

November 2, 2022

Delivered electronically via email to:

Barry Simmons
Chairman
Renaissance Indexes Group
7000 Fonvilla Street Suite # 2310
Houston, Texas 77074

Re: Community Reinvestment ACT (CRA) Public Comment Letters dated August 15, 2022 and August 17, 2022

Dear Mr. Simmons,

Truist Bank acknowledges receipt of your comment letters sent to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). Although your letter dated August 17, 2022 references Frost Bank (please see excerpt below from page 7/14) and the data included in both letters are not specific to Truist bank, we are eager to share how Truist has and continues to support our communities.

"Where the Claim states that **the named Bank** has denied the equal marketing, promotion and making of its lending to the protected class of black Americans in the specified Zip Codes and its lending equals **1.1%** of total lending portfolio to the black American Neighborhoods and that the "peers" lending only equaled **1.0%** of total lending portfolio **Frost Bank** does not get as free pass for "discriminating less" against the protected class of black Americans. In both instances the protected class of black Americans is denied the Equal lending that the law calls for and the lending is marginal by comparison to the Anglo Zip Codes in Houston and in Dallas."

At Truist, we are guided by our purpose to inspire and build better lives and communities. We're proud of our community development efforts, including our "Outstanding" CRA rating covering the period 2017-2019. Our CRA performance rating highlights our commitment to re-invest in our communities through lending, investments and services to help low and moderate-income individuals and communities grow and thrive. This includes a focus on majority minority individuals and communities.

In our CRA Performance Evaluation, the Lending Test performance in the Dallas MD Assessment Area reflected a good responsiveness to the Assessment Area credit needs. Truist demonstrated a significant use of complex investments to support community economic development initiatives in the form of housing and New Market Tax Credits. Truist was also a leader in providing Community Development Services including teammate participation in 247 Community Development Services. Lending in the Houston Assessment Area reflected a good responsiveness to the Assessment Area's credit needs, and a leader in making loans in the Houston Assessment Area. Truist originated 25 Community Development Loans totaling \$129.4 million, and an excellent level of qualified Community Development and Investment grants totaling \$19.1 million. Teammates in the Houston Assessment Area participated in 115 Community Development Services.



As of August 2022 (on a pro-rated basis), Truist has achieved the overall goal for its \$60 billion Community Benefits Plan (CBP). The CBP was developed following six community listening sessions and two public hearings with the benefits from the ongoing advice and accountability of a Community Advisory Board that includes leaders from leading nonprofits, community development financial institutions and community advocates from across the Truist footprint. This is a concrete example of our commitment to supporting investments across the communities we serve. It includes:

- \$31 billion for home purchase mortgage loans to LMI borrowers, LMI geographies, minority borrowers and majority-minority geographies.
- \$7.8 billion for lending to small businesses and to support the growth of small businesses with revenues less than \$1 million.
- \$17.2 billion in Community Development Lending (CDL) to support affordable housing development, small business growth, and lending to nonprofits that support the LMI community.
- \$3.6 billion in Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) Qualified Investments and Philanthropy, of which \$120 million will be designated for CRA-qualified philanthropic giving.

Lastly, we like to highlight another example of how Truist re-invests in our communities as well as the state of Texas. Truist recently made a significant investment in the **People's Fund** which creates economic opportunity and financial stability for underserved people by providing access to capital, education and resources to build healthy small businesses. This includes supporting minority, women and veteran owned small businesses. The PeopleFund's Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) Business Accelerator consists of the creation of capital-oriented cohorts business owners in underserved areas around Texas with the goal of increasing access to capital for this group by improving the credit profile and business acumen of early-stage entrepreneurs.

Thank you for the opportunity to address your concerns and provide more information on how Truist is supporting our communities throughout our footprint. To learn more, we encourage you to visit our website at <a href="https://www.truist.com/">https://www.truist.com/</a>.

Sincerely,

Anthony L. Weekly

Anthony L. Weekly

EVP, Chief CRA Officer

CC:

Sherri W. Brown
Acting Deputy Regional Director
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

### **FDIC**

ATTN: Art Khan /

**RE: Banking Complaints – Truist Bank** 

**August 17, 2022** 

## **Pretexts / Illegal Discrimination**

The **Renaissance Indexes Group** (RIG, Complainant) in work in the cause for the Equal access to capital, lending and banking services for the under-served protected class of black Americans and to correct, fix and end the continuing Bank practices of illegal discrimination and redlining that this class is aggrieved by outlines the pretexts for illegal discrimination and redlining used by the named Banks – **Truist Bank** – and up until now, have been accepted by the regulators.

in continuing Agency sanctioned illegal discrimination and redlining that enables the Banks named in the Complaints to **continue** the practices, actions (and non-actions) and polices that denies the full enjoyment of Equal rights secured under the banking laws to the protected class of black Americans in the black American Neighborhoods in the specified Zip Codes in Houston (and in Dallas).

The RIG has filed several CRA Protest and banking complaints with **the Agencies** – Dallas / Atlanta against Banks in Houston that are engaged in the systemic, pervasive and continuing practices and actions that result in the disparate impact and in the disproportionate discriminate effect on the individuals, businesses and households in the black American Neighborhoods in the specified Zip Codes in Houston and in Dallas.

In the free exercise of its **Due Process Rights** to frame the Complaints the RIG has clearly outlined the specific parties that are aggrieved by the continuing practices and actions by the Banks – the protected class of black Americans in the specified 21 Zip Codes in Houston (and in the specified 26 Zip Codes in Dallas)

It is in these specific Neighborhoods and it is these specific individuals, businesses and households that the defendant Banks named in the RIG Complaints have

--structured its business in such a way as to <u>avoid the credit needs</u> and has placed its Bank branches, bank financed developments and Community Development Loans <u>outside</u> of the specific Neighborhoods and census tracts named in the Complaints

-has denied the **Equal opportunity** to apply for and receive the Equal lending in any of the lending categories – home mortgages, home equity, business, commercial lending and construction loans

--has denied the Equal investments in **advertising**, marketing and promotion of its lending and credit products, in **community outreach** to include the denial of any capitalized CRA Partnerships and capitalized Neighborhood Group Alliances and had denied the Equal **charitable contributions** – underwriting of Charity Galas, sponsorship of Neighborhood Events and taking the lead in any Capital Campaigns for any black American Organization or Non-Profit Corporation.

The RIG is specific in the Complaints in the specific naming of the individuals, businesses and households in the black American Neighborhoods in the specified Zip Codes in Houston (and in Dallas.)

The consistent and continuing denial of Equal Bank branches, bank financed developments and Community Developments Loans by the named Banks to the black American Neighborhoods is verified by the physical addresses of where the Bank branches – brick and mortar free standing edifices, bank financed developments – stores, supermarkets, office towers, apartment complexes, restaurants and luxury mixed use developments are placed and where the above is not placed – that happens to demarcate by racial and Zip Code divisions in Houston (and in Dallas)

The geographical distribution of the named Banks' lending and credit products – in all of the categories - and where the lending is advertised, promoted and made and where the lending is not promoted and not made just happens to demarcate by racial and Zip Code divisions.

The investments in advertising – annual advertising contracts, sizes, amounts and frequency – and in which newspapers and Media outlets placed and not placed, the number of and dollar amounts of the community outreach and in which Neighborhoods the community outreach is placed and not placed and the number and dollar amounts of the Banks charitable contributions to include the underwriting of Capital Charity Events in number and in dollar amounts and where and in which Neighborhoods the charitable contributions are placed and not placed – just happens to demarcate by racial and Zip Code divisions.

Any objective review of the facts clearly manifests that in all of the above banking categories the named Banks have placed the vast majority – if not all – of the Bank

branches, bank financed developments lending, outreach, advertising and charitable contributions **outside** of the black American Neighborhoods

This is not the issue in the RIG Protest Complaints – the issue is how the Banks are allowed to get away with these continuing and repulsive practices with the governmental support of the Agencies – the same "governmental support" denounced and highlighted by Justice Anthony Kennedy I the ruling in TDHCA V ICP, Inc.(2015) that established liability under the Fair Housing Act for any Bank or lender practices and actions that result in the disparate impact on the protected classes – to include the protected class of black Americans

# **Pretexts / Illegal Discrimination**

The RIG has the right to frame the CRA Protest Complaint and the banking complaints (Complaints) filed with the banking regulatory Agencies. The Claimant is entitled to honest investigations pursuant to the Complaints. Up until now the Claimant has been denied these rights by both the Banks named in the Complaints.

The RIG outlines where the named Banks and the Agencies have consistently denied the Claimants' Rights to frame the Complaints. The RCG has filed several complaints with **the Agencies** against Banks in Houston for the systemic, pervasive and continuing practices, and actions (and non-actions) and policies

- --that deny the Equal rights and that deny the full enjoyment of same to the protected class of black Americans in the specified Zip Codes in Houston (and in Dallas)
- --that are in violation of the banking laws, CRA, ECOA, FHA to include the Final Rule, HMDA, Fair Lending Laws, Regulation B, FTC Act-Section # 5, in violation of the Civil Rights Laws Title VIII 1968 Civil Rights Act and of the Constitutional laws Equal protection Clause 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment US Constitution
- -that deny the rights and protections secured under the court holdings that apply to the Complaints proceedings US Supreme Court case **TDHCA V ICP, Inc**. that established liability under the Fair Housing Act for any housing, Bank or lender practices or actions that has the disparate impact on protected classes to include the protected class of black Americans

**US V Hudson City Savings Bank** that expanded the liability under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act for any practice or action that denies the Equal access to capital or that discourages the protected classes from applying for credit transactions – to include the Banks continuing practice of placement of its Bank branches **outside** of the black American Neighborhoods Banks

**US V Midland States Bancorp** the Court ruled that the continuing failure of the Bank to market and to advertise **the full range of all of the Banks' lending and credit products and the banking services** and where the Bank fails to penetrate the market of the protected class of black Americans this continuing practice is in violation of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act and of the Fair Housing Act – to include the Final Rule.

**FHA Final Rule** – the new rule from the Department of Housing / Urban Development that is part of the banking laws and is part of the Banks responsibilities under the **Fair Housing Act** –and that applies to the banking complaint investigation proceedings – the Final Rule shifts the burden of proof to the Banks pursuant to complaints and obliges the named Bank to present the legally sufficient justification to prove that the practices challenged in the Complaints are necessary to achieve one or more of the Banks' legitimate substantial nondiscriminatory interests – and these interests – where legitimate – could not be achieved by another practice that has a less discriminatory effect.

