

March 5, 2009

Mr. Neil M. Barofsky
Office of the Special Inspector General
Troubled Asset Relief Program
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 1064
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Mr. Barofsky:

We are in receipt of your letter dated February 6, 2009 and we offer the following information in response to your inquiry on the use of TARP funds and our compliance with the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act ("EESA") executive compensation requirements.

- 1. (a) On November 21, 2008, First Community Bancshares, Inc. ("FCBI") issued to the U.S. Department of the Treasury (the "Treasury"), in exchange for aggregate consideration of \$41.5 million, a total of 41,500 shares of Fixed Rate Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stocks, Series A under the TARP Capital Purchase Program (the "CPP Financing"). Upon receipt of the TARP funds, we filed notice with the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency ("OCC") requesting its approval for the injection of the proceeds from the CPP Financing, in the form of a mirror preferred stock, into our wholly-owned bank subsidiary, First Community Bank, N. A. ("the Bank"). Funds in the amount of \$40.5 million were injected into the Bank on December 16, 2008, on verbal advice from the OCC, with the actual letter approval issued on January 14, 2009. The injection of the funds into the Bank was and remains intended for use in Bank operations, principally funding lending operations.
- 1. (b) The proceeds received from the CPP Financing were not specifically segregated from other funds at the Bank. As referenced above, \$40.5 million of the proceeds were injected in the Bank to be used in its lending operations, while \$1 million of the proceeds remains at the parent company.
- 1. (c) Upon receipt, the proceeds from the CPP Financing were invested, through the Bank, in overnight, inter-bank Fed Funds to maintain invested status until the funds could be further deployed in our lending activities. The TARP funds were subsequently reinvested in a series of GNMA mortgage pools (Annex A) as short-term investments with sufficient liquidity to allow for future sales as funds are needed to accommodate loan demand. It should be noted that the Bank held a \$488.3 million investment portfolio at the time of the CPP Financing. At that time, the Bank's loan-to-deposit ratio was approximately 85%.

1. (d) The proceeds from the CPP Financing are available for business and consumer lending activities as demand and opportunities are presented. In support of the free flow of business and consumer credit within our markets, we continue marketing our lending services through our Retail and Commercial channels. As discussed in more detail below, from November 21, 2008 (the "CPP Closing Date") to February 18, 2009, the Bank has originated or renewed approximately \$95 million in loans, which is more than double the \$41.5 million in funds received in the CPP Financing. Accordingly, we do not view the Bank as having any "unspent" TARP funds. Following are combined results for our Retail and Commercial Divisions.

Since the CPP Closing Date through February 18, 2009, we have closed/funded 1,320 new loans for a total of \$73.14 million in loans of all types. These loans are detailed by loan type and by region on Annex B.

In addition to new loans detailed above, we have renewed 123 loans totaling \$22.01 million. These loans are detailed by loan type and by our operating division at Annex C. New loans together with renewed loans generated total loan production of \$95.15 million.

Within our Retail Division, and included in the totals above, we have received 1,883 loan applications between the CPP Closing Date and February 18, 2009. Of these, 1,114, or 59.2%, were approved and 976 have been funded for a total of \$28.04 million. Not included in the combined totals above are additional approved and pending retail loans totaling \$11.05 million, as of February 18, 2009. This results in funded and pending loans of \$39.09 million within our Retail Division since the CPP Closing Date.

In addition to closed loans, we are processing a pipeline of commercial, small business and retail loans which are at various stages of credit analysis and underwriting. Many of these loans will be approved for funding and our ability to ultimately close those loans is dependent on acceptance of terms by the borrowers as well as their ability to meet underwriting and closing conditions. At Annex D, we have included our Pipeline Report which details new and renewed loans of \$103.97 million for our combined Commercial, Small Business and Retail Divisions; as of February 19, 2009 for our Retail Division and as of February 20, 2009 for our Commercial and Small Business Divisions. This pipeline consisted of 592 loans with \$44.12 million in new loan requests and \$59.85 million in renewal requests. Our ability to close these loans is subject to completed underwriting, receipt of proper approvals and the acceptance by borrowers of closing conditions. The inclusion of loans within our Pipeline Report is not intended to represent future loan balances, as not all loans will prove creditworthy to the Bank and certain loan proposals will not be accepted by the applicant.

