

ZIONS BANCORPORATION /UT/
Form 424B2
April 21, 2009
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**Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2)
Registration No. 333-158319**

Prospectus Supplement to Prospectus dated March 31, 2009.

ZIONS BANCORPORATION

Senior Medium-Term Notes

Due Three Years or Less From the Date Issued

Series A

Zions Bancorporation may sell at various times an indeterminate amount of notes that will not exceed a maximum aggregate principal amount of \$500,000,000 outstanding at any given time. The following terms may apply to the notes; however, we will provide specific terms of the notes which we may offer in pricing supplements to this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus. You should read this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, the applicable pricing supplement and, if applicable, any applicable preliminary pricing supplement carefully before you invest.

The following terms may apply to the notes that Zions Bancorporation may sell at one or more times. We have not set a date for termination of our offering. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the notes will have the following terms:

Rank as our senior, unsecured indebtedness

Denominated in U.S. dollars

Not subject to redemption at our option or the holder's option unless the pricing supplement specifies a redemption option and a redemption commencement date

Minimum denominations of \$1,000, increasing in integrals of \$1,000

Not amortized or subject to a sinking fund

Book-entry (through the Depository Trust Company) or certificated form

Interest at fixed or floating rates, or no interest at all

Interest payments on the notes on the dates specified in the notes and in the applicable pricing supplement

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The floating interest rate may be based on one or more of the following indices, in some cases plus or minus a spread and/or multiplied by a spread multiplier and subject to a minimum and/or maximum rate:

commercial paper rate;

prime rate;

LIBOR;

EURIBOR;

treasury rate;

CMT rate;

CD rate;

federal funds rate notes;

11th district cost of funds rate; and/or

any other rate or combination of rates specified in the pricing supplement

Investing in the notes involves certain risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page S-2 of this prospectus supplement to read about certain factors you should consider before buying the notes.

The notes will be our senior unsecured obligations. The notes will not be savings accounts, deposits or other obligations of any bank or non-bank subsidiary of ours and will not be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency. Unless you are informed otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, these securities will not be guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation pursuant to the Temporary Liquidity Guarantee Program.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The final terms of each note, including the purchase price, agent discounts and commissions, if any, and net proceeds for any particular offering, will be included in the applicable pricing supplement. The notes will be issued at 100% of their principal amount unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement.

Zions Bancorporation may sell the notes directly or through one or more agents or dealers, including its wholly-owned subsidiary, Zions Direct, Inc., and including through Zions Direct's auction platform. The agents are not required to sell any particular amount of the notes. We do not expect any of the notes to be listed on a securities exchange or made available for quotation on any quotation system, and a market for the notes may not develop.

Zions Bancorporation may use this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus in the initial sale of any note. In addition, Zions Direct, Inc. or any other affiliate of Zions Bancorporation may use this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus in a market-making transaction in any note after its initial sale. These transactions may be executed at negotiated prices that are related to market prices at the time of purchase or sale or at other prices. ***Unless Zions Bancorporation or its agent informs the purchaser otherwise in the confirmation of sale, this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus is being used in a market-making transaction.***

ZIONS DIRECT, INC.

Prospectus Supplement dated April 21, 2009

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No dealer, salesperson or other person is authorized to give any information or to represent anything not contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. You must not rely on any unauthorized information or representations. We are not making an offer in any jurisdictions, or under any circumstances, where the offer is not permitted. The information in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate only as of the date on its cover page and any information we have incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT AND PRICING SUPPLEMENTS

This document is in two parts. The first is this prospectus supplement, which sets forth certain specific terms of the notes that we may offer. The second part, the accompanying prospectus, gives more general information, some of which may not apply to the notes that we may offer. This prospectus supplement also adds to, updates and changes information contained in the accompanying prospectus. If the description of the offering varies between this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement. The accompanying prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, using a shelf registration statement. Under the shelf registration process, from time to time, we may offer and sell debt securities, warrants or other rights, stock purchase contracts, units, common stock, preferred stock or depository shares, or any combination thereof, in one or more offerings. In this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, the terms company, Zions, we, us and our refer to Zions Bancorporation and not its consolidated subsidiaries unless the context requires otherwise.

Each time we offer notes, we will attach a pricing supplement to this prospectus supplement. The pricing supplement will contain the specific description of the notes we are offering and the terms of the offering. The pricing supplement will supersede this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus to the extent it contains information that is different from the information contained in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

It is important that you read and consider all of the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in making your investment decision. You should also read and consider the information in the documents to which we have referred you in [Incorporation by Reference](#) on page iii of this prospectus supplement and [Where You Can Find More Information](#) on page 2 of the accompanying prospectus.

