1810-100 Comment Letter No. 1070

From: <u>kwilliams@bartlettbank.com</u>

To: <u>Director - FASB</u>

Subject: File Reference: No. 1810-100, "Accounting for Financial Instruments and Revisions to the Accounting for

Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities"

**Date:** Friday, September 17, 2010 8:17:50 AM

Kenneth Williams P.O. Box 57 Barlow, OH 45712-0057

September 17, 2010

Russell Golden Technical Director Financial Accounting Standards Board 401 Merritt 7, PO Box 5116 Norwalk, CT 06856-5116

Dear Mr. Golden:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the exposure draft, "Accounting for Financial Instruments and Revisions to the Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities."

As [President/CEO] of The Bartlett Farmers Bank[Bank, a banking institution in [Barlow, Ohio] with \$60,000,000.00] in total assets, I am writing to express my opinions on specific provisions of the exposure draft.

I am strongly opposed to the portion of the proposal that requires all financial instruments - including loans - to be reported at fair value (market value) on the balance sheet.

Our bank does not sell our commercial loans. Basing our balance sheet on fair values leads readers of our financial statements to assume that we will sell the loans, which is not the case.

If there are issues with a borrower's ability to repay a loan, we work through the collection process with the borrower rather than sell the loan.

Marking all loans to market would cause our bank's capital to sway with fluctuations in the markets - even if the entire loan portfolio is performing. Instead of providing better information about our bank's health or its ability to pay dividends, the proposal would mask it.

The costs and resources that we will need to comply with this new requirement would be significant. This will require us to pay consultants and auditors to estimate market value.

Our investors have expressed no interest in receiving this information. We believe our investors would not view these costs, which must come out of bank earnings, as being either reasonable or worthwhile.

For the reasons stated above, our bank respectfully requests that the fair value section of the exposure draft be dropped.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

740 678 2378 President/CEO The Bartlett Farmers Bank