



**SCOTT MEACHAM
OKLAHOMA STATE TREASURER**

For Immediate Release: August 23, 2007

Treasurer Meacham Coming to Aid of Oklahoma Banks
*Treasurer Makes \$100 Million Available to Help with
Liquidity Crisis and Flood Recovery*

OKLAHOMA CITY – State Treasurer Scott Meacham is making an additional \$100 million available in certificates of deposit for Oklahoma banks in response to the current shortage of cash in the financial services industry and the need to provide loans for Oklahomans hit by the recent floods.

Meacham made the decision in response to greatly increased demand in the past week for certificates of deposit by Oklahoma's financial institutions.

"During the past week, we have issued more than \$75 million in new CDs to Oklahoma banks, and the calls keep coming," Meacham said. "The demand is great and we have reallocated funds to meet the need."

Meacham said the recent floods have put additional stress on an already tight credit market.

"The money we invest in Oklahoma banks is used to provide the cash for loans to Oklahoma families and businesses," Meacham said. "With the devastation left behind by the recent floods, Oklahomans have a much greater need for loans to help them rebuild."

Historically, the treasurer has invested a portion of the state's investment portfolio in Oklahoma banks through certificates of deposit. The additional \$100 million represents an increase of 25 percent of the funds allocated for certificates of deposit. Now, a total of \$500 million of the Treasurer's investment portfolio will be invested with state banks.

State-issued certificates of deposit earn interest at a rate one-quarter of a percentage point higher than the 90-day US Treasury Bill. All CDs are fully collateralized by the banks to ensure the safety of the funds.

###

For more information contact:

Tim Allen, Deputy Treasurer for Policy and Administration, (405) 522-4212