



**CPP ANNUAL USE OF CAPITAL SURVEY - 2014**

**NAME OF INSTITUTION**

(Include Holding Company Where Applicable)

Equity Bancshares, Inc.

Person to be contacted regarding this report:	Bruce Benyshek	RSSD: (For Bank Holding Companies)	3180547
UST Sequence Number:	1075	Holding Company Docket Number: (For Thrift Holding Companies)	
CPP/CDCI Funds Received:	15,540,000	FDIC Certificate Number: (For Depository Institutions)	
CPP/CDCI Funds Repaid to Date:	15,540,000	Credit Union Charter Number: (For Credit Unions)	
Date Funded (first funding):	May 15, 2009	City:	Wichita
Date Repaid <sup>1</sup> :	Jul 16, 2014	State:	Kansas

<sup>1</sup>If repayment was incremental, please enter the most recent repayment date.

*American taxpayers are quite interested in knowing how banks have used the money that Treasury has invested under the Capital Purchase Program (CPP) and Community Development Capital Initiative (CDCI). To answer that question, Treasury is seeking responses that describe generally how the CPP/CDCI investment has affected the operation of your business. We understand that once received, the cash associated with TARP funding is indistinguishable from other cash sources, unless the funds were segregated, and therefore it may not be feasible to identify precisely how the CPP/CDCI investment was deployed or how many CPP/CDCI dollars were allocated to each use. Nevertheless, we ask you to provide as much information as you can about how you have used the capital Treasury has provided, and how your uses of that capital have changed over time. Treasury will be pairing this survey with a summary of certain balance sheet and other financial data from your institution's regulatory filings, so to the extent you find it helpful to do so, please feel free to refer to your institution's quarterly call reports to illustrate your answers. This is your opportunity to speak to the taxpayers in your own words, which will be posted on our website.*

What specific ways did your institution utilize CPP/CDCI capital? Check all that apply and elaborate as appropriate, especially if the uses have shifted over time. Your responses should reflect actions taken over the past year (or for the portion of the year in which CPP/CDCI funds were outstanding).

<input type="checkbox"/>	Increase lending or reduce lending less than otherwise would have occurred.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	To the extent the funds supported increased lending, please describe the major type of loans, if possible (residential mortgage loans, commercial mortgage loans, small business loans, etc.).	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Increase securities purchased (ABS, MBS, etc.).	

<input type="checkbox"/>	Make other investments	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Increase reserves for non-performing assets	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reduce borrowings	See below. CPP was paid off using borrowed funds from another source.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Increase charge-offs	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Purchase another financial institution or purchase assets from another financial institution	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Held as non-leveraged increase to total capital	

What actions were you able to avoid because of the capital infusion of CPP/CDCI funds?

First Community Bancshares, Inc. was able to survive the Great Recession and live another day, which allowed them to look for new investors and/or find a suitable buyer. Without the CPP funds First Community Bancshares or it's bank subsidiary might have failed, costing the FDIC insurance fund many millions of dollars - perhaps many times the \$15.54 million of CPP funds received.

What actions were you able to take that you may not have taken without the capital infusion of CPP/CDCI funds?

Equity Bancshares, Inc. was able to acquire a like-sized institution in an adjacent territory because First Community Bancshares and its bank subsidiary survived. Equity Bancshares acquired First Community Bancshares on 10-25-12, via a stock for stock merger. The CPP funds were transferred to Equity Bancshares as a part of that merger. As the interest rate on these TARP funds increased to 9% on May 15, 2014, Equity Bancshares filed an application to pay off these funds and it was approved. Equity Bancshares completely paid off the TARP, principal and interest, on July 16, 2014.

Please describe any other actions that you were able to undertake with the capital infusion of CPP/CDCI funds.



According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1505-0222. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 80 hours per response.