We believe that the foregoing information demonstrates our continuing efforts to provide credit for retail and business purposes. It should be noted that despite our significant daily efforts, we are working against the tide of a contracting economy, weak financial indicators, and many borrowers whose credit capacity has been limited by these economic conditions. Accordingly, there are no assurances that the Bank can continue to

originate loans at the same level as for the period described above. Despite these factors, we are working hard to make credit available to all creditworthy, prospective borrowers, as the development of new credit arrangements and the expansion of our retail, commercial and small business loan portfolios are in our best interests, as a company, as well as those of our local and national economies.

2. In regard to our plans and implementation addressing the executive compensation requirements associated with our participation in the CPP Financing, we have taken the following actions in order to comply with the TARP CPP executive compensation requirements including Section 111(b) of ESSA as in effect on the CPP Closing Date:

Our Senior Executive Officers ("SEOs") executed the required waivers relating to compensation restrictions within Section 111(b) of EESA.

The FCBI Compensation Committee convened on December 3, 2008 and undertook the required review for compensation elements incentivizing our SEOs to take excessive and/or unnecessary risks with respect to our institution. The Committee determined that no compensatory plans or elements of compensation relating to our SEOs involved unnecessary or excessive risk-taking. Accordingly, no repeal or remedial action was or is necessary.

We acknowledge and agree to the deductibility limitation on compensation in excess of \$500,000 for SEO's and have instituted controls and procedures to limit the deduction for such compensation for federal income tax purposes to \$500,000 for each SEO.

Although not required by EESA as in effect on the CPP Closing Date, executive management of FCBI and the Bank has elected to forego any and all cash bonuses which might otherwise be payable to SEOs in respect to the 2008 fiscal and calendar year,

Our SEOs currently have no "golden parachute payment" arrangements as defined under Section 280G of the IRC as amended by EESA Section 111.

We recently amended supplemental executive retirement plans for the SEOs and other officers to provide for a new defined benefit in lieu of the prior "Index Benefit" which was tied to the performance of certain insurance policies on the life of the executive. The amendment also changed the benefit formula to include all years of service. This change resulted in the award of prior service credit for certain SEOs.

FCBI has appointed its Director of Risk Management to serve as Chief TARP Compliance Officer ("CTCO") and the CTCO will provide oversight of the required certification process. The CEO of FCBI is preparing the required certification and the Compensation Committee is preparing for its certification of its reviews of SEO compensatory arrangements in its forthcoming Compensation

Discussion and Analysis in the pending 2009 Proxy Statement for our annual meeting of stockholders.

As you are aware, the recently enacted American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 ("ARRA") significantly amended portions of the EESA as it relates to executive compensation. We are currently evaluating the requirements of the ARRA and how it affects our compensation arrangements. We intend to take such action as is necessary to comply with the new restrictions and limitations on executive compensation as required by EESA, as amended by ARRA.

I trust that the foregoing is complete and useful in satisfying your information request. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you find that you need additional information.

The foregoing information and related Annexes are provided in response to the information request by the Special Inspector General dated February 6, 2009. The undersigned duly authorized senior executive officer of FCBI hereby certifies, to the best of his knowledge and further qualified by the accuracy of information provided to me, the accuracy of the foregoing statements, representations and supporting information.

Sincerely,

John M. Mendez

President & Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: Annex A Short Term Investments

Annex B New Loans November 21, 2008 through February 18, 2009

Annex C Renewed Loans November 21, 2008 through February 18, 2009

Annex D Commercial and Business Loan Pipeline

# First Community Bank, N. A. GNMA Short-Term Investments

Trade <u>Date</u>	<u>Par</u>	Description	Coupon	Price	Yield	<u>Maturity</u>
11/25/08	25,000,000	GNMA II Pool #4310	6.00%	102.0000	5.55%	12/20/38
12/03/08	17,094,874	GNMA II Pool #4156	5.50%	99.9375	5.51%	06/20/38
	\$ 42,094,874					

