



Nothing Is Safer Than Money In The Bank!

Recent headlines have focused on problems in the banking industry generally and – as usual – that’s not the full story. Here’s what you need to know:

1. Deposits in Oklahoma banks are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation up to \$100,000 for individual depositors, and \$250,000 for retirement accounts. *(There are a number of ways to make sure that deposits over \$100,000 are also insured.)*
2. Capital serves as a buffer against any losses a bank may suffer. At the end of the First Quarter of this year, Oklahoma banks held more than **\$5 billion** in capital. That means they’re well-positioned to withstand any downturn in the state’s economy, something that’s not foreseen in any economic forecast for the state. Nationwide total capital for commercial banks stood at nearly **\$1.5 trillion**.
3. Over the past 25 years regulation and supervision of bank operations, and particularly risk management practices, has improved dramatically.
 - a. Federal laws adopted in 1989 and 1991 have worked to strengthen and improve banking regulation across the nation.
 - b. Banks are examined every 12-18 months by regulators for purposes of monitoring risk management practices and financial performance.
 - c. The Oklahoma State Banking Department is one of the premier state banking regulatory agencies in the country. Commissioner Mick Thompson has maintained the Department’s focus on proper risk management systems throughout his sixteen year tenure, and has consistently monitored the activities and condition of more than two-thirds of the state’s banks.

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