

[VIA EMAIL \(Comments@FDIC.gov\)](mailto:Comments@FDIC.gov)

Robert E. Feldman
Executive Secretary
FDIC
550 – 17th St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20429

Dear Mr. Feldman:

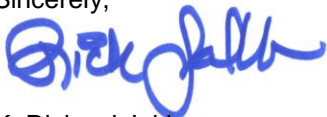
I am writing you as a director of an Illinois community bank. First Community Bank is headquartered in Elgin, IL and is a full-service institution with over \$160,000,000 in assets and two locations serving our local community. First Community Bank budgeted a 110% increase in 2009 over our assessments paid in 2008. With the addition of a 20 basis point special assessment, we estimate our total assessment will now increase 440%.

Most community banks didn't participate in the risky practices that led to the economic crisis, yet we are being penalized by having to pay this onerous special assessment on top of regular assessments. The vast majority of community banks are well-capitalized, with common-sense lenders that have been and want to continue to help in the economic recovery process in cities and towns throughout America. This special assessment will only hinder our ability to do so, causing banks to struggle to conserve capital, while reducing their appetite for lending.

I respectfully request that any assessment be based on total assets, both foreign and domestic, rather than domestic deposits thereby greatly reducing the financial hit to our bank and other community banks and placing the brunt of the burden on TBTF banks. Furthermore, if implemented, the FDIC should reduce the assessment rate to no more than 10 basis points and encourage FASB to allow banks to take the special assessment over a period of four years. We believe these and other alternatives such as the FDIC using its existing and possibly expanded authority to borrow from the Treasury, issue debt instruments to the public or use its authority to borrow from the banking industry, should be thoroughly examined with community bank input.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



K. Richard Jakle
Director
First Community Bank
165 South Randall Road, Elgin IL 60123

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