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	Princeton & Monroe/Summers	ton & ummers	Bluefield	ield	Upshur	hur	Raleigh	lgh	Wyoming/Logan	g/Logan	North	North Carolina	Sout	Southside
BDIC SECMENT	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of	New Loan	Number of
CONSTRUCTION, LAND DEV, VACANT LAND 1 mmercial Loan/Real Estate Seured	97 500				78 970									
mmercial Loan/LOC/Real Estate Secured											\$ 82,610	5		
mmercial Construction	\$ 5,816,000	-					\$ 301,257							
mmercial Loan/Residential Construction/Spec tter of Credit/Real Estate Secured											\$ 629,254	2		
nsumer Loan/Residential Real Estate Secured	\$ 571,839	4	\$ 283,750		\$ 87,138	2			117	***	\$ 578.782	ď		
	\$ 6,535,339	7	\$ 283,750			6	\$ 301,257	-	\$ 8,737	-	-	8	\$	0
FARMLAND 2														
mmercial Loan/Farmland	\$ 1,102,387	10			\$ 158,427	69					\$ 201 868			
nsumer Loan/Farmland		2			П	П						r,		
	\$ 1,240,052	7		0	\$ 314,875	9		0		0	5 549,418	S	5	0
HELOC 3														
3003	\$ 364,484	8	\$ 720,083	9	\$ 789,000	7	\$ 126,500	4			\$ 630,849	œ		
RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE 4, 5														
mmercial Loan/Residential Real Estate Secured/Rental	ы	6	\$ 111,243	2	\$ 131,856			2			\$ 745.920	11		
mmerciai Loan/Residentiai Real Estate Secured/Owner Occo		2 5	П		l'		\$ 290,131		Н		ш	ţ.		
Data section (Contract of the Contract of the	\$ 3,068,058	30	\$ 640,635	14	\$ 1,993,446	32	\$ 230,921	m 10	\$ 806,547	5 5	5 4 980 553	80 60		6
						П	Н		П	2		2		
MULTI FAMILY REAL ESTATE 6														
mmercial Loan/Multi Family			\$ 212,269	-	\$ 50,210	-								
THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O														
mmercial Real Estate Secured	\$ 10,256,380	15	\$ 229,204	ю	\$ 585,605	9	\$ 1,503,179	9			\$ 3,279,068	89		
icultural AGRICULTURAL 15	\$ 25,000	-			\$ 43,603	2					\$ 54,331	2		
COMMERCIAL /INDIGERBLAL NON BE 12 14														
n Real Estate Secured	\$ 1,896,294	40	\$ 3,244,551	8	\$ 1,021,154	80	\$ 1,710,089	12	\$ 110,000	2	\$ 804,335	20		
PARTITION & CONSTITUTION OF														
11		40		32		T				36		30		ŭ
Seeured, Stock	Н		1 1	51	П				П	32		15:		5 m
the Home (with out RE)	1		- 11	22						19		22		63
creational Vehicles		5		400	П	1								÷
e Insurance			Н		Н		Ш	÷	П					
	-	1	1,5	136						98		1		m "
C A A STOCK OF A STOCK		П	1.1		П	Ħ	П	T				Ī		10
OKAND TOTALS	\$ 24,744,934	1	- 1	169	-	7			\$ 1,767,287	102	\$ 12,753,063	146	\$ 64,577	15
CONSUMER & ODH 17-25 secured hSeured, Stock hicle coestional Vehicles E Insurance HI GRAND TOTALS			6,8	32 51 22 2 2 3 3 3 136 136	1 2 2 4 6.0		2 4 6,		8 7,1		25 32 32 19 19 86	27. 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	\$ 215,422 30 \$ 148,089 15 \$ 258,343 15 \$ 15,284 1 \$ 4,814 1 \$ 648,028 75 \$ 5,481,083	\$ 216,422 30 \$ 5 148,059 15 \$ 5 148,059 15 \$ 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5

