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BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC

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Form 424B3

November 29, 2001

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 83 Rule 424(b)(3) DATED: November 15, 2001 File No. 333-52902 (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: \$50,000,000 Floating Rate Notes [x] Book Entry Notes [x] Original Issue Date: 11/26/2001* Fixed Rate Notes [] Certificated Notes [] CUSIP#: 073928VS9 Maturity Date: 11/24/2003 Option to Extend Maturity: No [x] Yes [] Final Maturity Date: Redeemable On Price(s) Date(s) Price(s)

Optional Optional Repayment Repayment

Repayment Price(s) Date(s) Price(s) N/A N/A N/A N/A Applicable Only to Fixed Rate Notes: ______ Interest Rate: Interest Payment Dates: Applicable Only to Floating Rate Notes: _____ Maximum Interest Rate: N/A Interest Rate Basis: [] Commercial Paper Rate Minimum Interest Rate: N/A [] Federal Funds Effective Rate [] Federal Funds Open Rate Interest Reset Date(s): ** [] Treasury Rate Interest Reset Period: Quarterly [] LIBOR Reuters Interest Payment Date(s): *** [x] LIBOR Telerate [] Prime Rate [] CMT Rate Initial Interest Rate: 2.43% Interest Payment Period: Quarterly Index Maturity: Three Months

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- * With accrued interest from November 23, 2001.
- ** On the 23rd of each November, February, May and August prior to Maturity.
- *** 2/23/02, 5/23/02, 8/23/02, 11/23/02, 2/23/03, 5/23/03, 8/23/03 and 11/24/03

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