From: Jeff Ellingson [mailto:jeff.e@ssbkenyon.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2009 7:11 PM
To: Comments
Subject: FDIC Assessments

The community bankers were, and still are, paying for the Savings & Loans failures.

The market-to-market is not realistic and needs to be reworked to save the FDIC and tax-payer bailouts. Additional special assessments will only reduce the capital of community banks and are more of a burden on the FDIC Fund.

Spread over time with small increments will accomplish increasing the FDIC Fund with less exposure to community banks by taking profits that could be going to capital.

The high income taxes by Federal and State make it increasingly difficult for community banks to increase capital in order to serve their communities by hiring and making loans.

Our bank did not get bail-outs during the agriculture crises with depressed values from high inflation. We are too small to fail. We've been chartered for 75 years -- paying taxes every year.

Ownership cut their wages during the agriculture crises in order to cover the employee wages. We did not create this poor management for the Savings & Loan failure. Work with us, not against us.

Our bank is the second largest real estate tax payer and the second largest payroll in a community of 1,600. Lastly supporter of the newspaper that would leave a large void in the community if the special assessment and increased fees caused a failure.

Truly,

Bernhard A. Ellingson
Major Shareholder
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