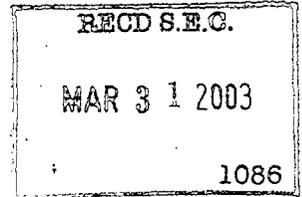


tel: 212.656.5026
fax: 212.656.5893
pmadho@nyse.com



03018111

1-3/6/11



March 31, 2003

Mr. Brian Johnson
Branch Chief
Securities and Exchange Commission
Branch of Filer Support 2
Room 1004 -- STOP/1-4
450 Fifth Street, NW
Judiciary Plaza
Washington, DC 20549

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The New York Stock Exchange certifies approval for listing and registration under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, FIRST PREFERRED CAPITAL TRUST IV, % Cumulative Trust Preferred Securities (and the Guarantee of First Banks, Inc. with respect thereto) and requests immediate acceleration of registration. Adequate distribution assured. Form 8-A received on March 31, 2003. Tentative listing date - April 1, 2003.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Javad Eladho".

PROCESSED
APR 04 2003
THOMSON
FINANCIAL