Austin Bank

October 7, 2009

Communications Division
Comptroller of the Currency
Public Information Room, Mailstop 2-3
Attention: 1557-0081
250 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20219

Herbert J. Messite, Counsel
Attn: Comments, Room F-1052
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
550 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20429

Jennifer J. Johnson, Secretary
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
20th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20551

**Submitted via Email**

**Re: Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; 74 Federal Register 41973; August 19, 2009; Consolidated Reports of Condition and Income OCC: 1557-0081, FRB: 7100-0036, FDIC: 3064-0052**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed amendments to the Consolidated Reports of Condition and Income (Call Report), as issued by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board), and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) (collectively, the "Agencies"). While I generally support the Agencies proposal there are a few items which I believe deserve further consideration.

## I. Clarification of the Instructions for Reporting Unused Commitments

Revising the definition of commitments to issue commitments on include "where the bank has extended terms and the borrower has accepted the offered terms" does not go far enough to address the comments from the proposed 2009 Call Report changes. Community bankers and their clients frequently discuss loan terms and reach verbal agreements for commitments that are never formalized. The definition should include only terms extended and accepted in writing to allow the banks to develop a reliable tracking system for commitments that have not yet been entered into their accounting systems.

## II. Change to Reporting Frequency for Loans to Small Businesses and Small Farms

The agencies have not demonstrated that this additional reporting burden would provide any useful information. The only justification given is that Secretary Geithner asked for it. The schedule does not collect information on the size of the business only the size of the loan. Banks do not gather this information for any other reason than completing this schedule so increasing the reporting frequency would only increase our regulatory burden and would not necessary provide the Secretary with the information he desires.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes. While I agree with most of the proposal I encourage the Agencies to consider these suggestions to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the information without imposing undue regulatory burden on the banking industry.

Sincerely,

Todd A. Burton
Executive Vice President/Controller