

# FDIC News

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Employee Newsletter

APRIL 2021

## **AFDICA HOLDS ITS FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING VIRTUALLY**

By FRED SELBY  
AFDICA President

The Association of FDIC Alumni Inc. (AFDICA) held its fourth annual meeting last November in an unprecedented fashion – virtually! During the pandemic, the virtual format allowed more than 100 members across the country to participate unlike previous years when members would have traveled to attend.

In lieu of the event registration fee, AFDICA requested a voluntary donation from members to Association-supported charities. Members contributed an average of \$35 dollars each, with proceeds going to the following charities: The Army Scholarship Fund, which supports scholarship for members of the military and their families to pursue finance-related degrees; scholarships for teachers to attend the annual JumpStart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy National Education Conference; and Feeding America, a network that works

to advance equitable access to nutritious food for all in partnership with food banks, policymakers, supporters, and communities. AFDICA also supported members by matching donations to local and national charitable organizations.

Chairman Jelena McWilliams addressed attendees, first providing a briefing on the status of the financial services industry and the FDIC's ability to quickly pivot to a virtual work environment with small teams conducting examinations and institution closings. The Chairman also discussed efforts to obtain institution-specific financial data more quickly and the evolving skillsets required in the FDIC workplace today. Generous with her time, the Chairman responded graciously to each question asked by AFDICA members.

During one of several information sessions, Diane Ellis, Director of the Division of Insurance and Research (DIR), and Bret Edwards, Chief Financial Of-



ficer, also provided in-depth targeted briefings for interested members. Diane discussed the state of the economy, the financial services industry, and the condition of the Deposit Insurance Fund. Bret focused his own discussion on the small number of bank failures in the last year and the declining balance of FDIC-held failed bank assets.

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In another session, Doreen Eberley, Director of the Division of Risk Management Supervision (RMS), discussed the Division's success in moving to a virtual work environment while performing institution safety and soundness examinations with limited-to-no on-site presence. Doreen also described current scams and cyberattacks in the banking industry, advising consumers and bankers to stay diligent.

Finally, Mindy West, AFDICA's Vice President of Education, and AFDICA Board Member Scott Taylor discussed the Association's support of FDIC's Money Smart Financial Literacy program. Recent activities included a volunteer-led Money Smart presentation at a detention facility in Virginia, presenta-

tions for audiences of various age groups in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, and more recently, virtual presentations for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and a college in Florida.

I also took the virtual "podium" to discuss recent Association accomplishments, including our charitable contributions, Money Smart training activities, member newsletters, and our vigorous web and social media presence with the AFDICA website and Facebook page. AFDICA membership also grew from 267 in 2019 to 293 in 2020, and Lifetime Memberships increased from 66 to 77. Recently, AFDICA welcomed its 300th active member in 2021 thus far.

In concluding the evening's events, the AFDICA recognized three individuals with the AFDICA Lifelong Achievement Award: Mitchell L. Glassman, Douglas

H. Jones, and Robert W. Mooney. The annual meeting also ended with a Virtual Social Hour, when members had the opportunity to discuss volunteering, returning to work, relaxing and potential travel in 2021.

### **About AFDICA**

AFDICA was founded in 2016 for alumni of the FDIC and Resolution Trust Corporation (RTC) to gather for social events, assist the FDIC in expanding the Money Smart Financial Literacy program, and support a variety of charitable causes. AFDICA members stand ready to assist the Corporation on a voluntary basis in the event of a financial crisis or provide assistance on matters of strategic importance. To learn more about AFDICA, including how to become a member, please the AFDICA website. 🏠

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