The distribution of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and the offering of the notes in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. Persons into whose possession this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus come should inform themselves about and observe any such restrictions. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus do not constitute, and may not be used in connection with, an offer or solicitation by anyone in any jurisdiction in which such offer or solicitation is not authorized or in which the person making such offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so or to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation. See [Supplemental Plan of Distribution](#). References herein to \$ and dollars are to the currency of the United States.

Zions® and Zions Bank® are registered service marks of Zions Bancorporation. All other service marks, trademarks and trade names referred to in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are the property of their respective owners.

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INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document that Zions has filed separately with the SEC that contains that information. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Information that Zions files with the SEC after the date of this prospectus supplement will automatically modify and supersede the information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to the extent that the subsequently filed information modifies or supersedes the existing information. We incorporate by reference:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008;

our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on January 23, 2009 and March 31, 2009; and

any future filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, until we sell all of the notes offered by the prospectus supplement.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, we are not incorporating any document or information deemed to have been furnished and not filed in accordance with SEC rules.

You may request a copy of any of these filings at no cost by writing to or telephoning us at the following address and telephone number:

Investor Relations

Zions Bancorporation

One South Main Street, 15th Floor

Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

(801) 524-4787

In addition, these filings are available on our web site at <http://www.zionsbancorporation.com>. For additional information concerning an offering, the web site www.auctions.zionsdirect.com, or the auction process, you may contact Zions Direct:

by telephone at (800) 524-8875; or

by e-mail at auctions@zionsdirect.com.

Please note that these web sites do not form a part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

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SUMMARY

The following summary should be read together with the information contained in other parts of this prospectus supplement, in the accompanying prospectus and in any applicable pricing supplement. This summary alone may not contain all the information that is important to you. You should carefully read this entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any applicable pricing supplement or preliminary pricing supplement to understand fully the terms of the notes, as well as the other considerations that are important to you in making a decision about whether to invest in the notes.

Zions Bancorporation

Zions Bancorporation is a financial holding company organized under the laws of the State of Utah in 1955, and registered under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended. Zions Bancorporation and its subsidiaries own and operate eight commercial banks with a total of 513 domestic branches at December 31, 2008. We provide a full range of banking and related services through our banking and other subsidiaries, primarily in Utah, California, Texas, Arizona, Nevada, Colorado, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. Full-time equivalent employees totaled 11,011 at December 31, 2008.

We focus on maintaining community banking services by continuously strengthening our core business lines of 1) small, medium-sized businesses and corporate banking; 2) commercial and residential development, construction and term lending; 3) retail banking; 4) treasury cash management and related products and services; 5) residential mortgage; 6) trust and wealth management; and 7) investment activities. We operate eight different banks in ten Western and Southwestern states with each bank operating under a different name and each having its own board of directors, chief executive officer, and management team. The banks provide a wide variety of commercial and retail banking and mortgage lending products and services. They also provide a wide range of personal banking services to individuals, including home mortgages, bankcard, other installment loans, home equity lines of credit, checking accounts, savings accounts, time certificates of various types and maturities, trust services, safe deposit facilities, direct deposit and 24-hour ATM access. In addition, certain banking subsidiaries provide services to key market segments through their Women's Financial, Private Client Services and Executive Banking Groups. We also offer wealth management services through a subsidiary, Contango Capital Advisors, Inc. and online brokerage services through Zions Direct.

In addition to these core businesses, we have built specialized lines of business in capital markets, public finance, and certain financial technologies, and we are also a leader in Small Business Administration lending. Through our eight banking subsidiaries, we provide Small Business Administration 7(a) loans to small businesses throughout the United States and we are also one of the largest providers of SBA 504 financing in the nation. We own an equity interest in the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation, or Farmer Mac, and we are one of the nation's top originators of secondary market agricultural real estate mortgage loans through Farmer Mac. We are a leader in municipal finance advisory and underwriting services. We also control four venture capital funds that provide early-stage capital primarily for start-up companies located in the Western United States. Finally, our NetDeposit, LLC subsidiary is a leader in the provision of check imaging and clearing software.

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RISK FACTORS

An investment in our notes involves certain risks. You should carefully consider the risks described below and in the accompanying prospectus, as well as the risk factors and other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any applicable pricing supplement or preliminary pricing supplement, before making an investment decision. Our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected by any of these risks. The trading price of our notes could decline due to any of these risks, and you may lose all or part of your investment. This prospectus supplement also contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of certain factors, including the risks faced by us described below and elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

Our indebtedness could adversely affect our financial results and prevent us from fulfilling our obligations under the notes.

