

Failed Bank Information

Information for Sonoma Valley Bank, Sonoma, CA

- I. [Introduction](#)
- II. [Press Release](#)
- III. [Acquiring Financial Institution](#)
- IV. [Question and Answer Guide](#)
 - [En Espanol](#)
- V. [Banking Services](#)
- VI. [Loan Customers](#)
- VII. [Possible Claims Against the Failed Institution](#)
- VIII. [Priority of Claims](#)
- IX. [Dividend Information](#)
- X. [Brokered Deposits](#)
- XI. [Purchase and Assumption Agreement](#) (1.51 MB PDF File - [PDF Help](#))
- XII. [Bid Summary](#)
- XIII. [Sonoma Valley Bank Contact Information](#)
- XIV. [Balance Sheet Summary](#)

Please be advised you will not receive any email notification to claim/unlock/unsuspend your account or to provide any private information. Please be aware of any [Phishing Scams](#) to obtain information from you.

I. Introduction

On Friday, August 20, 2010, Sonoma Valley Bank, Sonoma, CA was closed by the California Department of Financial Institutions, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) was named Receiver. No advance notice is given to the public when a financial institution is closed.

The FDIC has assembled useful information regarding your relationship with this institution. Besides a checking account, you may have Certificates of Deposit, a car loan, a business checking account, a commercial loan, a Social Security direct deposit, and other relationships with the institution. The FDIC has compiled the following information, which should answer many of your questions.

[Back to top](#)

II. Press Release

The FDIC has issued a press release ([PR-196-2010](#)) about the institution's closure. If you represent a media outlet and would like information about the closure, please contact [Greg Hernandez](#) at 1-202-898-6984.

[Back to top](#)

III. Acquiring Financial Institution

All deposit accounts, including brokered deposits, have been transferred to Westamerica Bank, San Rafael, CA ("assuming institution") and will be available immediately. The former Sonoma Valley Bank locations will reopen as branches of Westamerica Bank during regular business hours.

Your transferred deposits will be separately insured from any accounts you may already have at Westamerica Bank for six months after the failure of Sonoma Valley Bank. Checks that were drawn on Sonoma Valley Bank that did not clear before the institution closed will be honored as long as there are sufficient funds in the account. If you have questions about your account(s) transferred to the assuming bank, you may speak to an FDIC representative by calling 1-800-913-3062.

For general questions about FDIC deposit insurance coverage, please call 1-877-275-3342 or visit EDIE, the FDIC's Electronic Deposit Insurance Estimator.

[EDIE - FDIC's Electronic Deposit Insurance Estimator](#)

You may withdraw your funds from any transferred account without an early withdrawal penalty until you enter into a new deposit agreement with Westamerica Bank as long as the deposits are not pledged as collateral for loans. You may view more information about Westamerica Bank by visiting their web site.

[Westamerica Bank](#) (www.westamerica.com)

[Back to top](#)

V. Banking Services

The Automated Teller Machines (ATM) and online service will remain available.

The bank will maintain its regular business hours, and you may continue to use the services to which you previously had access, such as safe deposit boxes, night deposit boxes, wire services, etc.

Your checks will be processed as usual. All outstanding checks will be paid against your available balance(s) as if no change had occurred. Your new bank will contact you soon regarding any changes in the terms of your account. If you have a problem with a merchant refusing to accept your check, please contact your branch office. An account representative will clear up any confusion about the validity of your checks.

All interest accrued through Friday, August 20, 2010 will be paid at your same rate. Westamerica Bank will be reviewing rates. You will be notified of any changes.

Your direct deposits and automatic withdrawals will be transferred to your new bank. If you have any questions or special requests, you may contact a representative of your assuming institution at your branch office.

[Back to top](#)

VI. Loan Customers

If you had a loan with Sonoma Valley Bank, you should continue to make your payments as usual. The terms of your loan will not change, because they are contractually agreed to in your promissory note. Checks should be made payable as usual and sent to the same address until further notice. If you have further questions regarding an existing loan, please contact your loan officer.

For all questions regarding new loans and the lending policies of Westamerica Bank, please contact your branch office. Please see [A Borrower's Guide to an FDIC Insured Bank Failure](#) for additional information.

[Back to top](#)

VII. Possible Claims Against the Failed Institution

Claims against failed financial institutions occur when bills sent to the institution remain unpaid at the time of failure. If you or your company provided a service or product, leased space, furniture, or equipment to Sonoma Valley Bank **after Friday, August 20, 2010** and have not been paid, you do **not** have a claim against Sonoma Valley Bank. Please follow your normal billing procedures by providing an invoice as instructed.

If you or your company provided a service or product, leased space, furniture, or equipment to Sonoma Valley Bank **prior to Friday, August 20, 2010** and have not been paid, you **may** be entitled to a claim against the bank. If you provided a product to or a service for Sonoma Valley Bank prior to the bank's failure for which you have not been paid and you have not received communication, please contact:

FDIC as Receiver for Sonoma Valley Bank
1601 N. Bryan Street
Dallas, TX 75201-3430
Attention: [Claims Agent](#)

Please note: There are time limits for filing a claim, your claim must be filed on or before 11/24/2010.

All shares of Sonoma Valley Bank were owned by its holding company, Sonoma Valley Bancorp, Sonoma, CA. The holding company was not included in the closing of the bank or the resulting receivership. **If you are a shareholder of Sonoma Valley Bancorp, please do not contact or file a claim with the Receiver. You may contact Sonoma Valley Bancorp directly for information as follows:**

Sonoma Valley Bancorp
P. O. Box 267
Sonoma, CA 95476

[Back to top](#)

VIII. Priority of Claims

In accordance with Federal law, allowed claims will be paid, after administrative expenses, in the following order of priority:

1. Depositors
2. General Unsecured Creditors
3. Subordinated Debt
4. Stockholders

[Back to top](#)

IX. Dividend Information

[Dividend History on Sonoma Valley Bank](#)

[Dividend Information on Failed Financial Institutions](#)

[Back to top](#)

X. Brokered Deposits

The FDIC offers a reference guide to deposit brokers acting as agents for their investor clientele. This site outlines the FDIC's policies and procedures that must be followed by deposit brokers when filing for pass-through insurance coverage on custodial accounts deposited in a failed FDIC Insured Institution.

[Deposit Broker's Processing Guide](#)

[Back to top](#)

[General Disclaimer](#)

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cservicefdicdal@fdic.gov

[Home](#) [Contact Us](#) [Website Policies](#) [Search](#)