The Claimant has been consistent and clear in the framing of the Complaints filed with the **HUD**– that the parties aggrieved by the practices, actions and policies of the named Banks are the protected class of black Americans in the black American Neighborhoods in the specified Zip Codes in Houston (and in Dallas)

In every single investigation into the RIG Complaints the **banking regulators** have reframed, remade and reconstituted the RIG Complaints to suit its and the named Banks purposes – and has made the Complaint unrecognizable to the Claimant. Beyond this the Agencies have allowed and enabled the named Banks to reframe, remake and to reconstitute the RIG Complaints. This consistent tampering with the Complaints violates the Due Process Rights of the Claimant – to include the right to frame the Complaints

Where the **Illegal Discrimination Claims** IDC) s in the Complaints states and manifests with physical address and geographical dollar amounts reality that the named Banks have placed its Bank branches, bank financed developments and Community Development Loans **outside** of the black American Neighborhoods the IDC – pursuant to the rule of law and to the rights of Claimant these IDCs stand on their own merits and are to be investigated on their own merits

The IDCs are either true or are to be refuted with the Banks physical address and geographical dollar amounts evidence – rather than apply this lawful standard to the investigation the **Agencies** and the Bank places the RIG Complaint on hold with respect to the black American Neighborhoods and scrambles to go find Bank branches, bank

financed developments and CDLs' in other census tracts that are all <u>outside</u> of the black American Neighborhoods

The **Agencies** and the named bank claims that the Bank is to get a free pass on the IDC that denies the Bank branches, bank financed developments and CDLs to **the black American Neighborhoods** in the specified Zip Codes in Houston and in Dallas because the **HUD** and the Bank have made marginal findings of the above

- --in a "minority census tract" that happens to be <u>outside</u> of the black American Neighborhoods
- --in a "majority-minority census tract" that happens to be **outside** of the black American Neighborhoods
- --in a "LMI census tract" that happens to be **<u>outside</u>** of the black American Neighborhoods
- -in a "Hispanic census tract" that happens to be <u>outside</u> of the black American Neighborhoods
- =-in a "high minority census tract" that happens to be **outside** of the black American Neighborhoods

All of the "findings" by the **Agencies** and by the named Banks happen to be <u>outside</u> of the black American Neighborhoods – in some cases 30 miles away from the nearest black American Neighborhoods.

The failings of these marginal findings by the **Agencies** and by the Bank are obvious – the "findings" do not correct, fix or end the practice of illegal discrimination of the above and in fact enables and encourages the named Bank to continue in its unlawful practices and actions that deny the full enjoyment of rights to secured under the CRA, ECOA, FHA – Final Rule, HMDA, Fair Lending Laws, FTC Act- Section # 5, Title VIII – 1968 Civil Rights Act to the protected class of black Americans in Houston and in Dallas.

The **Agencies** - in assisting the Bank in these marginal findings - is allowing the Bank to escape the Claims by marginal "findings" <u>outside</u> of the black American Neighborhoods is providing the named Banks the very kind of "<u>governmental support"</u> denounced as repulsive by Justice Anthony Kennedy in the landmark ruling in **TDHCA V ICP**, **Inc**. that established liability for the very Bank practices outlined in the RCG Complaints.

The "findings" outside of the black American Neighborhoods do not correct, fix or end the injustices perpetrated against the protected class of black Americans inside of the black American Neighborhoods in the specified Zip Codes in Houston (and in Dallas.)

As the black American Neighborhoods are still denied the Bank branches, bank financed developments and Community Development Loans by the Banks named in the Complaints

These are <u>pretexts for illegal discrimination</u> and for continued illegal discrimination perpetrated against and for the continued redlining of the black American Neighborhoods – in the specified Zip Codes.

## **LENDING**

Where the IDC states and manifests that the named Bank has consistently denied the individuals, businesses and households in the underserved black American Neighborhoods the **Equal** marketing, promotion and making of the lending and credit products in all of the lending categories and real estate related transactions – home mortgages, home equity, business, commercial lending, construction loans -pursuant to the rights of the Claimant – the Claim is to be investigated on its own merits

The named bank has either made the lending equally available to the protected class of black Americans – as verified by the geographical dollar amounts – or the Bank has not.

The Banks' argument that the glaring disparities in the numbers, amounts and terms of lending – mortgages, home equity and business – are based on credit scores, debt-to-income ratio and loan to value ratios are not realistic; not true and are pretexts for continued practices of illegal discrimination. Indeed, in the landmark undercover reporting titled "The Color of Money" – Atlanta Journal Constitution – the facts were all too clear: the disparities in credit scores between black Americans and Anglo Americans were nowhere the wide margins claimed by the Banks to justify the denial of lending to black Americans.

Worse than this, the report discovered that even where black Americans had higher incomes, had larger savings and had more collateral compared to Anglo Americans they were still denied the mortgage and business lending. Even in those cases where black American were approved the lending packages were expensive and toxic- this is evidenced even today in the federal court case **City of Miami V Bank of America.** 

Even where black Americans and Anglo Americans have the same "credit marks" and credit scores the former are approved and the latter re denied

Rather than investigate the Claim in accordance with the <u>New Standards</u> – to include the <u>FHA Final Rule</u> – as the law demands – and as the Claimant is entitled to - the **Agencies** reframes, remakes and reconstitutes the Claims to suit the Banks purposes and allows the Bank to "represent" that it has made loans in the "minority census tracts", in "majority-minority census tracts, in "LMI census tracts" in "Hispanic census tracts" and in "high minority census tracts" -

that all happen to be <u>outside</u> of the black American Neighborhoods in the specified Zip Codes in Houston (and in Dallas.) It has degenerated to the point that in the **Bank** Complaints all the Bank was able to escape the **IDC in lending** by stating to the Agencies that the Bank "has made loans near the Zip Codes specified by Mr. Simmons".

This is what we have come to in the relentless pursuit of justice – the Bank named in the Complaint need not make any lending – much less equal lending – **inside** of the black American Neighborhoods and to **the actual protected class of black Americans** – in order to get off on the Claim all the named Bank need do is to "represent" to the Agencies that it has made loans "near the specified Zip Codes of black Americans.

This is a <u>pretext for illegal discrimination</u> with "**governmental support**" – and enables the named banks to continue in its practices, actions (and non-actions) and policies that continue to deny the Equal rights to secure equal credit transactions to the protected class of black Americans in Houston and in Dallas

The **Agencies** has denied the Claimant the right to honest investigations and has consistently refused to investigate the Complaints on their own merits in a claim that the named **"bank outperformed its peers"** – with respect to the IDC.

This "analysis" also fails and continues to deny the protected class of black Americans their equal rights and equal protections under the laws – where the "peers" are also engaged in practices and actions that result in illegal discrimination and that have the disparate impact and disproportionate discriminate effect on the protected class of black Americans.

Where the Claim states that **the named Bank** has denied the equal marketing, promotion and making of its lending to the protected class of black Americans in the specified Zip Codes and its lending equals **1.1%** of total lending portfolio to the black American Neighborhoods and that the "peers" lending only equaled **1.0%** of total lending portfolio Frost Bank does not get as free pass for "discriminating less" against

the protected class of black Americans. In both instances the protected class of black Americans is denied the Equal lending that the law calls for and the lending is marginal by comparison to the Anglo Zip Codes in Houston and in Dallas.

This is a pretext for illegal discrimination that enables the Banks to continue the practices and actions that deny the protected class of black Americans their Equal rights under the law – with the "governmental support" provided by the **Agencies**.

## <u>Advertising</u>

Where the IDC states that the named banks have denied the equal advertising to the black American Media outlets in Houston and in Dallas and that the Banks does not have a single **annual advertising contract** with a single black American Media outlet, that the investments in advertising is **marginal** by comparison to the general and Anglo Media and that the Banks consistently fail to promote all of the lending and credit products – especially in mortgages, home equity and business lending – to the black American Neighborhoods.

This IDC is to be investigated on its own merits and in accordance with the rule of law – to include the **FHA Final Rule**. Instead the **HUD** and the named Banks scramble to go find marginal advertising in a "minority newspaper" in a "Hispanic TV station" and in an LMI census tract" –that all happen to be <u>outside</u> and not part of the black American Media outlets –

In the case of **the above Bank** the black American Media outlets are relegated to 1 or 2 small black and white 1 / 4-page advertisements per month – that does not promote any of the favored lending and credit products that is promoted in the Anglo oriented Media Outlets. The **HUD** accepts these marginal minimums in placement as equal advertising in the black American Media outlets.

This is a <u>pretext for illegal discrimination</u> – as the black American Media outlets are still denied the Equal advertising, marketing and promotion of the lending and credit products – despite the marginal findings outside of the black American Media outlets. This continuing practice and action of Prosperity Bank is violation of the controlling authority of the Court ruling in **US V Midland States Bancorp** 

### **Community Outreach**

The IDC states that the named Banks have denied the Equal investments in community outreach to the black American Neighborhoods in the specified Zip Codes and has failed to establish a <u>single</u> capitalized CRA Partnership, a <u>single</u> Neighborhood Group Alliance. Then named Banks have failed to conduct the equal credit needs assessment,

product development and have failed to inform the residents, businesses and households in the black American Neighborhoods of the availability of credit – pursuant to the rule of law and to its responsibilities under the CRA, ECOA and FHA – to include the Final Rule.

The truth of the IDC in community outreach is borne out by the stark and glaring differences in the dollar amounts invested in and in the number of community development initiatives that the named Banks have denied to the Neighborhoods that happen to demarcate by race and Zip Code divisions – the protected class of black Americans.

**The Banks** have been allowed to get away with this stark and glaring denial of Equal community outreach to the black American Neighborhoods by representing to the **HUD** that it has "implemented plans to help serve the needs of historically underserved neighborhoods focusing on majority-minority census tracts."

These are pretexts for continued illegal discrimination perpetrated against the protected class of black Americans in the specified Zip Codes in Houston (and in Dallas)

Nowhere does the Agency examiners and investigators find and nowhere does the Bank states as fact that it has actually **increased in actual dollar amounts** the lending of the "historically underserved neighborhoods" - and nowhere does the Bank mention anything it has done in the black American Neighborhoods. The Banks "**represented**" that it has implemented plans…" What did the independent Agency investigations find?

What is the timeline on these Bank plans? What is the amount to go to the black American Neighborhoods?

The Banks "represented" that it has strengthened its CRA risks. What did the independent **HUD** investigation find with respect to any capitalized CRA Partnerships and increased lending in the black American Neighborhoods?

The **HUD** claims that the Bank claims that it has developed a "branch strategy to help serve the credit needs of minority neighborhoods. Does the Bank "branch strategy" include the black American Neighborhoods? If so what are the number of the Banks branches found in the actual black American Neighborhoods? What is the number of Bank branches the **Agencies** concluded that are needed to make Equal in the specified Zip Codes of the protected class of black Americans? Of the last several New Bank Branch Applications approved by the Agencies were any inside of the actual black American Neighborhoods in either Houston or in Dallas? If so, how many and where in

the black American Neighborhoods are the **Bank** branches – as in actual physical addresses in the black American Neighborhoods in Houston or in Dallas?

These are **pretexts for illegal discrimination** – where the Banks are enabled and allowed by the **Agencies** to dance around the Illegal Discrimination Claims and to substitute the actual answers to the Claims with "representations", "implemented plans" and "developed branch strategy" – with no specific dollar or investment amounts, with no timelines for execution and with no mention of anything the Banks have done or plans to do in the black American Neighborhoods in Houston nor in Dallas – and worse than this with no independent **Agency** verifications of any of the Bank "representations".

Such are the continuing and tragic supervisory failings and enforcement lapses of the Agencies – made all the more tragic in the **Agency** consistency to protect the named Banks from the deep, wide Color of Money investigation and enforcement actions that the rule of law calls for and that the Claimant is entitled to.

This is the tragic "governmental support" that is part of the historical legacy of institutionalized illegal discrimination – that was highlighted by Justice Anthony Kennedy in the landmark ruling in **TDHCA V ICP**, **Inc.** – that established liability under the Fair Housing Act - for any Bank or lender practice or action that has the disparate impact on the members of a protected classes – in that case and this one – the specific protected class of black Americans.