In addition to our currently outstanding indebtedness and any additional indebtedness we may incur pursuant to any offerings related to this prospectus supplement, we may be able to borrow substantial additional unsecured indebtedness in the future. If new indebtedness is added to our current debt levels, the related risks that we now face could increase.

Our indebtedness, including the indebtedness we may incur in the future, could have important consequences for the holders of the notes, including:

limiting our ability to satisfy our obligations with respect to the notes;

increasing our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions;

limiting our ability to obtain additional financing to fund future working capital, capital expenditures and other general corporate requirements;

requiring a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations for the payment of principal of, and interest on, our indebtedness and reducing our ability to use our cash flow to fund working capital, capital expenditures and general corporate requirements;

limiting our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industry; and

putting us at a disadvantage compared to competitors with less indebtedness.

Our business operations may not generate the cash needed to service our indebtedness.

Our ability to make payments on our indebtedness, including these notes, and to fund planned capital expenditures will depend on our ability to generate cash in the future. We cannot assure you that our business will generate sufficient cash flow from operations or that future borrowings will be available to us in an amount sufficient to enable us to pay our indebtedness, including these notes, or to fund our other liquidity needs.

Although these notes are referred to as senior notes, they will be effectively subordinated to our secured indebtedness and all liabilities of our subsidiaries.

The notes are unsecured and therefore will be effectively subordinated to any secured indebtedness we may incur to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness. In the event of a bankruptcy or similar proceeding involving us, any of our assets which serve as collateral for any secured indebtedness will be available to satisfy the obligations under such secured indebtedness before any payments are made on the notes or our other unsecured indebtedness.

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In addition, the notes will be structurally subordinated to all indebtedness and other liabilities, including trade payables, of each of our subsidiaries, except to the extent we may be a creditor of that subsidiary with recognized senior claims. This is because we are a holding company and a legal entity separate and distinct from our subsidiaries, and our rights to participate in any distribution of assets of any subsidiary upon its liquidation,

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reorganization or otherwise, and the ability of any holder of notes to benefit indirectly from such distribution, is subject to superior claims. Claims on our subsidiary banks by creditors other than us include long-term debt, including subordinated and junior subordinated debt issued by our subsidiary, Amegy Corporation, and substantial obligations with respect to deposit liabilities and federal funds purchased, securities sold under repurchase agreements, other short-term borrowings and various other financial obligations.

An active trading market may not develop for the notes.

Prior to a given offering, there is no existing trading market for the notes being issued in that offering. Although Zions Direct has informed us that it currently intends to make a market in any notes we may issue pursuant to this prospectus supplement after we complete an offering, it has no obligation to do so and may discontinue making a market at any time without notice.

We do not intend to apply for listing of the notes on any securities exchange or for quotation on any quotation system.

The liquidity of any market for the notes will depend on a number of factors, including:

the number of holders of the notes;

our performance;

the market for similar securities;

the interest of securities dealers in making a market in the notes; and

prevailing interest rates.

We cannot assure you that an active market for the notes will develop or will continue, if developed.

Downgrades or other changes in our credit ratings that may occur could affect our financial results and reduce the market value of the notes.

The credit ratings assigned to our unsecured indebtedness, including the notes, and our corporate credit may affect our ability to obtain new financing and the costs of our financing. It is possible that rating agencies may downgrade our credit ratings or change their outlook about us, which could increase our cost of capital and make our efforts to raise capital more difficult and, in turn, adversely affect our financial results. Such a downgrade in rating may also reduce the price that a subsequent purchaser may be willing to pay for the notes.

Redemption may adversely affect your return on the Notes.

If your notes are redeemable at our option, we may choose to redeem your notes at times when prevailing interest rates are relatively low. In addition, if your notes are subject to mandatory redemption, we may also be required to redeem your notes at times when prevailing interest rates are relatively low. As a result, you generally will not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds in a comparable security at an effective interest rate as high as your notes being redeemed.

The notes may have original issue discount, or OID, for U.S. federal income tax purposes and, accordingly, holders may be required to include OID in their income in advance of the receipt of cash attributable to such income.

Notes offered under this prospectus supplement, including those for which the price is determined pursuant to the auction process described below under Supplemental Plan of Distribution The Auction Process, may have OID for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Holders of these notes generally must include OID in income for U.S. federal income tax purposes under a constant yield accrual method regardless of their regular method of tax accounting. As a result, holders of such notes may be required to include OID in their income in advance of the receipt of cash

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attributable to such income. See Supplemental Discussion of U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences in this prospectus supplement for a brief description of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of owning an OID note.

