



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

DIVISION OF BANKS

&

BOARD OF BANK INCORPORATION

One Federal Street, Suite 710, Boston, Massachusetts 02110

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November 28, 2025

## ACTIVITY REPORT

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This notice serves to inform you concerning activity involving hearings, decisions, and matters pending before either the Commissioner of Banks or the Board of Bank Incorporation.

### DIVISION OF BANKS

#### Decisions

Beacon Bank & Trust, Brookline – notice to establish a branch office at 125 Union Street, Braintree – non-objection issued November 5, 2025.

Fall River Five Cents Savings Bank dba BankFive, Fall River – permission to close its branch office located at 590 Metacom Avenue, Bristol, Rhode Island – approved November 6, 2025.

#### Applications/Notices Pending

Alden Credit Union, Chicopee – permission to amend its bylaws to expand the associations which qualify persons for membership. The amendment proposes to add membership eligibility for employees of Window World of Western Massachusetts, Inc., CyberProtect-IT LLC, and Sibley Mechanical, as well as immediate family members of such persons. Comment period ends December 1, 2025.

BrightBridge Credit Union (BrightBridge), Lawrence – permission to: (1) merge with Arrha Credit Union (Arrha), Springfield; and (2) as part of this merger transaction, amend the bylaws of BrightBridge to include Arrha's current membership eligibility. Under the terms of the merger, Arrha will merge with and into BrightBridge under the charter, bylaws, and name of BrightBridge. The main office of BrightBridge would remain the main office of the continuing credit union and all banking offices of Arrha would be retained as branch offices. Comment period ended August 29, 2025.

BrightBridge Credit Union, Lawrence – permission to close its branch office located at 2 Seaport Lane, Suite 1400, Boston. Comment period ends December 8, 2025.

Community Credit Union of Lynn (Community Credit Union), Lynn – permission to merge with Rockland Federal Credit Union (Rockland), Rockland. Under the terms of the merger, Community Credit Union will merge with and into Rockland under the charter, bylaws, and name of Rockland. The main office of Rockland would remain the main office of the continuing credit union and all banking offices of Community Credit Union would be retained as branch offices of Rockland. Comment period ended October 24, 2025.

Cornerstone Bank, Spencer – permission to merge with Athol Savings Bank, Athol. Under the terms of an Agreement and Plan of Merger, Athol Savings Bank will merge with and into Cornerstone Bank under the charter, bylaws, and name of Cornerstone Bank. The main office of Cornerstone Bank would remain the main office of the continuing institution and the banking offices of Athol Savings Bank would be retained as branch offices of Cornerstone Bank. Comment period ended November 12, 2025.

Country Bank for Savings, Ware – permission to reorganize into a mutual holding company, 1850 Financial, MHC with a mid-tier holding company, 1850 Financial, Inc., in a multi-step transaction. Following the reorganization, the subsidiary bank of the new mutual holding company would continue to operate under the name Country Bank for Savings. Comment period ends December 2, 2025.

Needham Bank, Needham – notice to establish a branch office located at 301 Guest Street, Boston. Filed November 25, 2025.

PeoplesBank, Holyoke – permission to establish a branch office located at 185 Asylum Street, Hartford, Connecticut. Filed November 12, 2025.

Springfield Street Railway Employees Credit Union, (Springfield Street), Springfield – permission to merge with Pioneer Valley Federal Credit Union (Pioneer Valley), Springfield. Under the terms of the merger, Springfield Street will merge with and into Pioneer Valley under the charter, bylaws, and name of Pioneer Valley. The main office of Pioneer Valley would remain the main office of the continuing credit union and the sole banking office of Springfield Street would not be retained as a branch office of Pioneer Valley. Comment period ended October 24, 2025.

St. Mary's Credit Union (St. Mary's), Marlborough – permission to merge with Metrowest Community Federal Credit Union (Metrowest), Framingham. Under the terms of the merger, Metrowest will merge with and into St. Mary's under the charter, bylaws, and name of St. Mary's. The main office of St. Mary's would remain the main office of the continuing credit union and the sole banking office of Metrowest would be retained as a branch office of St. Mary's. Comment period ended October 24, 2025.

The Village Bank, Newton – notice to establish a branch office at 990-992 Great Plain Avenue, Needham. Filed November 3, 2025.

The Village Bank, Newton – notice to establish a branch office at 579 Washington Street, Wellesley. Filed November 3, 2025.