By these continued applications by the **Agencies** to the RIG Complaints the named Banks will be allowed to continue to deny and be allowed to get by without building a **single** Bank branch, a **single** bank financed development or a **single** Community Development Loan (CDL) in a **single** black American Neighborhood in a **single** specified Zip Code in Houston or in Dallas – **from here until eternity** – as long as the Bank "represents" statements to the Agencies and as long as the Agencies stumbles upon a Bank branch bank financed development or CDL in a "minority census tract" – that is outside of the black American Neighborhoods

The Banks will be able to get by and allowed to continue to deny the Equal lending in all of the lending categories and not make a single increase in lending to a single black American Neighborhood in a single specified Zip Code in Houston or in Dallas – **from here until eternity** – as long as the Bank "represents" that it has intends to "implement vague plans" - and as long as the **Agencies** (or the Banks) stumbles upon marginal lending in a "minority census tract" –or in Zip Codes "near the specified Zip Codes" in the RIG Complaint - that is **outside** of the black American Neighborhoods

The named Banks will be allowed to get by and to continue to deny the Equal advertising, marketing and promotion of lending and credit products to the black American Media – <a href="from here until eternity">from here until eternity</a> - as long as the Bank "represents" that it has plans to increase marketing in minority newspapers and Media – that are all outside of the black American Neighborhoods

to continue to deny the Equal community outreach to include the denial of a single capitalized **CRA Partnership** or a single capitalized **Neighborhoods Group Alliance** – with a single black American Organization nor Non-Profit – <u>from here until eternity</u> – as long as the Bank "represents" that it has outreach – no matter how marginal - to a "minority census tract" that is <u>outside</u> of the black American Neighborhoods in Houston or in Dallas.

to continue to deny the **Equal charitable contributions** – in any amounts to make a material difference in the lives and communities of the protected class of black Americans – **from here until eternity** – as long as the Agencies stumbles upon a charitable contribution in a "minority census tract" that is outside of the black American Neighborhoods in Houston or in Dallas

It is the correction, fixing and ending of the <u>Pretexts of Illegal Discrimination</u> that the named Banks - with the full "governmental support" of the Agencies – have been allowed to "represent" and to continue its practices, actions (and non-actions), policies of illegal discrimination, redlining, disparate impact and disproportionate discriminate effect – in Agency sanctioned violations of the banking laws – CRA, ECOA, FHA – to include the Final Rule, HMDA, Fair Lending Laws, FTC Act- Section 5, of the Civil Rights Laws – Title VIII – 1968 Civil Rights Act and of the Constitutional protections – Equal Protection Clause – 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment – US Constitution

- -that can only be corrected fixed and ended by the robust investigative and enforcement actions of **the FDIC** as the Banks have steadfastly refused and failed to
- -faithfully execute its sworn duties and responsibilities pursuant to the banking laws in the laws' entirety and in the laws full and final perfection
- --the controlling authority of the **US Supreme Court** ruling in TDHCA V ICP, Inc. that established liability under the Fair Housing Act for any lender or Bank practice or action that results in the disparate impact on members of a protected class the class specifically referred to in the TDHCA case and in the RIG Complaints is the protected class of black Americans

- --the controlling authority of the Federal District Court case of **US V Hudson City Savings Bank FSB** that expanded the Bank liability under the ECOA to include Bank practices that deny the Equal access to capital, lending and banking services and that discourages the protected classes from applying for credit specific example referenced is the Bank practice of placing its Bank branches <u>outside</u> of the black American Neighborhoods
- -the controlling authority of the Federal District Court case of **US V Chevy Chase FSB** that established and expanded liability under the ECOA, FHA to include the Final Rule and under Title VIII the 1968 Civil Rights Act -to include practices that avoid doing in the black American Neighborhoods, that denies the Equal opportunity to secure real estate related transactions, business lending and practices that **deny the full enjoyment of Equal rights** secured under the banking laws to the protected class of black Americans
- -the controlling authority of the HUD **Department** Complaint **US V Midland States Bancorp, Inc**. that established and expanded Bank liability under the FHA to include the Final Rule and under the ECOA for Bank practices that designated the assessment service in a discriminatory manner that excludes the black American Neighborhoods, locating the branches and banking services outside of the black American Neighborhoods and failing to Equally market real estate lending to the black American Neighborhoods resulting in a lack of market in the black American Communities in Houston (and in Dallas) The named Banks failure to penetrate the black American markets in and of itself is violation of the FHA and the Final Rule.
- --FHA Final Rule that established liability under the Fair Housing Act for any Bank practice, action, policy, procedure, rule that has the disparate impact on members of a protected class to include the protected class of black Americans and that shifted the burden of proof to the Banks named in the complaint to provide the legally sufficient justification to prove that the practices challenged in the complaint are necessary to achieve one or more of the Banks legitimate substantial nondiscriminatory interests and that these interests where legitimate could not be achieved by another practice with a less discriminatory effect.

The FHA Final Rule is the controlling authority of the US Supreme Court case **TDHCA V ICP, INC.** 

As the <u>FHA Final Rule</u> allows for no exceptions the Banks named in the RIG Complaint either meet the standards in the FHA Final Rule – to include the shift in burden of proof -or the Bank(s) does not. Where the Bank fails to meet his standard the Illegal Discrimination Claims **stands** – and is certified by Agency -------

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The **Renaissance Indexes Group** – pursuant to Constitutional rights to petition for redress of legitimate grievances to correct, fix and end the continuing injustices caused directly by the practices of the above-named Banks –

petitions the **FDIC** – pursuant to its sworn duties - to aggressively execute the **New and Corrected Investigations** -in Houston against the named Banks under the Fair Housing Act – to include the Final Rule, under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act – Effects Test and Community Reinvestment Act and under the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act Title VIII – 1968 Civil Rights Act – against the defendants Banks.

In The Relentless Pursuit of Justice,

Barry Simmons Renaissance Indexes Group - Chairman

(832) 655-1590

**FDIC** 

ATTN: Art Khan /

**Bank Complaints – Truist Bank** 

**RE: Sophisticated Illegal Discrimination** 

August 17, 2022

The **Renaissance Indexes Group** (RIG, Complainant) outlines where the Banks named in the Complaints are engaged in the historical, systemic, pervasive and continuing practices, policies, patterns, actions (and non-actions) that have the disparate impact and the disproportionate discriminate effect on the individuals, businesses, households and Neighborhoods in the specified majority black American Zip Codes in Houston (and in Dallas) – and result in continuing illegal discrimination perpetrated against the protected class of black Americans.

The RIG outlines further where these practices and actions have taken on sophisticated forms that have seemingly left the Agencies behind – in the dust and groping in the dark, as it were - in what are supposed to be – pursuant to sworn duties - independent investigations in the relentless pursuit of justice.

--CRA Assessment Area – the Bank is duty bound to include the entire assessment area and to serve the entire the low income and underserved black American Neighborhoods in the Houston and Dallas MSA. However, in answer to questions from the Agencies based on Claim outlined by the Claimant the Banks claims that it is in compliance with the banking laws and has served the credit needs of the individuals, businesses and Neighborhoods within the Banks' "assessment area". What is conveniently left out of the equation is that the Bank has excluded the majority black American Neighborhoods – for the most part – from its assessment area – and predicated on this exclusion is not bound to serve the excluded Neighborhoods.

The truth of the matter is – this exclusion of the protected class of black Americans is in and of itself violation of the banking laws – to include the CRA. This sophisticated illegal discrimination was highlighted in the critical case of **US V Hudson City Savings Bank FSB (2015).** That the Bank can get away with the exclusion of whole Neighborhoods – on a prohibited basis –while under the "continuing supervision" of the Federal Reserve raises disturbing questions of Agency Supervision and Enforcement duties.

<u>Factoring</u> - This is a business lending service that is important to the thriving of small businesses and the small businesses that receive this service stay in business and expand –whereas the small businesses denied this service may very well go out of business. The named Banks have chosen to deny this important service to the black

American Small Businesses in the Texas markets – and have failed to market this banking service to the black American businesses as well.

<u>Discretionary Accommodations</u> – The discretionary accommodations – banker counseling, waiver of credit marks, overrides, etc. - are critical to the full enjoyment of Equal rights and in a large number of cases makes all of the difference as to whether the consumer loans, lines of credit and other credit is approved – or is not approved. As the discretionary accommodations are all in house and in some cases have to be asked for by the customer the Bank fails to inform or to volunteer this service to the black American clients – and denies their loans under the claim that they did not qualify. The Bank has failed to advertise or to promote a single discretionary accommodation in a single black American Media outlet or to present the discretionary accommodation sat a single Neighborhood Group Events in the majority black American Neighborhoods in Houston (or in Dallas). Yet the same Bank makes this service routinely available for the Anglo customers – in all of the lending and credit categories – its denials to the contrary notwithstanding.

<u>Bank Branches</u> – While the RIG has stated in the Complaints the denial of Equal Bank branches in the majority black American Neighborhoods – the sophisticate illegal discrimination manifests in the Bank policy and practice to <u>favor</u> the Neighborhoods where it has placed its Bank branches – in lending – business, home mortgages, home equity, commercial lending and in construction loans,, bank financed developments, investments, Community Development Loans, advertising and in the larger charity contributions and Charity Gala Events for the Non-Profits that are in the Neighborhoods where the Bank just happen to build its Bank branches – and the Neighborhoods denied the Bank branches are denied all of the above. **US V Chevy Chase FSB** 

Community Development Loans — While the Bank has shown a propensity to make Community Development Loans (CDL)'s in the black American Neighborhoods the CDL are much smaller and are for different purposes — purposes that do not revitalize or stabilize the Neighborhoods and that do not attract the additional investments that e Neighborhood needs to thrive. The Bank is more than willing to provide for the wider array of homeless services, rehab cesspools for the undesirables and for detox sewer holes for the degenerates — the Bank steadfastly refuses to make the CDL's for the gleaming glass and steel Hi Tech Centers — to train coders and programmers, Apprenticeship Facilities to train machinists and electricians and the Neighborhood Centers that facilitate the beautification and public safety that attracts the investments to the Neighborhoods. Yet the same Bank makes these kinds of CDL's outside of the majority black American Neighborhoods in Houston (and in Dallas).

<u>Informational Services The</u> Bank limits the informational services to include the direct mailings and pre-approved credit cards to the households where it happens to have

placed its Bank branches and denies these same services to the Neighborhoods where it has not built its Bank branches – which just happen to be the majority black American

Neighborhoods. The Bank denies this service to the protected class of black Americans – under the guise of "Neighborhood Informational Services".

**LENDING** – As this is the largest and most important banking category – this is where the sophisticated illegal discrimination is **most egregious** – and this where the named Banks are most creative in the denial of Equal Lending.

The black American individuals, businesses, households and Neighborhoods – both inside the specified Zip Codes and outside are denied the Equal marketing of the Banks' lending and credit products, are denied the **Discretionary Accommodations** – banker counseling, waiver of credit marks, overrides, waiver of Fees, deferments on repayments, examinations of nontraditional credit – rental payments, utilities payments and storage Fees payments – to get their loan applications approved – in the same way that the same Bank freely extends the Discretionary Accommodations to the Anglo Applicants and to others.

The black American businesses are denied the working capital loans, are denied the bridge loans and are denied the factoring that the Banks freely extend to others that are similarly situated.

The protected class of black Americans is shut out altogether in the Bank financing of the **Wealth Creating Entities** lending – Stock Brokerage Houses, Trading Companies, Private Equity Groups and Real Estate Investment Trusts – not to mention the Banks' Wealth Management Services.

The grudging pittances that the Bank does approve for the protected class of black Americans come saddled with the following encumbrances: higher interest rates, demands of larger collateral for the loan, on different terms, denial of deferments.