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Risks Related to the Auction Process

We may distribute our notes and determine the interest rate and/or offering price for our notes sold pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the applicable pricing supplement through an auction conducted by Zions Direct, our auction agent. A participant in such an auction would be subject to certain risks, which include the following.

Even if you submit a bid that is equal to the market-clearing price you may not be allocated any of the notes for which you bid.

We may determine the offering price (or, equivalently, yield) for our notes sold pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the applicable pricing supplement through an auction conducted by Zions Direct, our auction agent. The auction process will reveal a market-clearing price for such notes. The market-clearing price will be the highest offering price at which all of the notes offered in an auction would be sold to bidders. For an explanation of the meaning of market-clearing price see Supplemental Plan of Distribution The Auction Process beginning on page S-25 of this prospectus supplement. If your bid price equals the market-clearing price, you will be allocated notes only to the extent that notes have not been allocated to bidders with higher bid prices. If there are two or more bids that equal the market-clearing price, then the notes that have not been allocated to bidders with higher bid prices will be allocated to the bid with the earliest time stamp, then to the bid with the next earliest time stamp and so on until all of the notes being offered are allocated to bidders. Accordingly, even if you submit a bid that is equal to the market-clearing price, you may not be allocated any of the notes for which you bid based on your time stamp.

Once you submit a bid, you may generally not revoke it.

Once you have submitted and confirmed a bid, you may not subsequently lower your bid price, increase your bid yield or lower the principal amount of notes bid for in that bid. Therefore, even if circumstances arise after you have placed and confirmed a bid that make you want to decrease your original bid price, increase your bid yield, or decrease the principal amount of notes originally bid for, you will nonetheless be bound by that bid. In addition, if you submit and confirm a purchase using the Buy Today feature, if available, you will be obligated to purchase the quantity of notes that you indicated at the time of submitting your order at the Buy Today price unless we subsequently reject your order as described below. Such orders are binding on potential investors and they may not subsequently rescind such order. See Supplemental Plan of Distribution The Auction Process for a description of the Buy Today feature.

We reserve the right to reject any bid.

We reserve the right, in our sole discretion, to reject any bid that we deem to be manipulative, mistaken, made due to a misunderstanding of our notes on the part of the bidder or for any other reason we may determine. We reserve this right in order to preserve the integrity of the auction process. Other conditions for valid bids, including eligibility and account funding requirements of participating dealers and individuals, may vary. As a result of these varying requirements, we may reject a bidder's bid, even while we accept another bidder's identical bid. See the section entitled Supplemental Plan of Distribution The Auction Process Allocation on page S-30 of this prospectus supplement. We further reserve the right to reject all bids if we are unable to sell all of the notes offered in that auction, or for any other reason. You will not be entitled to an allocation of notes, even if your bid is in-the-money at the time an auction closes, until our auction agent has reviewed the results of the auction and informed you that your bid or bids have been accepted. If we reject all bids made in an auction, we reserve the right to cancel all purchases made under the Buy Today feature.

You may receive a full allocation of the notes that you bid for if your bid is successful; therefore, you should not bid for more notes than you are prepared to purchase.

Successful bidders may be allocated all or nearly all of the notes that they bid for in an auction. See Supplemental Plan of Distribution The Auction Process Allocation. Therefore, we caution investors against submitting a bid that does not accurately represent the principal amount of notes that they are willing and prepared to purchase.

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You should not expect to sell your notes after the conclusion of an offering.

As we mentioned above, we may use the auction process to reveal a market-clearing price for the notes offered pursuant to this prospectus supplement. However, this market-clearing price may bear little or no relationship to market demand for our notes following such an offering, or the price at which the notes may be sold. If there is little or no market demand for the notes following the closing of an auction, the price of the notes may decline. If your objective is to make a short-term profit by selling your notes after the conclusion of an auction, you should not submit a bid in an auction.

The aggregate principal amount of notes actually sold in a particular auction may be substantially higher or lower than any estimate provided in a preliminary pricing supplement or other document furnished by us or Zions Direct.

