Washington Federal.

invested here.

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Monday, September 26, 2011 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON FEDERAL DECLARES 115th CONSECUTIVE CASH DIVIDEND

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON – The Board of Directors of Washington Federal, Inc. (NASDAQ-WFSL) ("Washington Federal"), parent company of Washington Federal, today declared a quarterly cash dividend of 6 cents per share. The dividend will be payable on October 21, 2011 to common stockholders of record on October 7, 2011. This will be Washington Federal's 115th consecutive quarterly cash dividend.

Washington Federal operates 160 offices in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, Texas and New Mexico. Established in 1917, the Washington Federal provides residential real estate loans, commercial real estate financing, consumer deposit accounts and business banking. On June 30, 2011, the Washington Federal reported \$13.3 billion in assets, \$8.7 billion in deposits and \$1.9 billion in stockholders' equity.

To find out more about the Washington Federal, please visit our website. Washington Federal uses its website to distribute financial and other material information about Washington Federal, which is routinely posted on and accessible at www.washingtonfederal.com.

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