

**From:** [Tommy Bates](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL MESSAGE] May 22, 2023 - Special Assessments Pursuant to Systemic Risk Determination - Notice of Proposed Rulemaking; Comment Request (RIN 3064-AF93)  
**Date:** Thursday, July 20, 2023 12:28:21 PM

Mr. James P. Sheesley  
Assistant Executive Secretary  
Attention: Comments—RIN 3064-AF93  
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation  
550 17th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20429  
Dear Mr. Sheesley:  
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

July 20, 2023

The purpose of this letter is to provide my response to the FDIC's request for comments on special assessments following the systemic risk determinations announced after the failure of SVP and SBNY. I am contacting the FDIC in my role as President and CEO of Legends Bank in Clarksville, TN. Our bank is approximately \$840 million and serves 4 counties in middle TN with primary locations in Montgomery County, TN. We are a real estate and small business lender in our markets and very active in the markets we serve in support of various non-profits and agencies.

I support the FDIC's decision to exempt community banks with fewer than \$5 billion in assets from paying any special assessment for the large bank failures of SVB and SBNY. As a long time community banker, I appreciate the FDIC's recognizing the difference in systemically significant banks that take large risks and the traditional community bank that primarily serves its local community.

I would encourage the FDIC to finalize its rulemaking as proposed. As a community banker, I understand that deposit insurance assessments are part of our business, however, the distinction given to "systemically significant" institutions warrants a community bank exemption in this particular instance.

Thank you for allowing all banks to comment on this proposal.

Sincerely,  
Thomas Bates, Jr.  
Legends Bank  
President & CEO

