THE FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK
Co. NMLS# 411500
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EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Ted Rood
Branch Manager, Gen Way Home Mortgage
NMLS #543290
O Fallon, Missouri 63368

Office: 3147400004
Mobile: 314-740-0004
ted_rood@yahoo.com

Foreclosure Starts Buck Generally Positive Mortgage Trends

Foreclosure starts rose in June for the **second month in a row** but Black Knight Financial Services, in its "first look" at the month's mortgage performance data, says the increase did not keep starts in the second quarter of 2016 from being at the lowest level in over 16 years. There were 69,300 foreclosures initiated during the month, an 11.59 percent increase over the previous month. This was a decrease of 11.27 percent year-over-year.

The number of mortgages that were 30 or more days past due but not in foreclosure also blipped up slightly, an increase that Black Knight called **seasonal**. There were 2.18 million such loans, up 25,000 month-over-month, a rate of 4.31 of all active mortgages, 1.33 percent higher than in May. Year-over-year the number of delinquencies was down by 237,000 and the rate decreased by 10.03 percent.

Seriously delinquent loans, those 90 or more days past due but not in foreclosure, continued to trend down, dropping 27,000 from May to 692,000 loans. There were 161,000 fewer seriously delinquent loans than a year earlier.

Completed foreclosures, expressed as a percentage of loans more than 90 days past due, rose by 13.54 percent to a rate of 2.31 percent. This is an increase of 20.65 percent year-over-year.

The foreclosure **inventory**, properties in process of foreclosure, also shrank by 16,000 units in a month and was 231,000 units smaller than in June 2015. There were 558,000 properties in the foreclosure inventory at the end of the reporting period.

At the end of June there were 2.74 mortgage loans in some stage of delinquency or foreclosure, down 9,000 from May and a reduction of **nearly a half million** over the last 12 months. Non-current rates were up from six months earlier in three states, Wyoming, North Dakota, and Alaska, as those energy producing areas began to feel the impact of problems in the oil and gas markets.

The highest levels of non-current loans continue to be found in **Mississippi**, **Louisiana**, and **New Jersey**. The rates in those states are 11.19 percent, 9.18 percent, and 8.81 percent respectively. Alabama and Maine rounded out the top five.

National Average Mortgage Rates



Mortgage News Daily	Rate	Change	Points
30YR Fixed	7.51%	+0.01	0.00
15YR Fixed	7.04%	+0.01	0.00
30YR FHA	7.08%	+0.03	0.00
30YR Jumbo	7.52%	+0.02	0.00
7/6 SOFR	7.12%	-0.01	0.00
30YR VA	7.10%	+0.03	0.00

Rates as of: 11/16

MBS and Treasury

	Price / Yield	Change
MBS UMBS 6.0	98.73	+0.03
10 YR Treasury	5.1266	-0.0076
30 YR Treasury	5.4747	-0.0011

Pricing as of: 11/16 7:34PM EST

Recent Housing Data

		Value	Change
Mortgage Apps	Nov 4	204.6	+6.23%
Building Permits	Sep	1.4M	+0.43%
Housing Starts	Sep	1.22M	-4.24%
New Home Sales	Sep	676K	-1.17%
Pending Home Sales	Aug	71.2	0%
Existing Home Sales	Oct	3.99M	+0.25%
Builder Confidence	Oct	29	-9.38%

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Black Knight also noted that prepayment speeds (SMM) which are historically a **good indicator of refinance activity**, rose to a 12 month high of 1.44 percent. This was an increase from May of 10.30 percent, mirroring an overall rise in refinance activity corresponding to historically low interest rates.

The company will release more detailed June performance data in its monthly Mortgage Monitor. That report is scheduled to be released on August 1.

Responsive service, experienced expertise

I've dedicated my 26 year mortgage career to client education, superior service, and honest answers. The lending landscape has changed dramatically the past few years, and continues to do so. My job is to ensure client partners' loans close quickly, without surprises, and I take that responsibility very seriously. Referrals are a responsibility I appreciate; they're a measure of trust, and that trust must be earned every day, on every referral.

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