Our indenture does not limit the amount of notes or other debt securities we may issue, and we may issue an indeterminate amount of notes pursuant to this prospectus supplement, so long as the principal amount outstanding at any given time does not exceed \$500,000,000. We will indicate in a preliminary pricing supplement or other document furnished by us or Zions Direct the principal amount of notes we expect to offer in a given auction and, if the auction will include the Buy Today feature and/or whether the auction is subject to institutional up-sizing. We will also indicate whether notes will be sold through any other distribution method, including pursuant to our distribution agreement with Zions Direct. Purchases made under the Buy Today feature, pursuant to the institutional up-sizing option or through any other distribution method will be in addition to the auction amount specified in the applicable preliminary pricing supplement or other document furnished by us or Zions Direct. We will endeavor to provide a good faith estimate of the amount of notes that we expect to issue outside of the auction. However, we cannot assure you that we will not issue more or less notes than those good faith estimates. See Supplemental Plan of Distribution for more information. Our incurrence of additional debt may have important consequences for you as a holder of the notes, including making it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations with respect to the notes, a loss in the trading value of your notes, if any, and a risk that the credit rating of the notes may be lowered or withdrawn. In addition, your ability to trade in the notes may be impacted if we sell fewer notes than we initially anticipated.

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USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable pricing supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of any notes for general corporate purposes.

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SUPPLEMENTAL DESCRIPTION OF NOTES WE MAY OFFER

Please note that in this section entitled Supplemental Description of Notes We May Offer, references to holders mean those who own notes registered in their own names, on the books that we or the trustee maintain for this purpose, and not those who own beneficial interests in notes registered in street name or in notes issued in book-entry form through The Depository Trust Company or another depository. Owners of beneficial interests in the notes should read the section entitled Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance in the accompanying prospectus.

Information About Our Medium-Term Note Program

We will issue the notes under the indenture dated September 10, 2002 between Zions Bancorporation and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as successor to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association, as trustee, which may be supplemented from time to time as provided for in the indenture. The indenture and the notes are governed by New York law. We summarize various terms that apply generally to our debt securities, including the notes, in the accompanying prospectus under the caption Description of Debt Securities We May Offer. The following description of the notes supplements that description of the debt securities. Consequently, you should read this prospectus supplement together with the accompanying prospectus, the applicable pricing supplement and any other offering material in order to understand the terms of the notes. However, if this prospectus supplement is inconsistent with the accompanying prospectus, this prospectus supplement controls with regard to the notes.

This section is a summary of the material terms that are common to the notes. Each particular note will have financial and other terms specific to it, and the specific terms of each note will be described in a pricing supplement attached to the front of this prospectus supplement. Those terms may vary from the terms described here.

As you read this section, please remember that the specific terms of your note as described in your pricing supplement will supplement and, if applicable, may modify or replace the general terms described in this section and in the accompanying prospectus. If your pricing supplement is inconsistent with this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, your pricing supplement will control with regards to your note. Thus, the statements we make in this section or in the accompanying prospectus may not apply to your note.

When we refer to your pricing supplement or the applicable pricing supplement, we mean the pricing supplement describing the specific terms of the note you purchase. Unless we say otherwise below, the terms we use in this prospectus supplement that we also use in the accompanying prospectus have the meanings we give them in that document. Similarly, the terms we use in any pricing supplement that we also use in this document or the accompanying prospectus will have the meanings we give them in this document or the accompanying prospectus, as the case may be, unless we say otherwise in the pricing supplement.

Amounts That We May Issue

The notes will be our senior unsecured obligations and will rank equally with all of our other senior and unsecured indebtedness from time to time outstanding.

Unless our Board of Directors subsequently modifies our authorization to issue notes pursuant to this Medium-Term Note Program, the notes issued pursuant to this prospectus supplement may be issued in one or more series, in an amount or amounts not to exceed a maximum aggregate principal amount of \$500,000,000 outstanding at any given time. As of March 31, 2009, an aggregate principle amount of \$111,059,000 of the notes was outstanding. The indenture and the notes do not limit the aggregate amount of debt securities that we may issue, nor does the indenture limit the number of series or the aggregate amount of any particular series that we may issue. Also, if we issue notes having the same terms in a particular offering, or intend to continuously issue notes in that offering over time, we may issue notes in that offering and at a later date reopen that offering and offer additional notes having those same terms.

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This Section Is Only a Summary

The indenture and its associated documents, including your note and any supplemental indentures we may enter into, contain the full legal text of the matters described in this section and your prospectus supplement. Our indenture and the notes are governed by New York law. A copy of our indenture has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission as part of our registration statement. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#) in the accompanying prospectus for information on how to obtain a copy.

Investors should carefully read the description of the terms and provisions of our debt securities and our indentures under [Description of Debt Securities We May Offer](#) in the accompanying prospectus. That section, together with this prospectus supplement and your pricing supplement, summarize the material terms of our indenture and your note. They do not, however, describe every aspect of our indenture and your note. If the information in this prospectus supplement or in the applicable pricing supplement differs from the terms and provisions of the notes or the indenture, you should in all cases rely on the terms and provisions of the notes and the indenture.

