



## IN THE NEWS

### **March 1 is the Deadline to Order CBAI's 50th Anniversary T-Shirt to Support the Foundation Scholarships!**

In honor of CBAI's 50th Anniversary, the Foundation for Community Banking is holding a t-shirt fundraiser! Proceeds from the t-shirt sales benefit the Foundation's scholarship programs. We encourage you to purchase t-shirts for your staff members. They are a great option for dress-down/jean days and are a perfect way to celebrate Community Banking Week/Month in style! The front of the shirt features CBAI's 50th anniversary logo in the upper corner and the back features the 2024 theme for Community Banking Week, "Your Success Is Our Success." T-shirts can be ordered in heather gray and are Softstyle® shirts by Gildan. **ORDERS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2024!** The online store will close on that date. Don't miss the chance to order this one-of-a-kind t-shirt! Join your fellow community bankers by wearing these shirts to increase awareness of our industry brand and to celebrate CBAI's 50th Anniversary!

[Order Now »](#)

### **NEWS FROM THE FRONT**

More than 9,000 bills have been filed for consideration by the Illinois General Assembly this year, many with potential impacts for community bankers. CBAI met with IDFPF to discuss regulatory fees, state CRA rules, examiner quality and staffing, and the new Paid Leave for All law. On the federal side, our advocacy efforts continue on check fraud and closing the industrial loan company loophole. We also look at 10 races of interest ahead of the March 19 primary election.

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### **ICBA, State Groups to FDIC: Withdraw Corporate Governance Proposal**

ICBA and state community banking associations expressed strong opposition to the FDIC's proposed corporate governance and risk management guidelines for covered institutions with \$10 billion or more in assets. In a joint letter to the FDIC, the groups said the proposal applies a much lower asset threshold than Federal Reserve and OCC corporate governance standards, disadvantaging FDIC-supervised institutions. It provides the FDIC full discretion to suddenly apply the same corporate governance standards expected of the nation's largest banks to community banks of any size, without sufficient notice or an implementation period. It is more prescriptive than the Fed and OCC corporate governance rules that apply only to the largest banks, contradicting the FDIC's claims that the proposal is tailored based on size and complexity. The proposal would make attracting directors extremely difficult for community banks, particularly in rural areas. The groups believe it should be substantially modified or withdrawn, with corporate governance and board duties remaining in the hands of chartering authorities.

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### **Entries are Due on March 1 for CBAI's Foundation for Community Banking Essay Contest Scholarship**

Time is running out! The deadline to submit essays is March 1! The CBAI Foundation for Community Banking provides \$21,000 in scholarship funds for top high school seniors statewide via an essay-writing contest. A \$1,000 scholarship can be awarded to a student in 11 of CBAI's 12 groups along with \$500 to a second-place person in each group, which assures geographical uniformity of winners. The statewide winner will win \$1,000 a year for up to four years of higher education. And, as in previous years, the high school of the overall winner will receive \$500. It costs nothing for your bank to be involved and there are "no strings attached"! Through the promotion of the Scholarship Program to the community at large, as well as involvement with students, participating banks have gained a higher profile for their community service efforts. Local high school administrators, teachers and guidance counselors appreciate the scholarship opportunities, as well. It is, however, not necessary to work through your local school(s). Banks can promote the program at large and take the applications and essays directly. Each bank then judges the essays and sends the best to the CBAI Foundation. Your bank can harvest more publicity, better community goodwill, and a higher profile. It also can be applied to your CRA requirement. Contact [Cortni Bartolomucci](#) now to find out how your bank can participate.

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### **Registration is Open for CBAI's Call on Washington!**

Registration is now open for CBAI's 42nd Annual CBAI Call on Washington which will be held on April 28 - May 1, 2024. Please plan to join us for this event to let your voice be heard. Celebrating its 42nd year, CBAI bankers from across Illinois will be traveling to Washington, D.C. to call on their members of Congress and banking regulators to support issues of importance to Illinois community banks.

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### **Durbin Announces Hearing on Credit Card Routing Bill**

Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) announced a hearing on legislation to impose credit card routing restrictions. The Credit Card Competition Act (S. 1838/H.R. 3881), introduced by Durbin and Sen. Roger Marshall (R-Kan.), would allow merchants to process credit card transactions based solely on which network offers them the lowest cost. ICBA has repeatedly said the bill would reduce access to credit, weaken cybersecurity protections, and eliminate funding for popular credit card rewards programs. Durbin said the Senate Judiciary Committee hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, and called on the chief executives of Visa, Mastercard, American Airlines, and United Airlines to testify. Major airlines also oppose the Durbin-Marshall legislation because of its impact on rewards programs.

