OC 12-277

October 15, 2012

The Honorable Marty Gruenberg Acting Chairman Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation 550 17th St., NW Washington, DC 20429

The Honorable Ben Bernanke Chairman The Federal Reserve System 20th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20429

The Honorable Bob Corker 185 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 The Honorable Tom Curry Comptroller Office of the Comptroller of the Currency 250 E St., SW Washington, D.C.

The Honorable Lamar Alexander 455 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Scott DesJarlais United State House of Representatives 413 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515-4204

Dear Acting Chairman Gruenberg, Comptroller Curry, Chairman Bernanke, Senator Alexander, Senator Corker and Congressman DesJarlais:

Lawrenceburg Federal Bank supports your efforts to improve the standards for banking organizations in the United States due to the recent financial crisis. A strong capital base, such as Lawrenceburg Federal Bank has now, is vital to ensuring financial institutions are able to absorb unexpected losses. However, our Bank would like to strongly urge the Agencies, Senators, and Congress to consider the impact that applying standards developed for large, complex institutions will have on the vital role that community banks play in the United States financial system. Management at Lawrenceburg Federal Bank and their staff believes community banks with assets less than \$10 billion should be fully exempted from the Basel III requirements.

As a small community bank, Lawrenceburg Federal Bank provides direct local services and has a stake in the success of our community. Community Banks are an important source of personal and business lending in communities all across the country. Their banking activities are different from the larger institutions in size and scope, and we do not feel that the community banks should be required to adhere to the regimes that are designed to manage larger and more complex risks.

We are concerned that the proposed capital rules could create funding challenges and greatly increase the compliance burden on our bank. These proposed rules may cause Community Banks to change their business plans, thereby reducing lending and economic growth in the community in which we serve. Lawrenceburg Federal Bank feels our time would be better spent focusing on this economic recovery by providing loans and services to qualified individuals instead of focusing on these burdensome regulations.

As you review these proposed rules, we respectfully request that you consider these unintended consequences and their effect on the viability of community banks across the county.

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