While the Bank is willing to lend the black American consumers \$50,000.00 to buy an expensive vehicle the same Bank refuses to lend the same person the same \$50,000.00 to go into business or to buy a house or for a home equity loan -

The few mortgages extended to the protected class of black Americans are smaller in amount and come with higher interest rates and with fewer options – are denied the same Services-- Skip Payments Privileges, Growing Equity Mortgages, Growing Payment Mortgages, etc. – as extended to the Anglo home buyers.

<u>Bank Financed Developments</u> – The majority black American Neighborhoods are denied the Equal Bank financed developments – stores, hotels, restaurants, supermarkets, apartment complexes, office towers – that the Bank reserves for the second set of Zip Codes in Houston and in Dallas. The Bank financed developments are little more than plywood prefab apartments, donut shops and pawn shops – these

pathetic "developments" hardly attract the same Bank investments that are made in the second sets of Zip Codes in Houston and in Dallas.

<u>Community Outreach</u> the Bank has limited the community outreach in the majority black American Neighborhoods to opening checking accounts. The named Banks have failed to establish a single capitalized **CRA Partnership** or a single capitalized **Neighborhood Group Alliance** and have failed to promote a single **Home Ownership** Seminar in a single black American Neighborhood in Houston.

<u>Charitable Contributions</u> --- The named Banks will limit the charitable contributions to the church donations, homeless shelters and detox sewer holes – but deny the full Capital Campaigns, deny the underwriting of Capital Charity Galas - \$100,000 Wine and Lobster Affairs at top Hotels and deny the full College Scholarships for black American students – for any of the Non-Profits and organizations in Houston or in Dallas.

<u>Advertising / Marketing</u> -- The named Banks have failed to Equally market the lending and credit products to the majority black American Neighborhoods – and have yet to deliver the <u>full annual advertising contracts</u> to a single black American Media Outlet. The few advertisements made do not present the promotions of landing and credit products- are smaller in size, les in frequency and smaller dollar amounts.

<u>Underwriting Policies</u> In the continuing sophisticated forms of illegal discrimination the Bank named in the Complaint denies the Illegal Discrimination Claims in Equal lending – and argues that the lending process is in accordance with the Banks' underwriting guidelines. This does not correct the injustice of denial of Equal lending and does not increase lending to the underserved individuals, businesses, households in the majority black American Neighborhoods in Houston (or in Dallas). The underwriting policies are all" in-house" and are not subject to any objective scrutiny to ensure the loan applications form the black American applicants receive the exact same review and all of the discretionary accommodations that Anglo applicants receive.

<u>Policies, Procedures and Practices</u> the Banks named in the Complaints hide behind this familiar refrain in the Illegal Discrimination Claims that outline the stark and glaring disparities in the numbers, sizes and geographical dollar amounts in all of the banking and lending and categories. The Banks claim that it has policies, procedures and practices in place to prevent illegal discrimination. This does not correct, fix and end the systemic, pervasive and continuing

denial of the full enjoyment of Equal rights secured under the CRA, ECOA, HMDA, FHA – to include the Final Rule, Title VIII – 1968 Civil Rights Act and under the Equal Protection Clause – 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment – US Constitution to the protected class of black Americans in the second set of Zip Codes in Houston and in Dallas.

Indeed, every single Bank has made this claim – to include the Banks caught in the "Color of Money" scandal – Atlanta Constitution Newspaper series - which uncovered

the most egregious kinds of practices of illegal discrimination and redlining perpetrated against the protected class of black Americans. The latest scandal of this sort was discovered in undercover investigation in the 2015 **FHJC V M&T Bank** case – where black Americans were discriminated against in every banking category – especially inhome mortgages and in business lending.

It is the uncovering and correction of these kinds of **Sophisticated Illegal Discrimination** perpetrated daily by the Banks named in the Complaints that the Agencies have failed the RIG –

-and that can only have corrected, ended and fixed by the aggressive and potent enforcement actions by the FDIC

### In The Relentless Pursuit of Justice

### **Barry Simmons**

Chairman / Renaissance Indexes Group

(832) 655-1590



103 Main Street • P.O. Box 361 Columbia, NC 27925 252.796,2781(P) • 252.796.0082(F)

December 5, 2022

Mr. William H. Rodgers Jr., Chairman and CEO Truist Financial Corporation 214 N. Tryon Street Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

Dear Mr. Rodgers:

I am writing this letter based on some recent information I received about Truist Bank Closing in Columbia, N.C. I am concerned that our small rural town (population 848), in just a few months, will possibly be without a bank within our town or in the county. Two years ago, we had two banks and a credit union in our town. In 2021, First National Bank closed its doors. That closing left us with only Truist Bank to serve our town and county. Many of us made arrangements to switch our accounts to Truist in order to support our local bank and have local access to financial services. Now we are told that Truist Bank has plans to leave us. This places our businesses, organizations, and residents in a situation where the nearest bank would be at least 35 miles away. We do have a credit union, but businesses, institutions and organizations as well as many of our residents are excluded from utilizing their services based on current laws, rules and regulations.

I believe it has been at least 100 years since our town and county have been without a local bank. I am concerned about what effect this may have on our local businesses and how it may affect other businesses that might be discouraged from locating here in a town without a local bank. I am concerned about the elderly who may now have to travel 70 miles round-trip to do their banking as well as other citizens unable to access the credit union. It also presents banking roadblocks, complications and challenges to our local businesses and organizations, particularly when it comes to cash deposits.

Unfortunately, almost every decision made in our day and time seems to be dependent on the decided, acceptable profit margin without any consideration as to how it negatively impacts the customer and the local citizenry. The decision to close the Truist Bank here in Columbia, N.C. is a real blow to a rural community already struggling to stay financially viable. Please know that we have always been a determined and resilient community, but these kind of decisions really place us in a very difficult and disadvantaged position.

On behalf of our town and our citizens, I am appealing to you to reconsider the decision to close the Columbia Branch of Truist Bank. I don't have any idea what criteria you have considered in making this decision, but my hope is that we could work together to keep our local bank open! Thank you for your time and consideration in this very important matter.

Sincerely,

James W. Cahoon, Mayor

Town of Columbia, N.C.

cc: Chris Isley, Regional President

Eastern N.C. Division, Truist Financial Corporation

200 Pine Street

Wilson, North Carolina 27893

Dale Folwell, Chairman

N.C. State Banking Commission

4309 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, North Carolina 27699



January 9, 2023

Client Advocacy
P.O. Box 85024
Richmond, VA 23285-5024
Tel 844-4TRUIST

Susan Mitroka
Banking Officer
Client Resolution Senior Specialist

James W. Cahoon, Mayor Town of Columbia, NC P.O. Box 361 Columbia, NC 27925

RE: Branch Closing

Case 12/13/2022-7199234

Dear Mr. Cahoon:

Thanks for sharing your concerns about the plans to close our Columbia branch.

We hear you. And we recognize how unsettling it can be when changes occur to something as familiar as your community bank.

Change is almost never easy. But we're always looking for better ways to deliver our services—including branches and ATMs—to make sure we're meeting our clients' changing needs.

So, know that the decision to close the Columbia branch wasn't taken lightly and was made only after careful study and analysis. Once a decision like this is made, our next priority is to continue to provide our clients with caring client service.

We hope to continue to serve our clients financial needs at the Edenton branch located at 108 Claire Drive in Edenton, NC 27932 or any other convenient Truist location. And now there are more ways than ever to bank with us.

**Digital banking** – You don't need a branch—or even a computer—to do your banking. Learn more at truist.com/digital-banking.

**ATM** – Get cash, make a deposit, or check account balances at any of our convenient locations. Find an ATM or branch at truist.com/locations.

**Phone** – No smart phone? No problem. If you can text, you can bank. Details at truist.com/digital-banking.

Again, please know that we take this process very seriously and have reviewed every option before making the decision. We appreciate the opportunity to respond to your concerns and thank you for sharing your concerns with us.

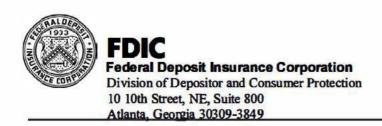
Sincerely, Susan Mitroles

Susan Mitroka

**Banking Officer** 

Client Resolution Senior Specialist / Truist

Client Advocacy PH: 727-939-3915



Atlanta Regional Office 678-916-2200

March 21, 2023

Subject: Truist Bank

Closure of the Polk City Branch Office located at

212 North Commonwealth Avenue, Polk City, Polk County, Florida

Dear Establish

Thank you for your letter indicating your concern about the subject. We appreciate and understand your comments in relation to the closure of the branch and the inconvenience that the closure of the Polk City Branch location will cause. We provide the following information.

The FDIC is not empowered to prohibit the bank from closing the Polk City Branch Office. During the process of informing the FDIC of the proposed office closure, bank management provided valid and justifiable reasons for their decision. Truist Bank offers alternative banking services, including online banking, bill pay, mobile banking, and toll-free 24-hour automated telephone-banking center that may help lessen any inconvenience related to the closing. The online banking services are accessible 24-hours a day, allowing customers to check account balances, transfer money between accounts, make loan payments, and pay bills. We would also provide that there are multiple other banking options located within 12 miles, including Truist Bank Branch Offices, that may be alternatives to provide you with the services you may require.

On March 16, 2023, Review Examiner Tina Brison spoke with a representative of Truist Bank to inform them of your concerns. Bank management was encouraged to communicate with you about banking options and alternative services. We apologize that we could not be of further assistance to you.

Sincerely, Sherri W. Brown Assistant Regional Director Resolve: Contact
Name
Resolve:Title

Have you filed a complaint or contacted another government agency?

No

\*Gov Agency: Agency Name

\*Please describe below the nature of your inquiry or concern.

To Whom It May Concern, On behalf of the businesses and residents of Polk City, Florida, I wish to draw your attention to TRUISTBANK's intention of closing down its local branch here in Polk City. Florida, Polk City, Florida has had a bank in this small town for the past decades, BB & T was the last bank until it was bought over by TRUIST Bank a couple of years ago. After Truist Bank acquired BB & T, Truist has decided to close its branch here in Polk City, Florida. We the businesses and the citizens have made our objection to the bank closure but Truist is bent on closing it down in a couple of weeks. I called the Federal Reserve Bank for assistance and was told FDIC rather has jurisdiction or control over Truist Bank. We are opposed to our local hometown bank from closing down for the following reasons: 1. Job Opportunities: Closure of the bank will impact the jobs of the bank employees who may not be able to transfer to a new location due to distance and lack of job availability at other banks. 2. Economic Support: By keeping your money local, your community bank can distribute more loans to people and businesses in your area thus increasing the economic base of the community. Local banking affords the convenience for every-day transactions and access to loans to support personal or business developments. Decisions with Community in Mind: Local banks have an intimate knowledge of the local economy, citizens, and market conditions. A local bank can bridge connections to support the growth of small business owners and non-profit institutions. 4. Convenience: Local banking affords the convenience of saving time instead of traveling a distance to take care of everyday banking needs. I hope if the Federal Community Reinvestment Act is applicable in our situation, then could you help us from having our only bank in a twenty Five miles radius from closing down. Your utmost attention to his humble request will be very much appreciated. Thank you. Sincerely,

Please be advised that the FDIC may contact your financial institution or company to obtain additional information needed to respond to your inquiry or concern.