First Community Bank, N. A. New Loans November 21, 2008 - February 18, 2009

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				November	November 21, 2008 - February 18, 2009	s bruary 18, 20	60							
	Southwest Virginia	t Virginia	Taylor	or	Nicholas	olas	Richmond	puoi	East Tennessee	nessee	South	South Carolina	Totals	s
FDIC SEGMENT	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans
CONSTRUCTION, LAND DEV, VACANT LAND 1 Commercial Loan/Real Estate Secured	\$ 15.625	+					\$ 195.550	3					488 197	F
Commercial Loan/LOC/Real Estate Secured								)						- 0
Land Development/Residential Real Estate							\$ 480,000						\$ 480,000	-
Commercial Loan/Residential Construction/Spec							995 345	6					\$ 6,117,257	0
Letter of Credit/Real Estate Secured	Ш				П			,					J.J.	4 1
Consumer Loan/Residential Real Estate Secured	\$ 420,000	3 5		0	\$ 250,000		\$ 208,250	7	\$ 22,750			0	\$ 2,431,246	33
FARMLAND 2 Commercial Loan/Farmland													\$ 1,552,682	12
Consumer Loan/Farmland			101,18							•				o)
	607'09 €		\$ 101,182		266,01			0		0		0	\$ 2,302,088	21
HELOC3							1 1 1							
HELOC	\$ 370,000	9			\$ 156,000	n	\$ 1,774,250	6	\$ 443,900	2			\$ 5,375,066	26
RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE 4.5 Commercial Loan/Residential Real Estate Secured/Rental	\$ 44,000	1					\$ 1,979,683	6	\$ 88,711	,			\$ 4,214,829	38
Commercial Loan/Residential Real Estate Secured/Owner Occo	Ш			-	11				Н		\$ 635,000			12
Consumer Loan/Residential Keal Estate Secured	\$ 442,354	2	\$ 163,772	D 4	\$ 1,273,364	22	\$ 178,500	- E	\$ 43,429	67 4	\$ 635,000	-	\$ 11,279,641	154
MULTI FAMILY REAL ESTATE 6 Commercial Loan/Mult Family					\$ 350,000	-							\$ 612,479	6
Commercial Real Estate Secured			\$ 350,000	2			\$ 727,882	2	\$ 286,000	2			\$ 17,217,318	44
AGRICULTURAL 15.	\$ 43,878	n			\$ 8,260	-			\$ 7,657	-			\$ 182,729	10
COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL NON RE 12, 14, 16 Non Real Estate Secured	\$ 71,938	4	\$ 171,025	2	\$ 484,322	13	\$ 1,295,973	18	\$ 748,657	16	000'09 \$	-	\$ 11,608,338	147
CONSUMER & ODH 17-25														
11	1.1		\$ 2,600	+		54	\$ 24,100	2		3			М	257
Cash Secured, Stock	\$ 1,035,037	33	\$ 56,060	0 60	\$ 208,544	18	\$ 22.362	2	\$ 14,000				\$ 3,974,794	245
Mobile Home (with/out RE)	1 1		П		\$ 34,349	2			Ш					11
Recreational Venicles Life Insurance	\$ 38,811	69			\$ 11,492	2	\$ 3,689	-					\$ 124,814	15
Нао	\$ 11,182	16	82	- 3	\$ 7.828		П		П	en e				113
	\$ 1,523,652		\$ 72,406	4		011	108'00 €	20	\$ 50,415	8		0	\$ 7,623,031	842
GRAND TOTALS	\$ 2,973,656	144	\$ 878,385	26	\$ 3,190,287	152	\$ 7,136,254	96	\$ 1,741,031	37	\$ 685,000	2	\$ 73,142,259	1320

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				First ( November	First Community Bank, N. A. Renewed Loans November 21, 2008 - February 18, 2009	ank, N. A. ans ruary 18, 20	60							
	Princeton & Monroe/Summers	ton & ummers	Blue	Bluefield	Upshur	hur	Raic	Raleigh	Wyoming/Logan	3/Logan	North Carolina	rolina	Southside	ide
FDIC SEGMENT	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans
CONSTRUCTION, 1AND DEV, VACANT LAND 1 COMMERCIAL LOAD [See Executed] Commercial Loan/LOC/Real Estate Secured	\$ 2,500,000		\$ 76,810	-	\$ 20.568						\$ 268,695	ar e		
Land Development/Residential Real Estate Commercial Loan/Residential Construction/Spec Consumer Loan/Residential Real Estate Secured		2	\$ 76,810	-		1 2		0	\$ 20,995			m		0
FARMIAND 2 Commercial Loan/Farmland	\$ 246,448	-									\$ 563,250	2		
HELOC 3	\$ 125,000	-									\$ 175,000	2		
RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE 4.5 Commercial Loan/Residential Real Estate Secured/Rentul Commercial Loan/Residential Real Estate Secured/Owner Occo Consumer Loan/Residential Real Estate Secured	\$ 328,755	7	\$ 36,023	-	\$ 516,500 \$ 516,500	12		o	\$ 62,308 \$ 62,308		\$ 462,050 \$ 422,338 \$ 884,388	F 1 80		0
MCLTI FAMILY REAL ESTATE 6 Commercial Loan/Multi Family											\$ 1,482,600	2		
COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE 7 Commercial Real Estate Secured	\$ 160,000	-	\$ 300,000	-	\$ 1,500,000	1	\$ 876,391	-			\$ 362,302	4		
AGRICULTURAL 15 Agricultural											\$ 125,000	2		
COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIALNON RE 12, 14, 16  Non Real Estate Secured  Church	\$ 1,295,000	eo eo	\$ 260,000	m m	\$ 490,300	G 6	\$ 275,000	n n		0	\$ 1,868,080	12 12	\$ 100,000	
Consumer & ODH 17-24 Cash Secured, Stock Mobile Home (with/out RE)	\$ 34,554 \$ 34,554			ю	\$ 48,954 \$ 48,954	02 F2		0		0	\$ 10,050			0
GRAND TOTALS	\$ 4,730,195	21	\$ 672,833	9	\$ 2,595,914	23	\$ 1,151,391	4	\$ 83,303	2	\$ 10,030,485	36	\$ 100,000	-

