



October 20, 2008

Robert E. Feldman  
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation  
550 17th Street North West  
Washington, DC 20429

Re: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (RIN 3064-AD35)

Dear Mr. Feldman:

2008 OCT 21 P 12:30  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Allegheny Valley Bank of Pittsburgh welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking proposing changes to the FDIC's deposit insurance assessment regulation.

In particular, we would like to respond to the request for comments on whether "deposits received through a network on a reciprocal basis that meet the statutory definition of brokered deposits be excluded from the definition of brokered deposits for purposes of the adjusted brokered deposit ratio or the brokered deposit adjustment?"

We are headquartered in Pittsburgh, PA and we have approximately \$375 million in assets and 8 branches. Our bank has served the people of Pennsylvania for more than 108 years. We offer a full range of products and services, including the Certificate of Deposit Account Registry Service (CDARS), which meets the description of a reciprocal placement service in your proposal.

Because CDARS deposits are stable sources of core funding that do not present the risks and other characteristics of traditional brokered deposits, we strongly believe CDARS Reciprocal deposits should be excluded from the definition of brokered deposit for the purposes of this proposal.

Brokered deposits chase national interest rates, compared to CDARS CDs, where interest rates are set locally. Brokered deposits rarely renew or roll over. CDARS deposits, on the other hand, have extremely high reinvestment rates.

The roll-over rate in traditional CD programs and CDARS is very similar. Our customers do not seek out our bank's CDARS program because we pay the highest interest rates; instead they seek out the program to ensure 100% FDIC Insurance. Our customers take advantage of our CDARS offering because they find it more convenient to maintain a

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single banking relationship with us rather than going to multiple banks only to obtain additional deposit insurance protection.

Since CDARS deposits do not exhibit any of the characteristics of traditional brokered deposits, CDARS deposits should not be treated like brokered deposits for purposes of the proposed assessment regulation. For banks, separately reporting CDARS deposits on the Call Report would be simple. Such reporting could be achieved by simply amending the call report or allowing us to report the figures separately. In addition, we strongly urge the FDIC to support legislation explicitly exempting CDARS Reciprocal deposits from the definition of brokered deposit in the FDI Act definition, which would conclusively settle any uncertainty as to the status of CDARS.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this proposal.

Sincerely,



Andrew W. Hasley

President and CEO

Allegheny Valley Bank of Pittsburgh

cc: Sen. Robert P. Casey

383 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Sen. Arlen Specter

711 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Rep. Michael F. Doyle

401 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515