**From:** Gary Hedman [mailto:ghedman@southernpd.net]

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 03, 2009 8:23 AM

**To:** Comments **Cc:** tgdowski

**Subject:** Increased FDIC for community banks

I am a director on a small Midwestern community bank. We are far from Wall Street and have not been a part of the sub-prime or other mortgage schemes that have created trouble with our economy and some banking risk. We are struggling in this economy and it hits us at a very bad time. We expanded into other markets with the knowledge that it would take some time to build up a book of business. As such we anticipated losses for a few years, but not having to pay for the sins of others. We are examining every way to trim non interest expense and become profitable. The effect of this increased FDIC tax will mean that several people will loose their jobs. They must be some other way – please re-consider – we simply cannot afford another hit.

Gary Hedman Director Equitable Bank Grand Island Nebraska