

CBAI's Meeting with OCC Comptroller Gould Highlights a Busy Week in D.C.

Despite the government shutdown, CBAI's SVP of Federal Governmental Relations, David Schroeder, had very productive meetings in Washington, D.C., in early October. Schroeder had the pleasure of meeting with the new Comptroller of the Currency, Jonathan Gould, where they discussed community bank issues, challenges and opportunities. Later in the week, Schroeder and CBAI leadership banker, Chris Gavin, president and CEO of Midwest Bank, Monmouth, were invited to attend the day-long Community Bank Conference in Washington, which was hosted by the Federal Reserve Bank. [Read article about the Community Bank Conference.](#) Schroeder also visited many offices in the Illinois congressional delegation.



During the meeting with Comptroller Gould, Schroeder thanked the OCC for regulatory relief measures that were recently announced and its amicus brief opposing Illinois' Interchange Prohibition Act. Schroeder and the Comptroller discussed newly chartered banks and digital assets, particularly stablecoins. Schroeder also took this opportunity to familiarize the Comptroller with the problem of check fraud for community banks, including CBAI's three years of members survey results, and how this problem is being caused in banking by the largest banks (that the OCC is responsible for regulating) for opening fraudulent accounts (many online) and allowing fraudulent checks to be deposited into these accounts (many by remote deposit capture). CBAI continues to urge joint regulator guidance directed at the largest banks (and credit unions) to address their apparent compliance failures for not sufficiently knowing their customers (KYC) to prevent this fraud from occurring, which harms community banks and their customers and undermines the integrity of the nation's banking system.

Schroeder also met with many of the offices of the Illinois congressional delegation (that remained open despite the shutdown) to discuss important issues for Illinois community banks. Topping the agenda for these meetings was a review of the status of community bank legislative priorities as well as changes in banking regulations that have been enacted by new leadership at the Federal Reserve (Miki Bowman is vice chair for supervision), the OCC (Jonathan Gould is the new OCC Comptroller of the Currency), and the FDIC (Travis Hill has been nominated to be its chairman.) [Read ICBA's Advocacy in Action.](#)

CBAI looks forward to working with all of the federal banking regulators and other policymakers to advance the community bank agenda, which supports their serving their many customers and communities.