are counsel for the shareholder class who are purchasers of First Central Financial Corp. ("First Central") common stock from July 6, 1995 through September 6, 1997.

We are pleased to report a \$3.78 million settlement, subject to Court approval, with the accountants for First Central, McGladrey & Pullen. The details of the claims, the proposed settlement, and the rights of shareholders are stated in the enclosed Notice of Pendency of Class Action, Proposed Settlement, and Settlement Hearing.

You have already submitted a valid Proof of Claim in connection with last year's partial settlement with First Central's directors and officers. Your claim is therefore automatically approved for payment from this additional settlement.

In connection with last year's partial settlement, you signed and filed a Proof of Claim and Release. In order to participate in this Settlement, you do not need to file another Proof of Claim, but you ***must sign and submit another Release*** in favor of the settling accountants.

**PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THE ENCLOSED RELEASE FORM TO THE SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR, WHICH IS REQUIRED TO RELEASE YOUR SHARE OF THIS SETTLEMENT.**

If your personal information in the Release Form is incorrect, please make the necessary corrections on the Release Form, sign and return the Release Form to the Settlement Administrator using the pre-addressed envelope.

We are pleased to have achieved an excellent recovery for First Central's shareholders. We anticipate that claimants will receive a substantial percentage of their market losses. We expect the settlement administration to be completed, and the funds distributed, no later than summer 2005.

Please contact us if you have any questions concerning this Settlement, or any other securities investments.

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