

From: Joe Rottinghaus <jrottinghaus@conwaybank.net>
Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 5:14 PM
To: Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL MESSAGE] May 22, 2023 - Special Assessments Pursuant to Systemic Risk Determination - Notice of Proposed Rulemaking; Comment Request (RIN 3064-AF93)

Mr. James P. Sheesley
Assistant Executive Secretary
Attention: Comments—RIN 3064-AF93
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
550 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20429
Dear Mr. Sheesley:

I am writing regarding the FDIC's proposal to exempt community banks under \$5 billion from the special assessment following the systematic risk determinations announced after the failures of SVB and SBNY.

I am President and CEO of Conway Bank from Conway Springs, Kansas. We are a \$104 million community bank with locations in three smaller rural communities as well as a location in Wichita, KS. We are primarily a small business lender providing agricultural loans, real estate and operating loans for our customers. In two of our communities, we are the only financial institution that has a physical location there. In our headquarters community of Conway Springs, KS there is a Wichita based bank has a small branch they acquired through acquisition.

I applaud the FDIC's decision to exempt community banks with fewer than \$5 billion in assets from paying any special assessment for the large bank failures of SVB and SBNY, and I encourage the finalization of the rule as proposed. I support the position that this special assessment should be borne by those types of banking organizations that benefited the most from the FDIC's protection of uninsured depositors at SVB and SBNY.

If my small community bank is forced to cover this, it will most definitely have a negative effect on income and will adversely affect the ability for my bank's continued support in our small communities. It is so important that our customers deposits remain available for us to invest back into the local community. We operate in a conservative manner and do not rely on uninsured deposits in our management of the bank. We should not be responsible for subsidizing outsized risk that the large banks pose to the financial system.

I want to thank FDIC for the opportunity to submit comments on this matter of extreme importance.

Sincerely,
Joseph C. Rottinghaus
President & CEO