
From: Tom Wittkopf Sr. [mailto:tom@florencestatebank.com]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2009 11:38 AM
To: Comments
Cc: Thomas Wittkopf Jr.; Rochelle Wittkopf; Cindy Steber
Subject: Special Assessment CUT

Your proposal to make a special assessment of 20 cents per hundred on deposits would strike a near "death blow" to many smaller community banks like ours. We are a \$75,000,000.00 bank with deposits of \$55,000,000.00 which would mean you would ask us for a one time premium of \$110,000.00. It would take our bank one year to make up that loss in premium if we were to lay off five employees! This whole bailout and stimulus effort seems to be going completely in the wrong direction.

Margins are already squeezed and your call for a special assessment coupled with higher FDIC insurance premiums, (to follow) will bury us. It may however, lower our income to the extent that President Obama won't have the opportunity to over tax us on the Federal level. It seems as though it's your special assessment or higher Federal Corporate taxes or both. I'm equally sure your examiners will also follow up with an examination that will criticize management for low profitability, a declining capital asset ratio, declining liquidity and asset quality that will net us a low CAMEL rating.

We work hard at managing our bank and taking care of our own loan portfolio, monitoring risk, maintaining a proper ALLL, keeping capital strong, maintaining liquidity and serving our customers. Confiscating our earnings prevents us from doing those things necessary to manage our bank properly.

A. Tom Wittkopf,
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