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BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC

Form 424B3 October 24, 2001

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 79

Rule 424(b)(3) File No. 333-52902

DATED: October 23, 2001

(To Prospectus dated January 11, 2001, and Prospectus Supplement dated January 11, 2001)

\$9,015,893,162
THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
MEDIUM-TERM NOTES, SERIES B

Principal Amount: \$20,000,000		Floating Rate Notes [x]			Book Entry Notes [x]
Original Issue Date: 10/24/2001		Fixed Rate Notes []			Certificated Notes []
Maturity Date: 10/24/2002		CUSIP#: 073928VN0			
Option to Extend Maturity:		No Yes	o [x] es [] Final Maturity Date:		
Redeemable On	Redemption Price(s)			Repayment Date(s)	Optional Repayment Price(s)
N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A
Applicable Only to Fi		:			
Interest Rate:					
Interest Payment Date	s:				
Applicable Only to Fl					
Interest Rate Basis:			Maximu	m Interest Rate:	N/A
[] Commercial Paper Rate			Minimu	m Interest Rate:	N/A
[] Federal Funds Ef	fective Rate				
[X] Federal Funds Open Rate +			Intere	st Reset Date(s):	Daily ++
[] Treasury Rate			Intere	st Reset Period:	Daily
[] LIBOR Reuters			Intere	st Payment Date(s): *
[] LIBOR Telerate					
[] Prime Rate					

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[] CMT Rate

Index Maturity: N/A

Spread (plus or minus): + 0.18%

- + Rate for Federal Funds as reported on Telerate Page 5 under the heading "Federal Funds/Open".
- ++ Interest Determination Dates are the same Business Day as the Interest Reset Dates.
- * On the 24th of January, April, July and at Maturity.

The distribution of Notes will conform to the requirements set forth in Rule 2720 of the NASD Conduct Rules.