

Shaw Clifton  
General

Lawrence Moretz  
Territorial Commander



## **THE SALVATION ARMY**

Founded n 1865 by William and Catherine Booth

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March 23, 2009

Mr. Robert E. Feldman  
Executive Secretary  
Attention: Comments  
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation  
550 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20429

**Re: RIN 3064-AD35; Assessments**

Dear Mr. Feldman:

As a non-profit organization in Massachusetts, I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the FDIC's proposal to impose a special assessment on all banks in Massachusetts.

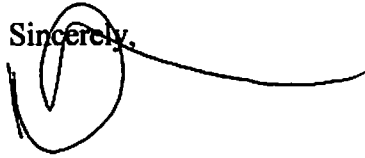
I understand that the Deposit Insurance Fund (DIF) must remain strong and secure during these challenging economic times in order to maintain public confidence in the insurance system. However, the proposal imposes a significant financial burden on my bank at a time when we are already dealing with rising unemployment and a deepening recession. Pentucket Bank plays an important role in our local community, providing a wide variety of community support including volunteers, specific donations and gifts in kind.

Our local bank never made risky loans and has served our community in a responsible way for years. I believe banks like Pentucket are being unfairly penalized by the FDIC's proposal. The high cost of the assessment may reduce their ability to lend and impact charitable giving at a time when many nonprofit institutions and social service agencies are facing decreases in donations and higher demand for services. These actions will have negative consequences to our local communities.

The Salvation Army is a world-wide evangelical Christian church, human service agency and non-profit corporation.

I strongly encourage the FDIC to consider alternatives that may reduce the burden of rebuilding the fund while still ensuring that the FDIC has the resources it needs to address ongoing problems in the system. I am confident that we can ensure that the deposit insurance system remains secure without placing such a large burden on local banks. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed rule.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'R' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Robert Klenk, Major