

March 18, 2009

Dear Congressmen and FDIC,

As chairwomen of the Farmers & Merchants Union Bank, Columbus, Wisconsin, an independent community bank, I have been carefully watching the issue concerning the amount of FDIC assessment and the work of the Independent Community Bankers Association (ICBA) on our behalf.

As a stable community bank, we recognize our need to be in the same bathtub with our “too-big-to-fail” investment bank brothers. We are willing to help them regain their credibility. However, they are not only dirtying the bath water they, also, have pulled the plug and are draining our water (money) down the drain.

As a community bank, we need to maintain our capital and liquidity to make loans to our customers and fill the “bathtub” the next time our big brothers decide to jump into our tub of credibility. Please listen carefully to ICBA concerning FDIC assessments.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

June Waterworth, Chair
Board of Directors
Farmers & Merchants Union Bank