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Sent: Monday, January 10, 2005 2:36 PM
To: regs.comments@ots.treas.gov;
Cc: cnycitizenaction@aol.com
Subject: CRA - OTS docket numbers, No. 2004-53 & 2004-54

I am a supporter of businesses giving back to their communities without prejudice.

True capitalism shows us we must do things to help the communities in which we operate. By doing so we only help ensure the continuity of the organizations we manage.

In the credit union movement it is apparent credit unions serve their memberships (whether community, employee groups or associations) and give back to that membership in the form of good deals, education and some credit unions in the form of community action. No financial or other institution should be immune to doing this.

CRA was originally passed to ensure those banks and other financial institutions regulated by the FDIC do not red line and treat all the communities in which they operate fairly. They should be giving back to the communities in which they operate in the form of fair deals, community action and other activities that help ensure their continuity within all environments in which they operate. The problem is, many institutions do not give back on their own. CRA was established to ensure real capitalism is alive in America. While it's too bad we need to do this, it is a must to ensure the general populous thrives along side corporate America.

I support the continuance of the CRA.

Bernard Balsis

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