#### \*Desired Resolution

What action by the financial institution or company would resolve this matter to your satisfaction? IN SUPPORT OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT, WE THE BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS OF POLK CITY, FLORIDA WOULD LIKE THE FDIC TO STOP TRUIST BANK FROM CLOSING DOWN IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS. CLOSING DOWN THE ONLY BANK IN A TWENTY FIVE MILES RADIUS WILL BRING HARDSHIPS TO OUR ORANGE GROVE FARMERS, CATTLE RANCHERS, BUSINESSES AND THE ORDINARY CITIZENS OF THIS RURAL COMMUNITY. WITH THE HIGH GAS PRICES AND INFLATION, THE ECONOMIC BURDEN ON THE CITITZENS OF THIS TOWN WILL BE UNBEARABLE ESPECIALLY WHEN WE HAVE TO DRIVE 25 MINUTES TO THE NEAREST TOWN. POLK CITY DOES NOT HAVE A TRANSIT OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SO THE PRESENCE OF A LOCAL BANK WAS A TREMENDOUS HELP TO THE INDIGENT AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO COULD WALK TO THE BANK FOR THEIR MONETARY TRANSACTIONS. WE HOPE YOU WILL ACT EXPEDITIOUSLY TO STOP TRUIST BANK FROM CLOSING DOWN. THANK YOU.

★ \*Checking this box authorizes the FDIC to respond to your inquiry

FDIC 6422/11 (06-12)



Client Advocacy
P.O. Box 85024
Richmond, VA 23285-5024
Tel 844-4TRUIST

Nicole Norris Client Resolution Senior Specialist

April 11, 2023



Subject: Polk City Branch Closing Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)



Thank you for your recent letter to the FDIC concerning our plans to close the Polk City Branch. We understand your concerns regarding this situation and recognize any business closing can be an emotional issue for a community.

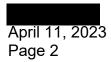
Please know that at Truist we do not take the decision to close a branch lightly. We have implemented a process whereby we continually review and evaluate the viability, convenience and physical conditions, among other factors, of our branches. We do this to ensure all of our branches meet our clients' needs, provide a leading role in the community and maintain responsibility to our shareholders.

One of our foremost concerns is the effect that a branch closing has on the local community. We realize that a bank can serve as a financial center and a community cornerstone. As such, we are very sensitive to the inconvenience and impact on this action, and it is only after extensive analysis we make the difficult decision to close a branch.

Truist has reviewed the business strength of our branch in Polk City. Based on many factors, including client usage patterns, the decision was made to close the branch and consolidate it with our branch located at 212 N. Commonwealth Ave., Polk City, FL 33868.

Based upon our analysis of population and geographic information regarding the location of the Polk City Branch, Truist's Fair Lending Department feels the lending and service needs of the community can still be serviced adequately. Truist's presence in Polk County, consists of 14 branches and 26 ATMs. After the closing, 13 branches and 25 ATMs will remain in the county. In addition to the physical facilities the bank offers, Truist's clients have free access to our Truist Care Center (formerly Phone 24) and Truist Digital Banking. Also, our smartphone clients are able to access their accounts, initiate transfers, pay bills and deposit checks via their mobile device. Finally, the Polk County community has access to 68 other financial institutions within its borders, ensuring all members of the Polk Country community have access to traditional banking solutions. Closing this branch will have a minimal impact on Truist's clients, the surrounding community and our ability to comply with the CRA requirements.

Truist Bank, Member FDIC. © 2022 Truist Financial Corporation. Truist, the Truist logo and Truist Purple are service marks of Truist Financial Corporation.



Truist has 33 branch locations and 58 ATMs within 30 miles of the Polk City Branch. The drive times range from approximately 13.4 minutes to 55.8 minutes. Enclosed please find a map which graphically displays the Truist branches in the area (sourced through Truist.com). Also, Truist is available everywhere, be it online at Truist.com or via the Truist Digital Banking App and by telephone at 1-844-4TRUIST.

, again, please know that we take this process very seriously and reviewed every option before making the difficult decision to close the Polk City Branch. If you have any questions, please call us at 863-984-0287. We will be glad to speak with you.

Sincerely,

Nicole Norris

Client Resolution Senior Specialist

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Consumer Regulatory & Executive Services Team

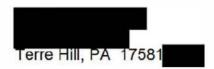
**Enclosures** 



Client Advocacy
P.O. Box 85024
Richmond, VA 23285-5024
Tel 844-4TRUIST

Sarah Dial Client Resolution Specialist

January 18, 2024



Re: Branch Closing

Case 01/16/2024-8742411



Thanks for sharing your concerns about the closing of our Terre Hill - PA branch.

We hear you. And we recognize how unsettling it can be when changes occur to something as familiar as your community bank.

Change is almost never easy. But we're always looking for better ways to deliver our services—including branches and ATMs—to make sure we're meeting our clients' changing needs.

So, know that the decision to close the Terre Hill - PA branch wasn't taken lightly and was made only after careful study and analysis. Once a decision like this is made, our next priority is to continue to provide you with caring client service.

We hope to continue to serve your financial needs at the Blue Ball – PA branch or any other convenient Truist location. And now there are more ways than ever to bank with us.

**Digital banking** – You don't need a branch—or even a computer—to do your banking. Learn more at truist.com/digital-banking.

**ATM** – Get cash, make a deposit, or check account balances at any of our convenient locations. Find an ATM or branch at truist.com/locations.

**Phone** – No smart phone? No problem. If you can text, you can bank. Details at truist.com/digital-banking.

January 17, 2024 Page 2

Again, please know that we take this process very seriously and have reviewed every option before making the decision. We appreciate the opportunity to respond to your concerns and thank you for choosing to bank with Truist.

Sincerely,

Sarah Dial

Sarah Dial Client Resolution Specialist Client Advocacy William Rogers, CEO
Truist Bank Headquarters
214 North Tryon Street
Charlotte, NC 28202

Terre Hill, PA 17581 January 20, 2024

Dear Mr. Rogers,

Included in this packet is the original letter I sent to your organization on Dec. 28, 2023. Your organization did not even have the decency to respond to my letter. How unprofessional is that?

We are shocked by this heartless decision to close our local bank—one of the busiest and most thriving in our area. We also are deeply bothered that the employees at this bank who have served your organization with the utmost excellence and dedication are all losing their jobs. There was an article in our local newspaper on January 19 about your decision to close our bank. I was amazed by the 80 plus on-line comments about this article—which certainly verifies my original comments of this branch being one of the busiest in the county; how the employees of this bank were outstanding and how this drew people to the bank. Nothing was said in the newspaper article about how you abandoned your employees—but it should have been said! This is yet another example of a heartless beaucratic system that does not care about their employees or the people they serve.

I do understand that there is a need for a corporation to make a profit—but why close one of your best-run banks? This makes absolutely no sense. Just because our community is small, does not mean that you were not able to make a profit. Indeed, the reputation of Truist Bank has now become quite tarnished in our area.

Sincerely,

Truist Bank Headquarters

214 North Tryon Street

Charlotte, NC 28202

Original letter I sent,
which received no response

Terre Hill, PA 17581

December 28, 2023

Dear Officials of the Truist Bank:

I am writing to you to express my deepest frustration of your decision to close our beloved Terre Hill bank. What idiot in your organization made such a horrible decision? Did anyone talk to the local people who live and work in this area? If they did, they would find OVERWHELMING support of our local bank. So far, everyone I have heard speak about this issue expressed a deep sadness about this decision. There has been a bank branch in Terre Hill since at least 1954, which is almost 70 years. When your bank company took over the BB & T Bank, I believe you made a promise to us that you would still provide us with excellent service. Why have you broken that promise?

Admittedly, Terre Hill is a small community, but the bank you intend to close is a central hub for our community. Our bank is probably busier than all the other banks in neighboring towns. I have heard several people express that they preferred to come to our local bank because the tellers are friendly and extremely efficient. As customers, we were not just a number, and the tellers all made an effort to know our names, which is incredible in this day and age! In addition to that, many of the customers who come to the bank are Amish or Old Order Mennonites who do not drive cars. Closing this branch would be a serious hardship for them. They do not want to drive to another branch as the traffic is heavy and traveling via horse and buggy or bike would expose them to dangerous, even life-threatening conditions.

My family and I have lived in Terre Hill for over 35 years. The Terre Hill Bank helped us with our mortgage. We had our savings in your bank and have had several CD's and Money Market accounts through the years. We presently have a CD, a Safe Deposit Box, and our checking account. We also opened up savings accounts for all of our four children when they were young.

I am a and I feel it is my duty to represent our citizens faithfully. Please, I beg you, DO NOT CLOSE OUR BELOVED BANK! It would be detrimental to our local community.

For those of us who have safe deposit boxes, your offer of a free one-year box because of the "inconvenience" is pityful and an insult.

I feel betrayed by this action of closing our bank. If I have to transfer accounts to a different bank, I certainly will not transfer my funds to another Truist Bank, and will also encourage all my neighbors and friends to do the same.

I am sorry if this letter sounds so harsh, but I feel this decision you have made is terrible and will not only hurt our community, but also tarnish your reputation and hurt your business. Please reconsider.

Sincerely,

Terre Hill, Pennsylvania

## Horchler, Scott

From: Oparnica, Misty

Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 2:46 PM

To:

Subject: Truist Response

Re: Branch Closure

Case 01/02/2024-8666835

Dear :

Thanks for sharing your concerns about the plans to close our Yemassee South Carolina branch.

We hear you. And we recognize how unsettling it can be when changes occur to something as familiar as your community bank.

Change is almost never easy. But we're always looking for better ways to deliver our services—including branches and ATMs—to make sure we're meeting our clients' changing needs.

So, know that the decision to close the Yemassee branch wasn't taken lightly and was made only after careful study and analysis. Once a decision like this is made, our next priority is to continue to provide you with caring client service.

We hope to continue to serve your financial needs at the Hampton South Carolina branch or any other convenient Truist location. And now there are more ways than ever to bank with us.

**Digital banking** – You don't need a branch—or even a computer—to do your banking. Learn more at truist.com/digital-banking.

**ATM** – Get cash, make a deposit, or check account balances at any of our convenient locations. Find an ATM or branch at truist.com/locations.

**Phone** – No smart phone? No problem. If you can text, you can bank. Details at truist.com/digital-banking.

Again, please know that we take this process very seriously and have reviewed every option before making the decision. We appreciate the opportunity to respond to your concerns and thank you for choosing to bank with Truist.

Sincerely,

Misty Oparnica Assistant Vice President Client Resolution Senior Specialist



### **Horchler, Scott**

From:

Sent: Friday, December 29, 2023 4:42 PM

To:

**Subject:** Fw: Complaint-29945 Truist Closure

Sent with Proton Mail secure email.

----- Forwarded Message ------

From:

Date: On Thursday, December 28th, 2023 at 8:50 PM

Subject: Complaint-29945 Truist Closure

To: publicaffairs3@occ.treas.gov < publicaffairs3@occ.treas.gov >

28 December 2023

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency Administrator of National Banks Washington, DC 20219

Subject: Concerns Regarding the Closure of Truist Bank Branch in Yemassee, SC

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my deep concerns and to seek your intervention regarding the impending closure of the Truist Bank branch located in Yemassee, SC, Hampton County, scheduled for March 2024. This decision poses a significant threat to our community's well-being, especially considering the lack of banking services within a 40-mile radius.

The closure of this branch will disproportionately affect our local businesses and residents, many of whom rely on the convenience and accessibility of a nearby banking institution. The absence of a bank within a reasonable distance compels our community members to either utilize costly alternatives such as check-cashing services at local stores and expensive ATM machines or to undertake a time-consuming and burdensome journey to access banking services.

