

From: George Shirley [mailto:gshirley@cbtgrainger.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2009 11:31 AM
To: Comments
Cc: bridget_baird@coker.senate.gov; Alex N. Dalton; Arlene C. Little; Barbara J. Rimer; Barbara W. Kelley; Betty L. Miller; Bo A. Blanken; Brandi N. Covington; Buz Lacy; Connie Walker; Cristen Cawood; Dale Harris; Darlene Greene; Debbie Combs; Diane Frost; Dixie Nicely; Elizabeth Acuff; George Shirley; James B. Casey; Janet Hayes; Jared Corum; Jennifer Myers; JP Smith; Julie A. Ramsey; Kay Whitt; Kevin Ritter; Kristi Hodge; Krystal Bright; Letitia Beeler; Linda Holt; Lisa Frazier; Lisa Hunley; Mary Jane Dalton; Mechele Winstead; Melissa C. Collins; Melissa Roberts; Neva Collins; Pam Emory; Pam S. Hodge; Pat Gray; Paula Ferrantello; Phyllis Collins; Regan L. Puckett; Sam Heatherly; Sharon Longmire; Sherry M Seratt; Susan S. Monkhouse; Tasha N. Hipsher; Tisha Cameron; Tonya D. Kinser; Veronica Phillips; Wayne Shirley
Subject: Special assessment

Please accept this email as a formal request to reconsider the special assessment being proposed.

To give you some background....

Our Bank would be considered a small town community bank.

Our \$155 million Bank serves a rural County in East TN with a population of app. 24,000 people.

We employee 52 full time employees. Our customers are families, farmers, factory workers, mom & pop businesses, etc.

In other words, we are Main Street America.

To date, our Bank has been held in the highest regard in safety and soundness. Our tier one capital ratio always has been and continues to be above 17%.

We pay our employees fair wages, pay their health insurance, 1/2 of their family's health insurance, contribute to their 401k's, etc.

Up until recently, our Bank has worked along, playing by the rules and providing a good return our shareholders.

I say until recently because of a purchase of FNMA and FHLMC preferred stock.

(I am bringing this up because it was at the urging of some of your field representatives these purchases were made).

Even with these purchases of the preferreds, our capital ratio never dropped below 17%.

It sickens me that once again, we will be penalized for the sins of others. Where were you folks when these "too big to fail" institutions were doing the very things that would caused our doors to have been closed and locked (and rightfully so)?

I believe it to be a sad day in America when the very backbone of the nations economic health, is once again penalized.

I hope you will reconsider your original proposal.

If nothing else please consider tiering the assessment based on risk.

For example, if I apply for car insurance somewhere and I've had five accidents and subsequent claims, shouldn't my premium be higher than someone with a perfect driving record?

It seems that for some reason, our industry and those who regulate it, just don't get it.

I appreciate this opportunity to respond to your proposals.

Sincerely,

George Shirley,
President & CEO
Citizens Bank & Trust Company of Grainger County
P O Box 98
Rutledge, TN 37861
Phone: (865) 828-5237, Fax: (865) 828-4949
Email: gshirley@cbtgrainger.com