

With all the news on the financial sector, you may have questions about your credit union.

Here's four key facts:

- 1. Bottom line first: Your deposits are safe, insured to at least \$250,000. Nothing that has taken place has impacted that insurance one bit.**

Our credit union is also federally insured up to \$250,000 by the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund and backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government, just as the FDIC does for bank deposits. No credit union member has ever lost a dime of federally insured funds.

- 2. Credit unions which serve members – like ours - have not been taken into “conservatorship,” the stories you’ve seen recently are about just two *wholesale credit unions*.**

There are thousands of credit unions in the US, and there is a small number (28) of *wholesale institutions* that do not serve consumers; they provide liquidity, investment and payments services to credit unions like ours. It was two of these “corporate” credit unions that were placed into conservatorship, which means they are still operating normally but the U.S. government managing them. You can learn more about these corporate credit unions on the NCUA website: www.ncua.gov

- 3. Credit unions are lending, providing a safe place for saving, and helping our members. In fact, credit unions are actively lending when other financial institutions have cut back.**

Our industry loan growth last year, even amid a recession, increased 8.6% in Texas, suggesting more consumers struggling in today's economy are looking for-and finding-- affordable access to credit at their credit unions. We are continuing to lend actively this year.

- 4. Credit unions where 90 million Americans save and borrow, are well capitalized and strong (nearly 11% capital-to-assets compared to a federal "well capitalized" requirement of 7%).**

Our capital cushion is stronger than you would find at most banks. Even the Wall Street Journal has noted that in today's economy regular credit unions like ours that serve consumers continue to be a safe haven and offer great value. As an industry, our average capital-to-assets ratio is more than 10%. That's considerably higher than the 7% industry standard for being “well capitalized” and higher than the banking industry's average of about 9%. This 10% capital means credit unions are well positioned to absorb the costs of this action by the agency (which intends to charge higher deposit insurance premiums) with minimal outward impact on our members.

For the facts, visit our website: <http://www.CUVoice.com>