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**EAST WEST BANK**  
Setting a new direction.

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**Douglas P. Krause**  
Senior Vice President  
General Counsel and  
Corporate Secretary

February 18, 1997

Top Hat Plan Exemption  
Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration  
Room N-5644  
U. S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Avenue N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20210

Dear Sir or Madam:

Pursuant to Department of Labor Regulation 2520.104-23, the following information is being provided regarding a nonqualified Deferred Compensation plan sponsored by our organization for a select group of management or highly compensated employees.

1. Name of employers: East-West Bank
2. Mailing address of the employer: 415 Huntington Dr., San Marino, CA 91108
3. Employer's Federal Identification Number (EIN): 95-2795851
4. Number of plans maintained: One
5. Number of participants in each plan: Four
6. Date plan was implemented: January 1, 1997


We will provide plan documents upon request in accordance with ERISA Section 104(a)(1).

Please contact us if you have any questions on any of the above information.

Sincerely,

*East-West Bank*

By:

  
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Douglas P. Krause  
Plan Administrator

cc: Ms. Julia Gouw