Furthermore, I believe that the decision to close this branch is not solely based on the purported lack of foot traffic. The operating hours of the bank, restricted to 9 AM to 2 PM, have been a significant impediment for many working individuals who find it challenging to visit the bank during these hours. This limitation seems to contravene the spirit of the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA), which aims to ensure that financial institutions meet the needs of all segments of their communities, including low- and moderate-income neighborhoods.

I am concerned that this closure could be seen as a deliberate strategy to disenfranchise a segment of the population that is already underserved by the banking sector. It appears to be an engineered closure aimed at withdrawing banking services from a community that most needs them.

In light of these concerns, I respectfully request that your office thoroughly review this decision under the provisions of the Community Reinvestment Act. It is imperative that Truist Bank be held accountable to its obligations under the CRA, ensuring that its actions do not unjustly harm the community it is supposed to serve. The people of Yemassee, SC, and the surrounding areas deserve a banking partner that acts as a true neighbor, committed to their financial well-being and accessibility to essential banking services.

Based upon the impact this closure will have on our community, I am seeking to have a full audit report on the banks compliance in the local MSA with an examination its HMDA compliance. A local community meeting is also requested as per Title 12, CFR, National Banking Act guidelines.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that your office will take the necessary steps to review this situation and advocate on behalf of our community.

Sincerely,

Sent with Proton Mail secure email.

#### February 20, 2024

5 5	
McConnelsburg, PA	17233

Re: Branch Closing

01/18/2024-8755617

Door	٠
Deal	3

I appreciate you reaching out to share you concerns regarding the pending closure of our McConnellsburg branch. Please know that the decision to close any branch is not taken lightly and is preceded by a thorough review.

Care is in our nature, and it's at the core of what we do at Truist. Once a decision like this is made, our next priority is to continue to provide our clients with caring client service. We are reviewing to determine what we can do to continue support this community.

Again, please know that we take this process very seriously and have reviewed every option before making the decision. Your comments are very important to us and were shared with our senior leaders.

We appreciate the opportunity to respond to your concerns and	thank you for choosing
to bank with Truist. Please reach out to me directly at	or
if you wish to discuss this further.	
The state of the s	

Sincerely,

Travis M. Rhodes
Executive Vice President
Regional President, Pennsylvania/New Jersey

McConnellsburg, PA 17233

1/7/24

Mr. William Rogers Chairman and CEO Truist Financial Corporation 214 N. Tyron Street Charlotte, NC 28202

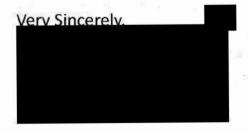
Dear Sir:

Nearly all my life I was a customer of the hometown bank that evolved into Truist Bank. When it was the First National Bank of McConnellsburg, the bank and its staff were deeply involved in the community...belonging to local organizations, participating in parades and festivals, donating to community causes. It was the heart of the community.

With each merger (or takeover as I see it), the bank lost more and more of its connection to the community. It became a shell of what it had once been. In the process people lost jobs, community organizations lost support, and the town lost its heart. All in the name of "bigger is better." I know this doesn't mean anything to the folks at headquarters, but the loss to the community was devastating. And this is happening all over the country as big banks assert their financial clout.

For our town the damage is done. However, I propose a gesture by you that at least will acknowledge the negative effect big banks have inflicted on our town by taking over and then leaving. I call it severance pay. I have enclosed a list of community organizations that will never again benefit from donations or human expertise with the bank gone. I propose that before you "bank" your savings by abandoning our community you make a significant donation to each of these entities.

We'll see if this letter gets any response. I expect not, but I feel better having written it.



cc. B. Cummins, A. Weekly

# Just a few McConnellsburg Area Organizations That Benefited from our Community Banks over the years:

Fulton County Historical Society PO Box 115 McConnellsburg, PA 17233

McConnellsburg Lions Club PO Box 21 McConnellsburg, PA 17233

Fulton County Food Basket PO Box 512 McConnellsburg, PA 17233

Main Street McConnellsburg % Kelly Sheeder 415 Fulton Drive McConnellsburg, PA 17233

Fulton County Library 227 North First Street McConnellsburg, PA 17233

Forbes Road Lions Club 5871 N. Hess Road Waterfall, PA 16689

McConnellsburg Vol. Fire Company 112 East Maple Street McConnellsburg, PA 17233

Needmore Vol. Fire Company 8328 Great Cove Road Needmore, PA 17238

Hustontown Vol. Fire Company PO Box 537 Hustontown, PA 17229 Love's Closet 216 North Second Street McConnellsburg, PA 17233

Fulton County Arts Council 227 North first Street McConnellsburg, PA 17233

Grease, Steam and Rust Association POP Box 29 McConnellsburg, PA 17233

Fulton County Fair Association PO Box 246 888 Lincoln Way East McConnellsburg, PA 17233

I would be glad to answer any questions about these organizations.



Crystal Morris Client Resolution Specialist

March 7, 2024



Re: Branch Closing

Case 02/26/2024-8964559



We have received and reviewed your correspondence to Mr. William H. Rogers, Jr., regarding the closing of our Terre Hill Branch.

We hear you. And we recognize how unsettling it can be when changes occur to something as familiar as your community bank.

Change is almost never easy. But we're always looking for better ways to deliver our services—including branches and ATMs—to make sure we're meeting our clients' changing needs.

So, know that the decision to close the Terre Hill Branch wasn't taken lightly and was made only after careful study and analysis. Once a decision like this is made, our next priority is to continue to provide you with caring client service.

We hope to continue to serve your financial needs at the Blue Ball Branch or any other convenient Truist location. And now there are more ways than ever to bank with us.

**Digital banking** – You don't need a branch—or even a computer—to do your banking. Learn more at truist.com/digital-banking.

**ATM** – Get cash, make a deposit, or check account balances at any of our convenient locations. Find an ATM or branch at truist.com/locations.

**Phone** – No smart phone? No problem. If you can text, you can bank. Details at truist.com/digital-banking.

March 7, 2024 Page 2

Again, please know that we take this process very seriously and have reviewed every option before making the decision. We appreciate the opportunity to respond to your concerns and thank you for choosing to bank with Truist.

Sincerely,

Crystal Morris

Crystal Morris Client Resolution Specialist Consumer Regulatory & Executive Services Team Mr. William Rogers,
Greetings from Terre Hill, PA.

you're Recent armouncement to ClOSE Truist
bank in our town was a shock + sadness.
Seems so un nessary, We've lived beside

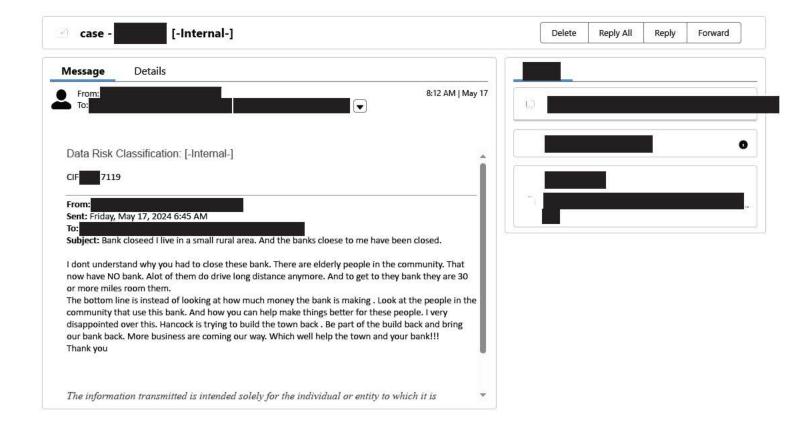
we find it quite unkind our area was not in only the boards goings on.

we hope in your life time all goes real smooth + non upsettling.

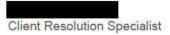
Peaco & Joy, Thank you,

Terre Hill, PA.

17581







May 28, 2024



Re: Branch Closing

Case 05/17/2024-9499114



Thanks for sharing your concerns about the closing of our Hancock, MD branch.

We hear you. And we recognize how unsettling it can be when changes occur to something as familiar as your community bank.

Change is almost never easy. But we're always looking for better ways to deliver our services—including branches and ATMs—to make sure we're meeting our clients' changing needs.

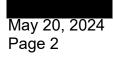
So, know that the decision to close the Hancock, MD branch wasn't taken lightly and was made only after careful study and analysis. Once a decision like this is made, our next priority is to continue to provide you with caring client service.

We hope to continue to serve your financial needs at the Berkeley Springs, WV branch or any other convenient Truist location. And now there are more ways than ever to bank with us.

**Digital banking** – You don't need a branch—or even a computer—to do your banking. Learn more at truist.com/digital-banking.

**ATM** – Get cash, make a deposit, or check account balances at any of our convenient locations. Find an ATM or branch at truist.com/locations.

**Phone** – No smart phone? No problem. If you can text, you can bank. Details at truist.com/digital-banking.



Again, please know that we take this process very seriously and have reviewed every option before making the decision. We appreciate the opportunity to respond to your concerns and thank you for choosing to bank with Truist.

Sincerely,

Client Resolution Specialist Client Advocacy

Survey ID	
A STATE OF THE STA	
Survey Date	
CIF Key	
Mixed HH Indicator	
Tenure with Bank	
Client Segment	
Personal/Business	
Digital Platform Accessed	
Age Group	
Access Method	
Teammate/Client Flag	
First Time Digital User	

405591
6/19/2024

No
20-30 years
Truist Digital Banking Retail
Personal
Truist Digital Banking Personal Website
Silent
Computer
No/Null

Question Number	Question Text	Response
QOSATO	How satisfied are you with your most recent experience?	10 Extremely Satisfied
Q20X	Please select all the activities you did during your most recent	View balances; View transaction or activity details; Use bill pay
	experience using	
Q30(2	Still thinking about this recent experience, please rate on the	10 Strongly Agree
	following aspect. Was able to complete my task quickly	
Q30(4	Still thinking about this recent experience, please rate on the	Not Applicable
	following aspect. Allowed me to customize my digital banking	
	experience (e.g., alerts, contact methods)	
Q30(5	Still thinking about this recent experience, please rate on the	6
81 SZ (	following aspect. Had an appealing look and feel	
Q30(9	Still thinking about this recent experience, please rate on the	10 Strongly Agree
81 SZ (	following aspect. Was available when I needed it	100 mm 1-9
Q30(12	Still thinking about this recent experience, please rate on the	6
	following aspect. Was easy to find help, if needed	
Q30(13	Still thinking about this recent experience, please rate on the	10 Strongly Agree
	following aspect. Was easy to find the information I needed	
Q30(15	Still thinking about this recent experience, please rate on the	6
	following aspect. Had features that helped me better	
	understand my finances	
Q40	Were you able to accomplish everything you wanted?	Yes
DQDGMETH		Browser
Q1B8TRAM	State of the state	My only complaint is that branches near me have been closed!!!
DQTNSEG	TruNorth Segments	Unassigned



Scott Brown
Assistant Vice President
Client Advocacy Partner Support Research Specialist

July 25, 2024



Re: Branch Closing

Case 06/20/2024-9749578

Dear :

Thank you for sharing your concerns about the closure of Truist branches in your area.

Please know, we hear you. We recognize how unsettling it can be when changes occur to something as familiar as your community bank. Change is almost never easy. But we are always looking for better ways to deliver our services—including branches and ATMs—to make sure we are meeting our clients' changing needs.

We would like you to know that when we decide to close a branch, the decision is not taken lightly and was made only after careful study and analysis. Once a decision like this is made, our next priority is to continue to provide you with caring client service.

