

From: Richard Manahan
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2009 3:49 PM
To: Comments
Subject: BIF: The problem is...

...we can't understand each other.

We, community bankers, live where the rubber meets the road, where life is not fair, where our work is the lifeblood of our communities. We are real community bankers and based on years of insensitivity to our regulatory burden, including creative regulatory interpretation that goes beyond legislative intent, and the ongoing opportunity for us to pay for the short-term gains and ultimate failure of our competitors, I find it ironic that Chairwoman Bair is sticking to the same tired rhetoric; but thanks for the letter. With politics so inextricably intertwined in the fabric of this current work and the lack of lesson learned from the S & L's, I can only prepare and ultimately budget for more of the same.

Community banks NEED our own regulator and our own BIF. A regulator that will partner and participate with us and respond to the true needs and opportunities of our community based market activities; a regulator that will listen and appreciate us for what we offer and not attribute our "rhetoric" to the uninformed and immaterial. I'm desperate for a regulator that will enable and advocate on behalf of good business judgment and economics principles and not political bartering and posturing.

We now know for certain that "the Emperor has no clothes," so what are we going to do about it. I currently do not have any expectations for what the gov't/regulators will do for us, I don't have any expectations of what the gov't/regulators will do with us, and now I clearly fear what the gov't/regulators will do to us. A sad state for a veteran community banker; but I remain committed to my eternal optimism, optimism, by the way, that you can't have so spend yours wisely.

Sincerely, Rick

Richard V. Manahan Jr., President