

From: June Burney [mailto:jburney@copiahbank.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2009 1:46 PM
To: 'coments@fdic.gov'
Subject: Special FDIC Assessment

To Whom It May Concern:

It was with great dismay that I read the FDIC's latest communication about imposing a 20-cent special assessment on the community banks. I am an executive officer at Copiah Bank, N.A., a community bank in Hazlehurst, MS. As part of our commitment to our customers and obligation to our stockholders, we have always been conservative and careful in our investments and with our loan portfolio. We have been quite successful in the past in managing our bank's growth and ratios, as well as maintaining a good profit for our stockholders and trusted relationships with our community customers. With the imposition of the new special assessment, our profits are going to be significantly impaired by a burden placed upon us as a result of other institutions with less integrity and self-control.

There have been many seemingly unfair burdens that have been placed upon the banking industry in the past, and but this special assessment ranks as the most ridiculously unfair burden ever placed upon community banks. Those of us who did as we should and maintained our well-being by conservative practices must pay for the "sins" of the big banks which did not adhere to those practices because of greed and incompetence! We may as well put people in jail or impose a fine upon them after they have been robbed, and give the robbers another billion dollars to enable them to continue their illegal practices! This appears to be the very same principle that you have applied to your new special assessment.

We community banks are appalled that we are to be "punished" for doing right and being successful, when those who did wrong are given an ultra-extravagant handout for their failure with the promise of more if needed in the future. Something is idealistically wrong with this kind of thinking, and I, for one, am sorry that we must depend on an FDIC that has perpetuated such an idea and program.

I strongly urge the FDIC's Chairman, Sheila Blair, and its Board of Directors to reconsider the imposition of this special assessment and themselves do that which is fair and right by the community banks in this country.

Respectfully,
June S. Burney
Executive Vice President & COO