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Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2009 11:20 AM
To: Comments
Cc: info@icba.org

March 3, 2009

Ms. Sheila Bair
Chairman
Attention: Comments
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation 550 Seventeenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20429

Re: FIL-12-2009 - March 2, 2009 Deposit Insurance Assessments Final Rule on Assessments; Amended FDIC Restoration Plan; Interim Rule on Emergency Special Assessment
Dear Chairman Bair:

On behalf of Community Banks, I am writing to comment on the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's interim rule regarding deposit insurance assessments, published in the referenced FIL on March 2, 2009. While I appreciate the need to restore the Deposit Insurance Fund, I am very angry about the FDIC's decision to impose a 20 basis point emergency special assessment on all insured depository institutions as of June 30, 2009. Community banks didn't participate in the high-risk practices that led to the current economic crisis. They are being asked to pay for the sins of Wall Street and their regulators. Yes the regulators bear a larger burden in my opinion. They were to watch and discipline Wall Street. They did not. The largest financial institutions were unruly and did not offer an environment where regulators could have possibly understood their business model risks. You and I are both in the business of monitoring risk. I turn down jobs I know I am not qualified to assess. However, your agency did not. In fact your agency approved merger after merger that allowed these banks to grow to the beasts they became. It is a disgrace and the community banking industry must not allow it to continue. Large accounting firms have been broken up for not properly disclosing the risks of their clients. Maybe the FDIC should follow these fellow failed risk managers down the road of extinction.

What did community banks do to deserve this special assessment? They did what the middle class has been doing, they played by the rules and they worked hard and received no government handouts. The Banks like the middle class are getting taken by their leaders and played the fools because each is but a tiny cog in the wheel. The media has portrayed the Bank as the bad guy. Deep pockets often are looked upon as evil. The government has portrayed Middle America as non-patriotic if they do not want to pay more taxes. It is all untrue and a way to pad the government's pockets. The community bank is like every other business or individual in America, including mine, they want to make a profit, create jobs, improve their community, improve their country and improve their families' quality of life.

Have any of the banks that failed in 2008 or 2009 been given a bailout? Have any of the current middle class mortgage holders paying their bills timely been given a bailout? Have small business owners been given a bailout? No!! Why do we bother to teach our children morals and values if government and their pseudo institutions teach that it is okay to be the big kid on the block and to bully or to guilt others to receive the bonus? If

government and their pseudo institutions teach our children it is okay to spend their money irresponsibly before they make dollar one we have effectively taken away our children's incentive to work hard. Therefore we are producing a future lost generation. Our government is not working for the people. It seems to be working against it. Survival of the fittest has been cancelled. The government rewrote the rules to preserve at all cost those who can not stand on their own.

I have often contacted my government representatives on numerous issues and have received standardized replies. I therefore feel I have not had a say in my own future much less my children's' futures. I cannot continue to allow this course of events without standing up. Many others must feel the same. May they band together and have their voices heard.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Sheri L. Knope, CPA, CIA, CFE, CFF
Owner, PKC Consulting LLC