Public Deposit Protection Commission 2020 Report

November 1, 2019 - October 31, 2020



Office of the **State Treasurer**

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A report to the Legislature providing an update on recent events, responses and issues related to modernizing and improving the protection of public deposits in the State of Washington

Executive Summary:

Washington law, <u>RCW 43.08.300</u>, requires the state treasurer to report annually to the Legislature on actions taken by the Public Deposit Protection Commission (PDPC) and the treasurer regarding public deposit protection. Reports issued starting in 2009 provide an accounting of the issues and actions taken by the PDPC and the treasurer to protect public deposits. Recent reports are available on the <u>PDPC reports to the Legislature webpage</u>. This 2020 report is an update on events and actions taken since November 2019, when the last report was published.

Washington's public depositaries continue to provide secure banking services for state and local government entities. No financial institutions serving government depositors were closed in 2020. By comparison, 12 banks were closed at the height of the banking crisis in 2010.

One public depositary bank was acquired by another institution and two additional institutions were approved as public depositories in 2020.

As of October 31, 2020 (the most current data available at the time of this report), 60 PDPC banks and 21 PDPC credit unions held nearly \$9.4 billion in public deposits.

Reforms enacted by the 2009 and 2016 Legislatures, signed into law by the governor, overseen by the Public Deposit Protection Commission, and implemented by the state treasurer were highly effective at protecting all public deposits in the State of Washington. These safeguards continue to protect all public deposits.

Summary of Deposits:

As of October 31, 2020, insured deposits in banks represented 4% of \$9.3 billion in total deposits. These public depositaries have pledged additional collateral to protect uninsured public deposits.

To date, 21 credit unions have been approved to accept public deposits. As of October 31, 2020, sixteen of those credit unions held \$81,894,627 in public deposits, which are either insured by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) or secured by collateral.

Total deposits in all public depositaries is approximately \$9.4 billion.

Summary of Closures:

State and federal regulators did not close any Public Depositary Banks or Credit Unions in 2020.

Summary of Mergers and Acquisitions:

One of Washington's Public Depositary Banks was acquired by another institution in 2020. The date of acquisition as well as the individual financial institutions involved is as follows:

6/1/2020: Pacific Premier Bank (Irvine, CA) completed its acquisition of Opus Bank (Irvine, CA)

Summary of Other Changes:

In addition to participant changes through mergers and acquisitions, the following financial institutions were also approved in 2020 to act as public depositaries:

5/27/2020: Pacific Premier Bank (Irvine, CA)

7/27/2020: Seattle Metropolitan Credit Union (Shelton)

Summary of Trustee Changes:

Through October 2020, no new entities were approved to act in the capacity of third-party trustee and perform the function of safekeeping securities pledged by public depositaries intended to protect uninsured public deposits.

Credit Unions:

Effective July 1, 2011, the Legislature allowed state-chartered credit unions to take public deposits. Then in 2012, the Legislature also allowed qualifying federally-chartered credit unions to accept public deposits and increased the deposit limits for all PDPC credit unions from \$100,000 to \$250,000 to match maximum deposit insurance limits provided by the NCUA. In 2018, the Legislature passed Substitute House Bill (SHB) 1209 permitting credit unions to accept public deposits in excess of insured limits from depositors located within a county with a population of three hundred thousand persons or less.

Recovering funds:

On January 16, 2009, the Bank of Clark County failed and more than \$15 million in public funds was temporarily lost due to lack of insurance or sufficient collateral. This temporary loss of public deposits triggered a first-ever assessment on other public depositaries to recover the public funds held by the bank.

The FDIC periodically distributes dividends from the sale of assets related to the Bank of Clark County failure. These funds are returned to the PDPC banks that were assessed to cover the public depositor losses in 2009. To date, the total amount recovered and refunded is \$7,804,599.14 (52% of the original \$15.144 million assessment). The FDIC has not distributed any dividends since 2018.

PDPC Resolutions:

No PDPC Resolutions were adopted through October 2020.

Looking Ahead:

The Office of the State Treasurer continues to work with state and federal regulators to keep up with changing conditions in public depositaries to ensure the safety and soundness of public funds on deposit at banks and credit unions.