

**DATE:** February 4, 2004

**SUBJECT:** SR 04-3 Debt Elimination Scams.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Board staff has become aware of various illegal schemes being offered to the public that purport to eliminate outstanding debt through the use of specially prepared documents. The organizers of these schemes concoct specious legal documents based on the borrower's debt, which are then presented to the borrower's bank, mortgage company, finance company, or other lending institution in an attempt to satisfy the debt. The scams are reminiscent of the tax protesters' tax evasion schemes seen throughout the 1990s.

**DOCUMENT  
LOCATION:**

<http://www.federalreserve.gov/boarddocs/SRLETTERS/2004/sr0403.htm>

**FURTHER  
INFORMATION:**

Tim Bosch, Vice President  
Safety and Soundness Supervision  
Banking Supervision and Regulation Department  
(314) 444-8440 or 1-800-333-0810, ext. 448440.