General Features of the Notes

The following description of the notes will apply to each note offered hereby unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement or note.

Currency of Notes

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the notes will be payable in U.S. dollars.

Types of Notes

We may issue the *following two types of notes*:

Fixed Rate Notes. A note of this type will bear interest at a fixed rate described in the applicable pricing supplement. This type includes zero coupon notes, which bear no interest and are instead issued at a price lower than the principal amount.

Floating Rate Notes. A note of this type will bear interest at rates that are determined by reference to an interest rate formula. In some cases, the rates may also be adjusted by adding or subtracting a spread or multiplying by a spread multiplier and may be subject to a minimum rate or a maximum rate. The various interest rate formulas and these other features are described below in [Interest Rates Floating Rate Notes](#). If your note is a floating rate note, the formula and any adjustments that apply to the interest rate will be specified in your pricing supplement.

Original Issue Discount Notes

A fixed rate note or a floating rate note may be an original issue discount, or OID, note. A note of this type is issued at a price lower than its principal amount and provides that, upon redemption or acceleration of its maturity, an amount less than its principal amount will be payable. An OID note may be a zero coupon note. A note issued at a discount to its principal may, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, be considered an OID note, regardless of the amount payable upon redemption or acceleration of maturity. See [Supplemental Discussion of U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences](#) in this prospectus supplement for a brief description of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of owning an OID note.

Redemption and Repayment

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, we will not provide any sinking fund for your note.

Unless your pricing supplement specifies (an initial date on which your note may be redeemed by us) a redemption commencement date the notes will not be redeemable by us prior to their stated maturity. If your pricing supplement specifies a redemption commencement date with respect to such note, your pricing supplement will also

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specify one or more redemption prices, which will be expressed as a percentage of the principal amount of your note, and the redemption period or periods during which such redemption prices will apply. If your note is redeemable at our option, as specified in your pricing supplement, it will be redeemable at any time on or after the specified redemption commencement date for a limited period, as specified in your pricing supplement, at the specified redemption price applicable to the redemption period for your note together with interest accrued up to the redemption date.

If different prices are specified for different redemption periods, the price we pay will be the price that applies to the redemption period during which your note is redeemed.

If we exercise an option to redeem any note, we will give to the trustee and the holder written notice of the principal amount of the note to be redeemed, not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days before the applicable redemption date.

If applicable, the pricing supplement will indicate that you have the option to have us repay your note on a date or dates specified prior to its maturity date. You may elect repayment of your entire note or any portion of the principal amount which would be an authorized denomination for the note, except that any remaining unpaid portion must be at least the minimum denomination for your note. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the repayment price will be equal to 100% of the principal amount of your note, together with accrued interest to the date of repayment. If your note is issued with original issue discount, the applicable pricing supplement will specify the amount payable upon a repayment.

Unless otherwise specified in your pricing supplement, exercise of the repayment option by you will be irrevocable. You may exercise the repayment option for less than the entire principal amount of your notes but, in that event, the principal amount of the notes remaining outstanding after repayment must be an authorized denomination.

Restriction on Sale or Issuance of Capital Stock of Major Constituent Banks

We are not subject to financial or similar restrictions by the terms of the indenture, except as described under *Description of Debt Securities We May Offer Restriction on Sale or Issuance of Capital Stock of Major Constituent Banks* in the accompanying prospectus.

Whether the Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance Provisions Apply

Unless otherwise indicated in your pricing supplement, the full defeasance and covenant defeasance provisions of the indenture described under *Description of Debt Securities We May Offer Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance* in the accompanying prospectus will apply to the notes.

Form, Denomination and Legal Ownership of Notes

Your note will be issued in registered form in an authorized denomination. Unless otherwise indicated in the pricing supplement, the authorized denomination will be \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000.

Your note will be issued in book-entry form and represented by a global note or a master global note which will be deposited with the trustee as custodian for The Depository Trust Company, or DTC, and registered in the name of Cede & Co. as nominee of DTC. You should read the section *Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance* in the accompanying prospectus for information about this type of arrangement and your rights under this type of arrangement.

