
From: Charles S. Bowles Jr. [mailto:cbowles@firstportcity.com]

Sent: Monday, March 09, 2009 4:06 PM

To: Comments

Subject: Assessments, RIN 3064-AD35

Community Banks continue, as many businesses do, to weather the strains brought about by this economy. Community Banks continue to be an exception regarding the lack of public confidence in our national financial sector. We continue to overcome the burdens of financial strains placed on community banks to police against financial terrorist, money laundering, etc. Many of us within the Community Bank family continue to reassure our customers, on a daily basis, our level of confidence in our industry. Community Banks continue to speak favorably about its competitors even though the competition has resulted in narrowing interest rate margins, more expensive deposits and greater operating costs. Community Banks have sacrificed throughout this downturn and series of events and will continue to do so without further burdens to overcome.

Many of those designated as Community Banks did not make a profit in Georgia in 2008 which impacted salaries of employees and shareholder interest. Those that did profit expect, for the most part, to make substantially less in 2009 than they did in 2008. Those that strategically or by accident weathered the opportunity to take on additional risk in order to pursue potentially greater returns, should not bear the burden of those that elected to roll the dice or operate at a risk level many new would not be sustainable. The 10% FDIC assessment could result in too great of a burden for many banks, on the bubble, and could prove too costly for many Community Banks who have elected to maintain and even aggressively pursue core deposits over the past several months to assure adequate liquidity at the encouragement of FDIC.

Charles S. Bowles Jr.

President/CEO

cbowles@firstportcity.com

First Port City Bank

P. O. Box 1070

Bainbridge, GA 39818

229-246-6200