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, e		7		First November	First Community Bank, N. A. Renewed Loans November 21, 2008 - February 18, 2009	3ank, N. A. ians bruary 18, 20	600							
	Southwes	Southwest Virginia	Tay	Taylor	Nich	Nicholas	Richmond	puot	East Ter	East Tennessee	South	South Carolina	Totals	s
FDIC SEGMENT	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans	New Loan Amount	Number of Loans
CONSTRUCTION, LAND DEV, VACANT LAND 1 mmercial Loan/Real Estate Secured							\$ 35,000	1	\$ 23,379	4				4
mmercial Loan/LOC/Real Estate Secured and Development/Residential Real Estate							\$ 764,000						9	(r) +
mmercial Loan/Residential Construction/Spec					\$ 23.741	+		-					\$ 291,120	
		0	•	0		-	\$ 799,000	2	\$ 23,379	-	9	0	80	4 &
FARMLAND 2 mmercial Loan/Farmland									\$ 30,000	-			\$ 839,698	4
TOC HELOC3	\$ 50,000	-					\$ 339,000	8					\$ 689,000	7
RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE 4, 5 nmercial Loan/Residential Real Estate Secured/Rental nmercial Loan/Residential Real Estate Secured/Owner Occp nsumer Loan/Residential Real Estate Secured	\$ 85,000	2 5	\$ 287,088	2.2	\$ 274,577	ıo io	\$ 75,228		·	o	, o	0	\$ 462,050 \$ 75,228 \$ 2,012,589 \$ 2,549,867	39
MULTI FAMILY REAL ESTATE 6 nmercial Loan/Nuth Famity	\$ 125,586	-											\$ 1,608,186	63
COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE 7 nmercial Real Estate Secured							\$ 244,242	-	\$ 4,971	-			\$ 3,447,906	10
AGRICULTURAL 15													\$ 125,000	2
COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL NON RE 12, 14, 16 n Real Estate Secured urch	\$ 100,000			0	\$ 50,000		\$ 29,431	2 2	\$ 104,799	2 4	w	0	\$ 4,472,610 \$ 100,000 \$ 4,572,610	40 41
CONSUMER & ODH 17-24 this Home (with/out RE)	ø	0	s s	0	·	0		0		0	s	0	\$ 10,050 \$ 83,508 \$ 93,558	, M4
GRAND TOTALS	\$ 360,586	9	\$ 287,088	2	\$ 348,318	7	\$ 1,486,901	6	\$ 163,149	7		0	\$ 22,010,163	123

#### PIPELINE REPORT

### Pipeline Report for Credit Administration as of February 20, 2009

	Amount	Number	Ave	rage Loan
New Loans	\$ 22,557,000	9	\$	2,506,333
Renewed Loans	\$ 3,485,394	8	S	435.674
Total	\$ 26,042,394	17	\$	1,531,906

## Pipeline Report for Small Business Lending as of February 20, 2009

	Amount	Number	Average Loan
New Loans	\$ 16,550,119	133	\$
Renewed Loans	\$ 47,451,880	274	\$ 173.182
Total	\$ 64,001,999	407	\$ 157,253

### Pipeline Report for Retail Lending as of February 19, 2009

	Amount	Number		Average Loan
Pending Approvals	\$ 2,878,007	34	\$	84,647
Purchase/Construction	\$ 3,022,393	33	\$	91,588
Approved-Pending Closing	\$ 8,029,458	101	\$	79,500
New Money	\$ 5,021,038		20.000	. 0,000
Total	\$ 13,929,858	168	\$	82,916

TOTAL	OF ALL	PIPELINE	REPORTS	

	Amount	Number	Average Loan
New Loans	\$ 44,128,157		
Renewed Loans	\$ 59,846,094		
Total	\$ 103,974,251	592	\$ 590,691