

**Remarks by Christy Goldsmith Romero, Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program
Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (SIGTARP)**

*Former Wilmington Trust President Robert Harra and Former Chief Financial Officer David Gibson Sentenced to Six Years
in Prison*

SIGTARP is a law enforcement office created to investigate crime related to the TARP bailout. SIGTARP has seen a pattern in crimes with this financial crisis. Greedy, aggressive loan growth with no regard to risk. In this case a \$3 billion increase in loans prior to 2008. Then the inevitable consequence of that recklessness—the loans go past due.

Bankers all over the nation faced those same set of facts. And it is at that moment when each came to a line in the sand, where they had to make a choice. Most bankers made the choice to tell the truth, to not cross that line, to not a commit a crime.

But others, like the defendants sentenced today, made a different choice. A choice to cross that line and commit a crime. These defendants sentenced today chose to commit crimes after federal taxpayers bailed out the bank with \$330 million and while Treasury was a shareholder in the bank.

The defendants made the choice to commit a crime again, and again, and again. To lie about those risky loans, to lie that the bank was doing well, to lie to hide hundreds of millions in past due loans. Even concealing more than 96 percent of past due loans at the end of 2009.

Today justice is served; for the choices they made and for the crimes they committed. I want to commend David Weiss and all of his team—especially the terrific prosecutors Rocky Kravetz, Lesley Wolf, and Jamie McCall—and all our investigative partners on the case for standing with us to combat TARP-related crime.