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### **New Digital Tool Accelerates FedNow Onboarding**

To make onboarding to the FedNow<sup>®</sup> Service as easy and efficient as possible, the Federal Reserve has introduced a new process that streamlines the experience for financial institutions. The process pairs a new digital onboarding tool with a dedicated customer service model and is designed to provide transparency, efficiency and support every step of the way. Developed and launched specifically for the new instant payments infrastructure, the FedNow Service onboarding tool enables adopters to digitally complete and submit forms, build their participant profile, establish and configure connectivity, test their connection, complete certification, and go live.

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### **CBAI's 2024 Annual Compensation Survey Is Available Online!**

Create a culture that inspires engaged and loyal employees! Complete the 2024 Compensation Survey quickly and easily by April 15, 2024, and receive FREE results. (Non-participants pay \$400). Conducted by BalancedComp and sponsored by Risk Strategies| IZALE Financial Group, the compensation survey is now available on CBAI's website!

[Take the Survey »](#)



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### **Request Free Marketing Materials for Community Banking Week in Illinois!**

April 7-13, 2024, is the 34th anniversary of Community Banking Week in Illinois! This year's theme is "Your Success Is Our Success." Celebrate the independent spirit that is the hallmark of locally-run banks. Marketing resources include advertisements, lobby poster, social media graphic, PSAs, new release, radio scripts, letter to the editor, and more! For your FREE digital marketing kit, contact [Cortni](#).

### **Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago Offering Inaugural Holding Company Symposium**

The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago (FRB) is hosting the inaugural Holding Company Symposium on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at the FRB headquarters in Chicago, with a remote option for those unable to attend in person. The conference will consist of presentations on current industry developments and key holding company supervision issues. It provides an opportunity for attendees to have a dialogue on areas of supervisory focus, the banking environment, and regulatory updates.

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### **Nominations are Now Being Accepted for the 2024 FORVIS Award for Excellence and Innovation, Presented by CBAI**

Nominations are being taken for the 2024 Excellence & Innovation FORVIS Award, presented by CBAI and the accounting firm of FORVIS. The purpose of the award is to bring recognition to banks with an outstanding and innovative product/service or program. Your bank does not need to be a FORVIS client to enter. Nominations are due at CBAI headquarters no later than Friday, May 31, 2024. Last year, the winner was Beardstown Savings, s.b. This year, your bank could be the winner! Send us your community bank's innovative programs and unique community service projects. Your extra efforts deserve to be recognized! Nominations can be submitted to [Valerie Johnston](#).

[Learn More About the Award »](#)

[Download a Nomination Form »](#)



**Lending 101**

March 6, 2024  
Chicago Marriott Naperville

March 7, 2024  
CBAI, Springfield



**CDD Spring Meeting**  
March 6, 2024  
Hyatt Hotel, Champaign

**Social Event**  
Men's basketball game  
Illinois vs. Purdue  
March 5, 2024 at State Farm Center

### **Fed's Bowman Urges Fair Rules for Community Banks**

Fairness for community banks often appears to be a non-factor when considering which proposals make the regulatory agenda, Federal Reserve Governor Michelle Bowman said. In public remarks, Bowman said the response to last year's banking stress appears to be cranking the regulatory dial "up to 11." To maintain a framework that is fair for community banks, regulators should focus on effective prioritization of risks, improve transparency and predictability in bank regulations, and tailor rules to reduce the incremental burden on smaller institutions.

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## Barr: No Signs of Liquidity Problems in Banking System

A single bank missing its revenue expectations and increasing its provisioning does not change the fact that the overall banking system is strong, Federal Reserve Vice Chair for Supervision Michael Barr said. Speaking in Washington, Barr said the Fed sees no signs of liquidity problems across the system. He also cited lessons from large bank failures last year, including reducing reliance on uninsured deposits, enhancing access to different sources of liquidity, and being prepared to tap the Fed's discount window.

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## Post Your Job Openings on CBAI's Career Center

Do you have job openings at your bank? CBAI member banks can post classified ads for free on CBAI's Career Center on CBAI's website. If you would like to post in the Career Center, please contact [Valerie Johnston](#).

## What are Bankers' Top Priorities for 2024?

To find out how bankers will confront challenges associated with a changing technology landscape, artificial intelligence (AI), cybersecurity, financial crimes and more, CSI surveyed banking executives from across the nation about their strategies and priorities for 2024. They highlighted the results of this survey in an interactive executive report and dive into the challenges and emerging opportunities in our industry. This article explores the issues bankers selected as most likely to affect the industry in 2024, along with top technology trends.

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## NEWS FROM SERVICES

### Ncontracts: Do You Need to Manage Fourth-Party Risk?

You're a pro at managing third-party risk, but how do you deal with fourth-party risk? Your vendors are likely farming out critical activities to other vendors. It's all a part of ordinary business operations. Just as you want to maximize efficiencies, so do your vendors. However, your vendors' contracts with fourth parties introduce additional operational, financial, cybersecurity, and compliance risks for your financial institution. Financial institutions often wonder how closely they need to monitor fourth-party risk.

What are the regulatory expectations? How far down the ladder does it go? Do you need to evaluate fifth-party and sixth-party vendors? Thankfully, the recent Interagency Guidance on Third-Party Relationships: Risk Management answers the above questions.