Information in the Pricing Supplement

Your pricing supplement will describe one or more of the following terms of your note:

any limit on the total principal amount of the note;

the stated maturity;

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the price at which we originally issue your note, expressed as a percentage of the principal amount, and the original issue date;

if you purchase your note in a market-making transaction, you will receive information about the price you pay and your trade and settlement dates in a separate confirmation of sale. A market-making transaction is one in which Zions Direct or another of our affiliates resells a note that it has previously acquired from another holder. A market-making transaction in a particular note occurs after the original sale of the note;

whether your note is a fixed rate note or a floating rate note and also whether it is an original issue discount note;

if your note is a fixed rate note, the yearly rate at which your note will bear interest, if any, and the interest payment dates;

if your note is a floating rate note, the interest rate basis, which may be one of the nine base rates described in [Interest Rates Floating Rate Notes](#) below; any applicable index currency or maturity, spread or spread multiplier or initial, maximum or minimum rate; the interest reset, determination, calculation and payment dates; and the calculation agent, if any, all of which we describe under [Interest Rates Floating Rate Notes](#) below;

if your note is an original issue discount note, the yield to maturity;

if applicable, the circumstances under which your note may be redeemed at our option or repaid at the holder's option before the stated maturity, including any redemption commencement date, repayment date(s), redemption price(s) and redemption period(s);

the authorized denomination, if other than \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000;

whether we will issue or make available your note in non-book-entry form;

whether and under what circumstances we will pay additional amounts on any note held by a person who is not a United States person for tax purposes and whether we can redeem the note if we have to pay additional amounts;

whether the note will be issued in fully registered form or bearer form, in definitive or global form or in any combination of these forms;

the names and duties of any co-trustees, depositories, authenticating agents, paying agents, calculation agents, transfer agents or registrars for the note;

the depository for your note, if other than DTC, and any circumstances under which the holder may request notes in non-global form, if we choose not to issue your note in book-entry form only;

if we choose to issue your note in bearer form, any special provisions relating to bearer notes that are not addressed in the accompanying prospectus; and

any other terms of your note that are consistent with the provisions of the applicable indenture, which could be different from those described in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

The Trustee

The trustee for the holders of notes issued under the indenture will be The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as successor to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association. If an event of default occurs, and is not cured, the trustee will be required to use the degree of care of a prudent person in the conduct of his or her own affairs in the exercise of its powers. Subject to these provisions, the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the indenture at the request of any holders of notes, unless they have offered the trustee reasonable security or indemnity.

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The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. is the trustee under our subordinated debt indenture pursuant to which we issue debt. Pursuant to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, if a default occurs with respect to the notes of any series, the trustee will be required to eliminate any conflicting interest as defined in the Trust Indenture Act or resign as trustee with respect to the notes of that series within 90 days of such default, unless such default is cured, duly waived or otherwise eliminated.

Other Matters

Please see **Description of Debt Securities We May Offer** in the accompanying prospectus for information regarding events of default applicable to the notes, as well information concerning certain covenants that pertain to the notes and the provisions of the indenture governing the terms of our notes.

Interest Rates

This subsection describes the different kinds of interest rates that may apply to your note, if it bears interest.

Fixed Rate Notes

Unless the applicable pricing supplement states otherwise, interest on a fixed rate note will be payable semiannually on the interest payment dates specified in the applicable pricing supplement, and at maturity. For each fixed rate note that bears interest, interest will accrue, and we will compute and pay accrued interest, as described in the accompanying prospectus under **Description of Debt Securities We May Offer** **Types of Debt Securities** **Fixed Rate Debt Securities** and **Payment Mechanics for Debt Securities in Registered Form**.

Floating Rate Notes

*In this subsection, we use several specialized terms relating to the manner in which floating interest rates are calculated. These terms appear in **bold, italicized** type the first time they appear, and we define these terms in **Special Rate Calculation Terms** at the end of this subsection.*

For each floating rate note, interest will accrue, and we will compute and pay accrued interest, as described in the accompanying prospectus under **Description of Debt Securities We May Offer** **Types of Debt Securities** **Floating Rate Debt Securities** and **Description of Debt Securities We May Offer** **Payment Mechanics for Debt Securities in Registered Form**. In addition, the following will apply to floating rate notes.

Base Rates. We currently expect to issue floating rate notes that bear interest at rates based on one or more of the following base rates:

commercial paper rate;

prime rate;

LIBOR;

EURIBOR;

treasury rate;

CMT rate;

CD rate;

federal funds rate; and/or

11th district cost of funds rate.

We describe each of these base rates in further detail below in this subsection. If you purchase a floating rate note, your pricing supplement will specify the type of base rate that applies to your note.

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Interest payable on a floating rate note for any particular interest period will be calculated as described in the accompanying prospectus using an interest factor, expressed as a decimal, applicable to each day during the period. The interest factor for each day will be calculated by dividing the interest rate, expressed as a decimal, applicable to that day by the following:

360, in the case of commercial paper rate notes, prime rate notes, LIBOR notes, EURIBOR notes, CD rate notes, federal funds rate notes and 11th district cost of funds rate notes; or

the actual number of days in the year, in the case of treasury rate notes and CMT rate notes.

