

Important Information For Our Friends & Neighbors



***Toby Steivang, Chairman; Bob Klockars,
President & CEO; and Don Buchert,
Vice Chairman***

We have been reading a lot lately about the turmoil in the financial markets especially the banking industry. Every television network has developed and broadcast special features about banks, bank closings and the safety of consumer deposits.

It is indeed a hot topic. But with all of this national news, what does it mean to me and the safety of my accounts at my bank? We obviously cannot speak for any other financial institution, especially the big nationwide banks, but we can reassure our individual and commercial customers that Walworth State Bank has a strong balance sheet, excess capital and exceptional asset quality.

We have never engaged in sub-prime lending nor did we get caught up in the crazy lending practices which have caused so many financial institutions and mortgage lenders their problems today. The Walworth State Bank has been in existence for over 105 years and we have experienced many economic cycles including the depression...we survived and we will survive this economic cycle. So what should you look for when you consider doing business with a financial institution? What are the qualities of a bank that would lead you to believe that they are "safe"?

Here are a few qualities that we are proud of at the Walworth State Bank

- We are a very strongly capitalized bank...most banks have capital of around 6% of their total assets. We have capital in excess of 10% of our total assets.
- We continue to have a strong revenue stream that adds to our strong capital base.
- We have strong reserves to withstand adverse economic conditions.
- We do not make sub-prime loans and have no sub-prime loans in our loan portfolio.
- Our loan underwriting standards have always been & continue to be conservative.
- Every customer deposit account is insured up to \$250,000 through the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.
- We are decades old and we have withstood many economic cycles.
- We have a local management team with years of experience.
- All decisions are made locally and we are committed to serving our primary markets and customers.
- We are locally owned...we have a vested interest in the markets we serve and seeing them safe and sound.
- Due to our local ownership, we are not pressured by national markets.
- You can trust our judgment. We do not lend in any out of state markets that have experienced extreme real estate market volatility.

We want to assure you that we have been here for over 105 years and that we will continue to be your community bank of choice...safe, sound, & strong. We appreciate your confidence, on-going support, and look forward to serving you in the future.



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