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July 20, 2023

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

Re: Comments on proposed special assessments for the DIF

To Whom It May Concern:

I am very pleased that the special assessment has been proposed and that small banks like ours (Bank of Cadiz & Trust Co.) are excluded. Community banks like the Bank of Cadiz & Trust Co. are operated totally differently than the large systemic institutions. Our focus is on small towns and as such we are much more reasonable and pragmatic in our banking approach because we live here. Our customers are our friends and neighbors. The safety of their money is personal and we take it seriously.

We don't have large concentrations of uninsured deposits and we therefore pose very little risk to the DIF. If we were included in a special assessment like the proposed it would have a huge impact on our bank and it would be irresponsible to lump us in with the problems of the larger banks. This would cause us to pass on additional expense to our customers which would be a travesty in the current economic environment. Our profitability is vital to our communities because it enables us to not only provide loans and other services that are much needed, but it also allows us the latitude to make donations of both time and money to the communities that we serve. Levying an assessment on small banks like us would not only be unwarranted but it unfair.

Thank you for this common-sense approach. Communities need small banks because we do focus on individuals and are more interactive than our larger bank counterparts and I appreciate the FDIC recognizing that. I am hopeful that this decision to not involve small banks like ours in this special assessment is implemented and thank you for this opportunity to express my gratification.

Sincerely,

Kevin Atwood President/CEO