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#### December 2025 FILING DATE

Complete applications for the December Activity Report must be received by the Division or the Board on or before 5:00 p.m., Monday, December 15, 2025.

Note: The Division requests that applicants submit all applications electronically to the Legal Unit at the following email address: [dob.applications@mass.gov](mailto:dob.applications@mass.gov). **Please note the new email address.** Paper copies of the application(s) are no longer required.

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COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT DESCRIPTIVE RATINGS AND EVALUATIONS  
WHICH BECAME PUBLIC DURING THE MONTH

The following state-chartered banks and credit unions and licensed mortgage lenders have Community Reinvestment Act descriptive ratings and evaluations describing the basis for the rating issued by the Division of Banks. The ratings, as set out in statute, for a bank's or credit union's record of meeting community credit needs are: Outstanding (O); High Satisfactory (HS); Satisfactory (S); Needs to Improve (NI); and Substantial Noncompliance (SNC). Licensed mortgage lenders are also assigned one of these ratings to describe their record of meeting the mortgage credit needs in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

A consolidated list of all ratings can be found at [www.mass.gov/dob](http://www.mass.gov/dob).

A copy of an individual CRA evaluation is available directly from the bank, credit union, or mortgage lender which is required by law to make the material available upon request, or from the Division's website.

BANK/CREDIT UNION	RATING	DATE OF EXAMINATION
Align Credit Union, Lowell	O	8/04/2025
Brotherhood Credit Union, Lynn	S	8/25/2025
Everett Co-operative Bank, Everett	S	7/07/2025
Polish National Credit Union, Chicopee	HS	9/08/2025

REGULATIONS

Final Amendments

The Division filed final amendments to the following regulations which became effective on November 7, 2025. The final amendments are posted on the Division's website at [www.mass.gov/dob](http://www.mass.gov/dob).

- 209 CMR 44.00: The Licensing and Regulation of Money Transmitters (new regulation);
- 209 CMR 45.00: The Licensing and Regulation of Check Cashers (formerly entitled The Licensing and Regulation of Money Services Businesses);
- 209 CMR 48.00: Licensee Record Keeping; and
- 801 CMR 4.00: Rates.

Amendments Pending

Proposed amendments to the following regulation:

- 209 CMR 50.00: Parity with Federal Credit Unions.

Updates on these proposed amendments to the regulations will be posted on the Division's website at [www.mass.gov/dob](http://www.mass.gov/dob).

## CHECK CASHER LICENSES

### Decisions

Juma Financial Services, LLC d/b/a Juma Grocery and Check Services, Marlborough – permission to operate as a check casher at 910 Boston Post Road, Suite 130, Marlborough – approved November 20, 2025.

### Applications Filed

Brazil Starr, Inc., Somerville – permission to operate as a check casher at 29 Bow Street, Somerville. The Division of Banks is establishing a public comment period on this petition from Monday, December 15, 2025 through Monday, December 29, 2025. Any objections or comments concerning this proposal must be filed with the Division of Banks by Monday, December 29, 2025 via email to Deputy Commissioner Aimee Desai at [Aimee.Desai@mass.gov](mailto:Aimee.Desai@mass.gov).

Financial Services Company, Inc. d/b/a The Check Exchange, Worcester – permission to operate as a check casher at 1255 Worcester Road, Suite 1259, Framingham. The Division of Banks is establishing a public comment period on this petition from Friday, December 12, 2025, through Friday, December 26, 2025. Any objections or comments concerning this proposal must be filed with the Division of Banks by Friday, December 26, 2025, via email to Deputy Commissioner Aimee Desai at [Aimee.Desai@mass.gov](mailto:Aimee.Desai@mass.gov).

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## BANK AND CREDIT UNION APPLICATION PROCESS TIMING

As a general rule, applications by banks and credit unions other than those that are subject to a review period set out in statute are intended to be processed and completed within the monthly cycle for which the bank and credit union applies. That review period for such processing is approximately 45 days or less from the date the application is filed with the Division. A decision on the application is generally issued within 5 business days after the review period is completed. The decision then will be reported on the monthly Activity Report for the month in which the decision was issued. The timing of the overall review process including the issuance of a decision and the listing on the monthly Activity Report will be dependent on the applicant's compliance with all statutory, regulatory and administrative requirements. Applications before the Board of Bank Incorporation are subject to separate timing schedules as set out in the applications of the Board.

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November 2025