We hope to continue to serve your financial needs at any one of the branches listed below or any other convenient Truist branch location:

- 1. **Grande Oak**, 20280 Grande Oak Shoppes Blvd., Estero, FL 33928-7738 Lobby & Drive Thru Hours of Operation Monday Thursday: 9am 5pm, Friday: 9am 6pm, and closed Saturday & Sunday.
- 2. **Bonita Bay**, 26731 S. Tamiami Trl., Bonita Springs, FL 34134-4339 Lobby & Drive Thru Hours of Operation Monday Thursday: 9am 5pm, Friday: 9am 6pm, Saturday: 9am 12pm, and closed on Sunday.
- 3. **Alico Commons**, 16965 Alico Mission Way, Fort Myers, FL 33908-4836 Lobby & Drive Thru Hours of Operation Monday Thursday: 9am 5pm, Friday: 9am 6pm, and closed Saturday & Sunday.

Now there are more ways than ever to bank with us!

**Digital banking** – You don't need a branch—or even a computer—to do your banking. Learn more at truist.com/digital-banking.

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July 25, 2024 Page 2

**ATM** – Get cash, make a deposit, or check account balances at any of our convenient locations. Find an ATM or branch at truist.com/locations.

**Phone** – No smart phone? No problem. If you can text, you can bank. Details at truist.com/digital-banking.

, again, please know that we take this process very seriously and have reviewed every option before making the decision. We appreciate the opportunity to respond to your concerns and thank you for choosing to bank with Truist.

Sincerely,

Scott Brown

Scott Brown

AVP, Client Advocacy Partner Support Research Specialist Client Advocacy

#### Complaint 06/29/2024-9831135

Client Feedback from ATM Survey: The Whitehaven Memphis Tennessee 38116 Truist location has been without an outdoor ATM for over a year. As a result, customers are inconvenienced with only having access to the internal ATM at the branch office during business hours. The space provided is small and does not allow privacy while conducting transactions. This location is in serious need of a safe, OUTDOOR ATM for the convenience and use by handicapped and elderly clients. Please think of the demographic this community serves, which is predominantly retirees and elderly people with disabilities and limited mobility. The nearest Truist to this location is either Union Avenue Memphis Tennessee or Southaven Mississippi. I have been inconvenienced several times and in need of access to my funds only to have to drive 20 miles in either direction. Thank you!



Diane Swinehart Officer Client Advocacy Partner Support Research Specialist

August 23, 2024



Re: ATM Availability

Case 06/29/2024-9831135

Dear :

We have received and reviewed your concerns regarding the removal of the exterior ATM at our Memphis – Elvis Presley – Brookhaven Branch. We appreciate the opportunity to respond.

Please know, we hear you. And we recognize how unsettling it can be when changes occur to something as familiar as your community bank. Change is almost never easy. So, know that the difficult business decision to remove the exterior ATM was not taken lightly and was made only after careful study and analysis. Our decision was implemented to ensure the safety and security of both our clients and our infrastructure. We understand this change may cause some inconvenience, and we deeply regret and impact it may have on your banking experience.

We remain committed to providing you with excellent client service and support. To assist with your ATM needs, please feel free to use our ATM located in the lobby or visit one of our other branches. Additionally, you may wish to use mobile and online banking platforms to make transfers and check deposits. For withdrawals, you may wish to request cash back when you make a purchase using your debit card.

, we appreciate your business over the past five years and are committed to helping you achieve your financial goals. If you have any other questions or need assistance, please contact us 844-4TRUIST (844-487-8478). A teammate will be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

Diane Swinehart

Diane Swinehart Officer, Client Advocacy Partner Support Research Specialist Client Advocacy

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To: Martin J. Gruenberg, Chairman, FDI C Headquarters
Bld. F 1776 F St., NW, Washington, DC 2000006
To: Robit Chopra, Director, CSB
Commercial Financial Protection Bureau, P® Box 27170
Washington, DC 20038
Program Reference: C-SPAN 4-3-2024 Rc: Banking Account Equity

Gentlemen: 4 April 2024

Your recent C-SPAN conversations highlighted many issues and objectives of the banking industry, along with renewed commitment to the banking public. I was happy to see the emphasis on meeting community needs. My premise is that Equity requires equal quality and availability – and consumer service is not adequate after TRU ST's merger and departure two years ago.

Please consider our post-merger climate after TRUIST branches left our communities two years ago—two of them close to several sub-divisions with thousands of homes here in Wellington (Mount Vernon, VA). When a bank leaves and area, what reasonable options for the consumer remain? What if the bank's prosperity was based on its close proximity to its community and no longer is nearby. What if a bank's departure leaves only one bank in an area; isn't that in effect a mono poly? And what if the replacement bank has a past litigation history for fraudulent practices? What options make sense for customers? Is this problem wider across the industry with fraud-fears and new security regulations? The public and the industry cannot not take advantage of an improved economy without reliability and location equity.

Location change accompanied a change in service quality in our area. We have a large senior savings and busy government employee population ignored by TRUIST when it moved out of my area. With no notice, TRUIST froze my checking account since I did not have had fuce-to-fact interaction for a year. Yet they still received regular deposits from me (the last in August) and they acknowledge that. I am a (4-decades) now hundicapped TRUIST customer. A rep called to answer my frozen account complaint cc'd to the bank Director. In order to unfreeze my account, I must go in person and verify who I am, with legal documentation notarized. If I have to do that, why shouldn't I remove my money permanently? Other seniors and busy neighbors tell me the face-to-face rule is an imposition and are leaving or have left TRUIST.

Along with providing public information, please remind/require decision makers to consider consumer needs when planning better banking practices? Instead of freezing accounts, find an alternative - why not come to our homes as grocery, medical, home supply, legal, and tax etc. people do? My community is not doing as well with mergers - bigger is not better. Unfriendly banking practices hurt individuals and ultimately the industry. I would like to hear what your organization can do on our behalf.

Hoping for Change,		



National Center for Consumer & Depositor Assistance 1100 Walnut Street, Box #11 Kansas City, Missouri 64106 Toll Free: {877} 275-3342; Option 2

July 24, 2024 Ref. No. 01757831

Truist Bank 214 N Tryon St Charlotte, NC 28202

Re: Complaint of

Dear Compliance Officer:

Enclosed for your review is a referral from the Chairman's Office on behalf of the referenced complainant regarding her account(s) with your bank.

Due to the nature and time sensitivity of the enclosed correspondence, please respond to this by August 2, 2024. We ask that you respond directly to the complainant in writing addressing the complaint or inquiry. Please follow existing Customer Identification Procedures when responding. In the event there is additional information related to the complaint that cannot be included in the bank's response to the complainant, a separate response should also be provided to the FDIC's Consumer Response Unit. In all instances, please provide our office a copy of your response.

In addition to your written response, please provide the appropriate account disclosures, any related documentation supporting the bank's position, and if applicable, evidence the problem has been resolved. Be advised, documentation provided to the FDIC could be released under the Freedom of Information Act or the Privacy Act.

Your prompt response is appreciated. If there are any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (703) 254-0912.

Sincerely,

William Ramsey Senior Consumer Affairs Specialist

Enclosure



July 26, 2024

Client Advocacy
P.O. Box 85024
Richmond, VA 23285-5024
Tel 844-4TRUIST

Diane Evans
Assistant Vice President
Client Resolution Senior Specialist

William Ramsey
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
Consumer Response Center
1100 Walnut St., Box #11
Kansas City, MO 64106

Re: , Case 01757831

Dear Mr. Ramsey:

Thank you for forwarding the complaint filed by grant of Alexandria, Virginia, regarding the status of her Truist checking account and the closing of her Truist community branch. We appreciate the opportunity to respond.

Our records show we responded to by letter on May 7, 2024 about the dormant status placed on her account. On May 20, 2024, made a deposit into the account, and the dormant status was removed. We also addressed her concerns about Truist closing a branch in her community.

Enclosed is a copy of our response (with enclosure) that was mailed to review.

With our response to we are also enclosing the following:

- Copies of her monthly statements
- A copy of the deposited check
- There is no signature card on file
- A copy of the Bank Services Agreement
- A copy of the Personal Deposit Accounts Fee Schedule

Mr. Ramsey, should you have further questions, please feel free to contact William Hagen at 804-923-8557. He will be glad to speak with you.

Sincerely,

Diane Evans

Diane Evans

Assistant Vice President, Client Resolution Senior Specialist

Consumer Regulatory & Executive Services Team

**Enclosures** 



Diane Evans
Assistant Vice President
Client Resolution Senior Specialist

July 26, 2024



Re:

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) Case 01757831

Dear :

We have received and reviewed your correspondence forwarded to us from the FDIC regarding the dormant status placed on the account referenced above. You also mentioned the closing of a Truist branch convenient to your neighborhood. We value you as a client and value your feedback. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

Our records indicate that we responded to you by letter on May 7, 2024 regarding the dormant status of your account (copy enclosed). We show that on May 20, 2024, you made a deposit into the account. Based on the deposit type, the dormant status was removed, and your account is currently active.

In reference to the branch closing, we hear you. And we recognize how unsettling it can be when changes occur to something as familiar as your community bank. Change is almost never easy. But we are always looking for better ways to deliver our services--including branches, ATMs, digital bank, and phone--to make sure we are meeting our clients' changing needs. Please know that the decision to close the branch was not taken lightly and was made only after careful study and analysis. Our next priority is to continue to provide you with caring client service.

, your satisfaction is important to us, and we look forward to the continued privilege of serving your financial needs for many years to come. If you have any other questions or need assistance, please call us at 844-4TRUIST (844-487-8478). A representative will be glad to assist you.

Sincerely.

Diane Evans

Diane Evans

Assistant Vice President, Client Resolution Senior Specialist

Consumer Regulatory & Executive Services Team

**Enclosure** 

Copy to: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

Reference: 07/25/2024-10044425

Client Feedback from Retail Relationship Survey: Everything online is great. My only complaint is that there are no longer any branches open in our area. So I have to drive at least 25 to 30 minutes to find a branch if I just need some cash so end up paying fees to use other atms. Just fyi I live on the 95 corridor not out in the rural areas.



Kimberly Vereen Office

Client Advocacy Partner Support Research Specialist

September 5, 2024



Re: Branch Closing

Case 07/25/2024-10044425

Dear :

Thank you for sharing your concerns about the closing our Havre de Grace Branch.

We hear you. And we recognize how unsettling it can be when changes occur to something as familiar as your community bank.

Change is almost never easy. But we're always looking for better ways to deliver our services-including branches and ATMS-to make sure we're meeting our clients' changing needs.

Know that the decision to close the Havre de Grace Branch wasn't taken lightly and was made only after careful study and analysis. Once a decision like this is made, our next priority is to continue to provide you with caring client service.

We hope to continue to serve your financial needs at any other convenient Truist location. And now, there are more ways than ever to bank with us.

**Digital Banking** – You don't need a branch—or even a computer—to do your banking. Learn more at truist.com/digital-banking.

**ATM** – Get cash, make a deposit, or check account balances at any of our convenient locations. Find an ATM or branch at truist.com/locations.

**Phone** – No smart phone? No problem. If you can text, you can bank. Details at truist.com/digital-banking.

, again, please know we take this process very seriously and have reviewed every option before making the decision. We appreciate the opportunity to respond to your concerns and thank you for choosing to bank with Truist.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Vereen

Kimberly Vereen

Officer, Client Advocacy Partner Support Research Specialist

Client Advocacy

Reference: Case Number 07/26/2024-10058792

**Client Feedback from ATM Survey**: This ATM has not accepted deposits for 7 days and the printer ink has been out for a month which makes the machine give you blank paper. As a business client that makes daily deposits and transactions this machines represents the worst of Truist. Service your equipment more to make sure it works as expected and clean it.