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### ICBA & Kasasa Webinar: Thriving in the War for Deposits Webinar

CDs and hot money aren't enough. Learn how to drive real growth at a fraction of the cost. High-yield CDs may bring in deposit dollars, but they also come with a near-unsustainable cost of funds, high attrition, rate shoppers, ongoing liquidity struggles, constant repricing and more. *That's not real growth. That's phantom growth. It's time for a new approach.* Join ICBA and Kasasa for a game-changing webinar to learn how to drive strategically significant core deposits at half the cost by increasing deposits and growing at a lower cost of funds; going to market in a proven way that drives results; and optimizing program performance through regular analysis and consultation. Don't miss the webinar *Thriving in the War for Deposits: How to Drive Strategically Significant Core Deposits at Half the Cost*, on Thursday, February 22, at 2:00 p.m. CST.

[Register Now »](#)



### **CBIS: What Generative AI Means for Cyber Insurance**

Insurance and controls have always gone hand-in-hand in the cyber insurance market, working together to help mitigate and protect against the risks being presented by hackers and other threat actors. For a long time, insurers saw control processes as a necessary requirement for insureds looking to access higher levels of cover, but shifting market dynamics are changing that.

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## **MORE UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

### **CDD Spring Meeting scheduled for March 6 in Champaign**

The CDD Annual Spring Meeting scheduled for March 6, 2024, at the Hyatt Hotel, Champaign, is geared toward honing professional and banking skills. Please encourage your CDD members to register now for these informative, educational sessions, as well as the opportunity to network with other CDD members. It is crucial to select a member of your bank to participate in these leadership training sessions designed for the next generation of community bank presidents. If you do not have an employee involved in CDD, we are offering an opportunity for non-CDD members to come to see what the Spring Meeting and CDD have to offer; therefore, if they join CDD at a rate of \$95 for membership good through June 30, 2025, we are offering a discounted rate of \$275 per person to attend this year's Spring Meeting.

In addition to the educational offerings, for the social event on March 5, CDD members will meet at State Farm Center for an Illinois versus Purdue basketball game at 6 p.m. It is the last home game of the season for the Illini and with both teams nationally ranked, it should be a very competitive contest! CDD members will be seated in the same section. Each ticket is \$30 for CDD members.

[Register Today »](#)

### **Lending 101 Offered in Naperville and Springfield in March**

CBAI is pleased to offer "Lending 101" to be held Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at the Chicago Marriott – Naperville, in Naperville, IL, and Thursday, March 7, 2024, at CBAI Headquarters in Springfield, IL. This one-day program is designed for new lenders, processors, auditors and compliance personnel new to commercial and/or consumer lending. Whether your job is to process the loan, decide the loan, assemble the document package, or review the loan for compliance, the information provided is beneficial to you. As a rookie in the bank lending game, you likely began training on available products, services and programs offered through your institution. In addition to those options, you need to be prepared for the blitz of regulatory lending requirements you are faced with in your field and avoid those costly penalty flags. In this jam-packed seminar, you are provided with a playbook to help you tackle consumer lending compliance and score success for you and your lending team. Dawn Kincaid of Brode Consulting Services, Inc., leads this informative program.

[Register Today »](#)

### **Register Now for CBAI's Commercial Lending Institute in Springfield**

CBAI is pleased to offer the Commercial Lending Institute on March 11 – 13, 2024, at the Crowne Plaza, Springfield. This three-day, mini-institute provides your commercial lenders with a solid foundation for producing and managing a quality loan portfolio. It focuses on analytical tools such as ratio, financial and cash-flow analysis, as well as commercial loan structuring to

enhance repayment capacity. CBAI's Commercial Lending Institute begins with a review of basic skills and knowledge, then builds to the more complex and demanding. The Institute focuses on the whys and hows of the lending function. Lectures, role-play case studies and other teaching methods are utilized to keep learning at its highest. Case studies are used to reinforce learning and represent typical community bank borrowers. All lending cases discussed are gathered from the files of community banks and reflect real loan situations. Please note the focus of this institute is on commercial and industrial lending and NOT on commercial real estate lending transactions. Jeffrey Johnson, Bankers Insight Group, Atlanta, GA, and Jennifer Beals and Wesley Johnson, FORVIS, LLP, Decatur, IL, lead this Institute.

[Register Today »](#)

### 2024 Illinois Harassment Prevention Training Now Available

Community Bankers Association of Illinois is partnering with Jody Holland to offer the "2024 Illinois Harassment and Hostility Prevention Course." This comprehensive program is designed to empower your bank with the knowledge and strategies needed to prevent harassment and hostility in the workplace, ensuring a positive atmosphere for your employees and clients. This course is specifically tailored for Illinois regulations, accessible until December 31, 2024, and reasonably priced to train your entire team. Don't wait!

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## CBAI Educational Calendar

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