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I have been a community banker for 29 years. I am currently the CFO of a \$170M community bank in central Georgia.

All of the 29 years we have been competing with "Big Banks" with limited resources. We have established ourselves with an excellent reputation of sound and safe banking as well as offering the necessary services that emerging markets require.

Our depositor base in recent years has grown not in spite of "Big Banks", but because of "Big Banks". We have welcomed those depositors in our institution and given them banking services in a prudent manner that they deserve and can stake their financial reputation on.

Now, because of "Big Banks" and "Wall Street" we are being asked to bear a burden we did not create. We in fact stuck to the fundamental, prudent principles it takes to remain safe and sound and therefore have not posed a risk to the FDIC Bank Insurance Fund.

Community Banks are being unfairly penalized! Community Bank Practices as a general rule did not lead to the economic crisis. The community Bank Industry is the bright spot in this current economic storm.

Generous amounts of bail out money have been induced into the banking system, however the vast majority of community banks did not receive any. Our assistance to weather the economic storm should be relief in the form of maintaining reasonable FDIC premiums.

The proposition of rescuing depositors from large failed banks and Wall Street is between those two entities and not the community banking segment.

If the proposed assesment becomes final it will reduce our net income for 2009 by 20% and we are in the healthiest tier of assessment rates! Weaker institutions could be pushed into failure. The premium increase over 2008 is a whopping 350%! Without building capital we are impaired to lend and we will have to consider having our depositors bear some of the burden through reduced deposit rates or other measures.

FDIC and congress should go back to the drawing board on this one. It would be an outrage to allow this to become a final rule.

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