

For Immediate Release

For more information contact:  
Joan Kayne, VP Marketing and Business Development  
703-706-5167  
Email:  
[jkayne@sdfcu.org](mailto:jkayne@sdfcu.org)  
[www.sdfcu.org](http://www.sdfcu.org)

## Reporter from Iraq Interviews State Department Federal Credit Union

Arlington, VA, August 1, 2005: The Office of Broadcast Services at the State Department requested an interview with State Department Federal Credit Union to discuss basic information about credit cards. Credit cards will soon be introduced in Iraq for the first time. Ali Ahmed, of Al-Iraqiya TV Channel, conducted an interview with Susan King, Community Outreach Coordinator, of State Department Federal Credit Union.



*Susan King with Ali Ahmed*

Some key questions included, credit card security, how to avoid fraud, and how an applicant would qualify. The procedure will be different in Iraq; reputation and banking relationships will be a key factor since they have no credit history.



*Pictured from left to right: Ron Schneeberger, Manager Business Development, State Department Federal Credit Union; Lane Arnoff, Office of Broadcast Services, U.S. Department of State; Ali Ahmed, Reporter, Al-Iraqiya TV Channel; Laura Gavinski, U.S. Department of State; Maria Jimena Acuña, U.S. Department of State; Susan King, Community Outreach Coordinator, State Department Federal Credit Union; Scott Payne, Cameraman.*

Ms. King was able to stress that credit should be used wisely and moderately, keeping balances and payments within budget. The interview was filmed at SDFCU's Arlington Branch and will be aired in Iraq in efforts to educate the people about credit cards. Some additional footage was filmed demonstrating the process of applying for a credit card and using a credit card.

State Department Federal Credit Union serves employees of the State Department worldwide. The Credit Union also serves National Credit Union Administration employees. SDFCU has assets exceeding \$800 million with more than 63,000 members. See our website at [www.sdfcu.org](http://www.sdfcu.org) for more information.

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