

July 20, 2010

Mark L. Abbate
Chief Financial Officer
Meridian Interstate Bancorp, Inc.
10 Meridian Street
East Boston, Massachusetts 02128

Re: Meridian Interstate Bancorp, Inc.
Form 10-K For The Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2009
Form 10-Q For The Quarterly Period Ended March 31, 2010
File Number 1-33898

Dear Mr. Abbate:

We have completed our review of your filings and do not have any further comments at this time.

Sincerely,

Kathryn McHale
Senior Attorney

By FAX: Mark L. Abbate
FAX number 978-977-2877