Tricia Pittle
Officer
Client Advocacy Partner Support Research Specialist

September 5, 2024



Re: ATM Issue

Case 07/26/2024-10058792

Dear :

Thank you for sharing the issues you have encountered when using the ATM at our Camp Creek Parkway Branch. We understand the frustration caused by this situation, and deeply regret any impact it had on your banking experience. We appreciate the opportunity to respond.

Please know, we hear you. As such, an incident report for the ATM was submitted on July 30, 2024. Your feedback is vital for our improvement and allows us to better service your banking needs. We want your experiences with Truist to be pleasant and will do our best to see that your future visits meet the high-quality standards to which we aspire.

If you are still experiencing issues with the ATM or experience issues in the future, please contact us at the telephone number below. Please know that you can also bank in person, via Online Banking, or by using the Truist mobile app.

, thank you one again for bringing this matter to our attention. If you have any other questions or need assistance, please contact us 844-4TRUIST (844-487-8478). A teammate will be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

Tricia Pittle

Tricia Pittle

Officer, Client Advocacy Partner Support Research Specialist Client Advocacy

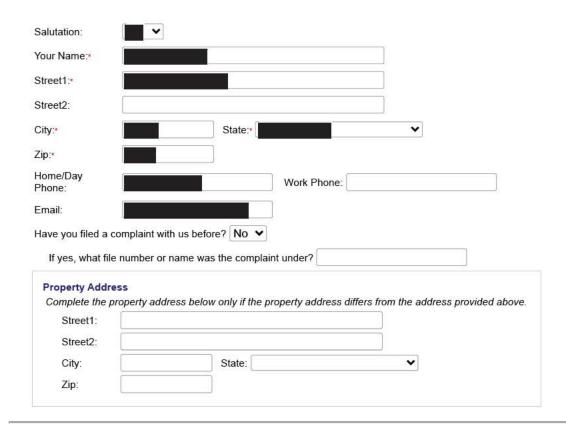




File Number: 2024-0589
Date of Complaint: 8/5/2024

## **Online Consumer Complaint Form**

#### SECTION 1 (Required): CONSUMER CONTACT INFORMATION



#### SECTION 2 (Optional): THIRD PARTY AUTHORIZATION

If you would like NCCOB to be able to communicate with someone else, such as a family member, attorney, or other individual about this complaint, you must provide authorization below. Any person authorized under this section will remain authorized until we receive notice that authorization has been withdrawn.

Name of Third Party:		
Relationship to Consumer:		
Street:		
City:	State:	•
Zip:		
Phone:		
Email:		

## SECTION 3 (Required): RESPONDENT INFORMATION

200 900	/Individual you are complaining	about: Truist Bank			
Street1:	214 N. Tryon Street				
Street2:					
City:*	Charlotte	State: North C	arolina	*	
Zip:	28202				
Phone:	(336) 733-2000				
What type	of product or service is this con	nplaint regarding?:			
Check	Cashing Transaction		☐ Bank Wire Transact	ion	
Consu	ımer or Personal Loan (less tha	an or equal to \$25,000)	☐ Business Account		
Money	y Transmission		Credit Card		
Reside	ential Mortgage Loan		☐ Investment Account	(e.g., IRA, CD, Mo	oney Market)
☐ Tax Re	efund Anticipation Loan		Personal Checking	or Deposit Accoun	t
Comm	nercial Loan		Other (Please Describe	): ATM	
Title Have	tact Name:	OR Other:	rnment agency?   ✓		
Note: Filin their attorn		B will not stop or dela aring, sale, or eviction n	y the foreclosure proc otice will go forward as s		r from your mortgage company se NCCOB cannot provide you v
Note: Filin their attorn legal repres	g a complaint with the NCCC ey, you should assume any hea	DB will not stop or dela aring, sale, or eviction n ek the advice of an attor	y the foreclosure proc otice will go forward as s ney.		
Note: Filin their attorndegal repress Are you se Have you	g a complaint with the NCCC ey, you should assume any he sentation, you may want to see	PB will not stop or dela aring, sale, or eviction n k the advice of an attor ce of a foreclosure on y	by the foreclosure processive will go forward as so ney.	cheduled. Becaus	e NCCOB cannot provide you v

Sale date?

Do you have a foreclosure hearing or sale date scheduled?

If Yes, when is the foreclosure hearing date?

Have you received a response regarding any pending application for assistance?

Have you applied for assistance with the State Home Foreclosure Prevention Project administered by the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency?

What response or action, if undertaken by the individual or comp satisfaction? Please be as specific as possible.	pany that is the subject of your complaint, would resolve this matter to your
satisfaction: Trease be as specific as possible.	
SECTION 6 (Required): COMPLAINT NARRATIVE:	: (text limit 3000 characters)
	rder in which they occurred. Include any names, phone numbers, and a full y transaction(s). You should also include any response from the parties identified
Be as brief and complete as possible to make the explanation cle	clear.
PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE ISSUES DESCRIBED IN TH IDENTIFIED FOR THEIR RESPONSE.	HIS COMPLAINT WILL BE SHARED WITH THE INDIVIDUAL OR COMPANY
every Saturday morning I would go to the ATM & no money in it. hang on to peoples money! Most recently was on two occasions Now if that be so, it should be done when the bank is open so pe	has been an ongoing issue regarding access to monies. About a year ago, almost it. Relentless complaints. We have a problem here whereas Truist Bank likes to so within a month, a message on the ATM that they are upgrading. I took a picture beople can access their monies. They have cut late night Thursdays & are closed people access to their monies. As we know, people do work and NO ONE should heir monies!
SECTION 7 (Required): PRIVACY ACT STATEMEN	NT
The information you provide will permit NCCOB to facilitate a res	esponse to your complaint. This information may be shared with:
<ul> <li>The entity that is the subject of the complaint;</li> <li>Third parties as needed to obtain information relevant to</li> <li>Other agencies or regulatory authorities for enforcement</li> </ul>	
You are not required to file this complaint, and may withdraw this withdraw your complaint.	is complaint at any time. However, NCCOB will not take any further action if you
<b>CERTIFICATION (Required):</b> I certify that all information supplie this information. I accept all responsibility for the content of my re	ied by me is true to the best of my knowledge and that I am authorized to provide responses.
	is authorized to speak on your behalf regarding your loan, account, or srelating to the loan/account upon request; and to refer this complaint to
Consumer Signature:*	Date: 7/24/2024



Diane Evans
Assistant Vice President
Client Resolution Senior Specialist

August 26, 2024



Re: Leland Branch

North Carolina Commissioner of Banks (NCCoB) File 2024-0589



We have received and reviewed your correspondence forwarded to us from the NCCoB regarding the ATM and the hours at our Leland Branch. Please accept our apology for any inconvenience you may have experienced. We appreciate the opportunity to respond.

At Truist our mission is to provide distinctive, and successful client experiences to all our clients. Your comments about the ATM and branch hours are very important to us and were shared with the appropriate management team.

In reference to the ATM, we are aware of the problem and are diligently working to get the issue resolved. The normal service hours of the branches in the Greater Wilmington area are 9 am to 5 pm Monday through Thursday and 9 am to 6 pm on Friday. Furthermore, not all branches are open on Saturday. The branches that offer Saturday hours in the Belville area are Landfall, Oleander and Pine Valley. It is our goal to have ATMs and branches conveniently located to assist all our clients.

we appreciate your business and are committed to helping you achieve your financial goals. If you have any questions or if we may assist you further, please call us at at 844-4TRUIST (844-487-8478). A representative will be glad to assist you.

Sincerely,

Diane Evans

Diane Evans

Assistant Vice President, Client Resolution Senior Specialist

Consumer Regulatory & Executive Services Team

Copy to: North Carolina Commissioner of Banks



August 26, 2024

Client Advocacy
P.O. Box 85024
Richmond, VA 23285-5024
Tel 844-4TRUIST

Diane Evans
Assistant Vice President
Client Resolution Senior Specialist

Jennifer Winborne North Carolina Office of the Commissioner of Banks 4309 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-4309

Re: , File 2024-0589

Dear Ms. Winborne:

Thank you for forwarding the complaint filed by Carolina regarding the ATM and hours of our Leland Branch. We appreciate the opportunity to respond.

We have enclosed a copy of our response that was mailed to review.

Ms. Winborne, if you have further questions, please contact William Hagen at 804-923-8557. He will be glad to speak with you.

Sincerely,

Diane Evans

Assistant Vice President, Client Resolution Senior Specialist

Consumer Regulatory & Executive Services Team

**Enclosure** 



ROY COOPER GOVERNOR KATHERINE M.R. BOSKEN COMMISSIONER OF BANKS

August 30, 2024



Re: Complaint against Truist Bank: File No. 2024-0589

Dear :

The North Carolina Office of the Commissioner of Banks (NCCOB) received a response to our letter sent on your behalf.

The enclosed response is provided to facilitate communication between you and the respondent. NCCOB is charged with the duty to license, examine and supervise financial services firms under its jurisdiction and to enforce state laws applicable to financial services firms. NCCOB does not provide legal advice or represent private citizens or legal entities in any legal matter.

If you are not satisfied with the respondent's reply, please contact the entity directly. Also, should you wish to pursue this matter further, you may want to consider consulting with a private attorney or legal services provider to determine if you have private legal rights or remedies.

Sincerely, Jennifu Unilone

Jennifer Winborne

Bank Supervision Support Specialist

Enclosures

cc: Truist Bank

### Social Media Complaint: 08/23/2024-10275327

Client Complaint on Social Media:	
chent complaint on social Media.	

Never anything for current members. In fact they closed all local branches do me and I have to travel over half and hour to get to one!

Aug 23, 2024 at 5:43 AM

Also, we can certainly understand how it would be frustrating to lose access to your preferred location. The decision to close a branch is never any easy one and this was no exception. Truist remains committed to providing you the same excellent service you are accustomed to at any of our other Truist locations and ATMS, as well as through telephone banking and 24-hour delivery channels such as Online and Mobile Banking, which will allow you to bank anytime, anywhere. To search for locations in nearby areas, please visit our branch location through Truist Mobile or by visiting http://www.truist.com/locations. We also wanted to let you know that we have different promotions from time to time with different qualifications. We appreciate your continued business and will track your feedback to be shared with our management team as we're always looking for ways and opportunities to improve our services.

Aug 23, 2024 at 7:17 AM

## Complaint 08 20 2024 10248564 Retail Relationship Survey

**Client Feedback from Retail Relationship Survey**: Open up more banks again. Now I have to travel a lot farther to go to the bank. It's not fair to some people. I personally am going to change banks. It's to bad because I liked Truist.

From: To: Subject: Date:

Swinehart, Diane

Truist Voice of the Client Survey Follow-up Survey ID 196590 Friday, August 23, 2024 2:09:00 PM

?

08/23/2024

Dear

Thank you for taking the time to provide your feedback in a recent survey. You expressed concern over an experience you had with Truist, and requested that we follow-up regarding your feedback.

Truist strives to provide exceptional service with each and every client interaction and we would appreciate an opportunity to deliver on our service promise by discussing your concerns. Please contact me at (336) 547-2804.

We appreciate you giving us the opportunity to improve your experience. I look forward to speaking with you.

Thank you for choosing Truist for your financial needs.

Sincerely,

**Diane Swinehart** 

Client Advocacy Partner Support Research Specialist / Truist

Truist Bank, Member FDIC and Equal Housing Lender

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