See Description of Debt Securities We May Offer Types of Debt Securities Floating Rate Debt Securities Calculation of Interest in the accompanying prospectus for more information about calculation mechanics.

Initial Base Rate. For any floating rate note, the base rate in effect from the original issue date to the first interest reset date will be the initial base rate. We will specify the initial base rate, or the manner in which the initial base rate will be determined, in the applicable pricing supplement.

Spread or Spread Multiplier. In some cases, the base rate for a floating rate note may be adjusted:

by adding or subtracting a specified number of basis points, called the spread, with one basis point being 0.01%; or

by multiplying the base rate by a specified percentage, called the spread multiplier.

If you purchase a floating rate note, your pricing supplement will specify whether a spread or spread multiplier will apply to your note and, if so, the amount of the spread or spread multiplier.

Maximum and Minimum Rates. The actual interest rate, after being adjusted by the spread or spread multiplier, may also be subject to either or both of the following limits:

a maximum rate, meaning a specified upper limit that the actual interest rate in effect at any time may not exceed; and/or

a minimum rate, meaning a specified lower limit that the actual interest rate in effect at any time may not fall below.

If you purchase a floating rate note, your pricing supplement will specify whether a maximum rate and/or minimum rate will apply to your note and, if so, what those rates are.

Whether or not a maximum rate applies, the interest rate on a floating rate note will in no event be higher than the maximum rate permitted by New York law, as it may be modified by U.S. law of general application.

Under current New York law, the maximum rate of interest, with some exceptions, for any loan in an amount less than \$250,000 is 16% and for any loan in the amount of \$250,000 or more but less than \$2,500,000 is 25% per year on a simple interest basis. These limits do not apply to loans of \$2,500,000 or more.

The rest of this subsection describes how the interest rate and the interest payment dates will be determined, and how interest will be calculated, on a floating rate note.

Interest Reset Dates. The rate of interest on a floating rate note will be reset, by the calculation agent described below, daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, annually or otherwise as specified in the applicable pricing supplement. The date on which the interest rate resets and the reset rate becomes effective is called the interest reset date. Except as otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the interest

reset date will be as follows:

for floating rate notes that reset daily, each *business day*;

for floating rate notes that reset weekly and are not treasury rate notes, the Wednesday of each week;

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for treasury rate notes that reset weekly, the Tuesday of each week, except as otherwise described in the next to last paragraph under Interest Determination Dates below;

for floating rate notes that reset monthly, the third Wednesday of each month;

for floating rate notes that reset quarterly, the third Wednesday of March, June, September and December of each year;

for floating rate notes that reset semi-annually, the third Wednesday of each of two months of each year as specified in the applicable pricing supplement; and

for floating rate notes that reset annually, the third Wednesday of one month of each year as specified in the applicable pricing supplement.

For a floating rate note, the interest rate in effect on any particular day will be the interest rate determined with respect to the latest interest reset date that occurs on or before that day. There are several exceptions, however, to the reset provisions described above.

The base rate in effect from the original issue date to the first interest reset date will be the initial base rate specified on the cover of your pricing supplement. For floating rate notes that reset daily or weekly, the base rate in effect for each day following the second business day before an interest payment date to, but excluding, the interest payment date, and for each day following the second business day before the maturity to, but excluding, the maturity, will be the base rate in effect on that second business day.

If any interest reset date for a floating rate note would otherwise be a day that is not a business day, the interest reset date will be postponed to the next day that is a business day. For a LIBOR note, however, if that business day is in the next succeeding calendar month, the interest reset date will be the immediately preceding business day.

Interest Determination Dates. The interest rate that takes effect on an interest reset date will be determined by the calculation agent by reference to a particular date called an interest determination date. Except as otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement:

For all floating rate notes other than LIBOR notes, EURIBOR notes, treasury rate notes and 11th district cost of funds rate notes, the interest determination date relating to a particular interest reset date will be the second business day before the interest reset date.

For LIBOR notes, the interest determination date relating to a particular interest reset date will be the second ***London business day*** preceding the interest reset date, unless the ***index currency*** is pounds sterling, in which case the interest determination date will be the interest reset date. We refer to an interest determination date for a LIBOR note as a LIBOR interest determination date.

For EURIBOR notes, the interest determination date relating to a particular interest reset date will be the second ***euro business day*** preceding the interest reset date. We refer to an interest determination date for a EURIBOR note as a EURIBOR interest determination date.