

Wednesday, June 3, 2020 (Update # 1)

To: New York Community Banks

## FROM ICBA

### **Romero Rainey: Act Now On PPP Reform**

If community bankers are waiting for the right time to contact Congress on needed Paycheck Protection Program reforms, the wait is over, ICBA President and CEO Rebeca Romero Rainey wrote in [Main Street Matters](#). With the Senate now considering PPP reforms after the House last week passed separate legislation to modify the program, it is important to [press Congress](#) for the best reforms possible, she wrote. ICBA is calling on community bankers nationwide to use its [Be Heard grassroots action center](#) and to share a [customizable message](#) for small-business owners with their customers urging the Senate to act.

### **House Members Seek Streamlined PPP Loan Forgiveness**

A group of 56 House Republicans led by Reps. Andy Barr (Ky.) and French Hill (Ark.) recently called on the SBA and Treasury Department to create a streamlined forgiveness application for Paycheck Protection Program loans under \$350,000. In a [joint letter](#), the lawmakers said the recently published forgiveness application places an undue burden on the smallest businesses and lenders.

ICBA has repeatedly called for a more flexible and straightforward approach to loan forgiveness, including through its ongoing grassroots campaigns for [community banks](#) and [small businesses](#) as the Senate considers PPP reforms.

### **CFPB Issues FAQs On Remittance Rules**

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau issued [frequently asked questions](#) on remittance rules related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The FAQs discuss whether failing to deliver remittance funds to designated recipients by the disclosed date of availability due to certain government-mandated closures is an error under the rule.

### **ICBA hosting second PPP loan forgiveness showcase**

ICBA, in partnership with the Alliance for Innovative Regulation and The Venture Center, will host a [second virtual event](#) showcasing cutting-edge technologies addressing requirements for reporting, managing and calculating Paycheck Protection Program loans.

“Round Two: PPP Tech Loan Forgiveness Solutions Sprint,” scheduled for noon (Eastern time) Wednesday, June 10, follows an [earlier showcase](#) and will feature product demos from 10 new fintechs, followed by a Q&A with a panel of bank leaders.

[Learn more and register.](#)

### **Cyberattacks Continue To Rise Amid Outbreak**

The attacks on community banks and their customers continue to rise, reinforcing the need to refocus on cybersecurity while adjusting to the “new normal,” ICBA Director of Operational Risk Steven Estep wrote in [Main Street Matters](#). Estep wrote that three types of attacks and scams have risen sharply: phishing attempts related to COVID-19 issues, advance fee scams requiring up-front payment for products that do not exist, and attacks on technologies required for remote work. [Read the post.](#)

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## OTHER SOURCES/PRESS COVERAGE

### **Congressional Timeline "Slipping" For Next Coronavirus Relief Package?**

The timeline for Congress’s next coronavirus relief package keeps slipping: now Senate lawmakers say they likely won’t pass something until before the August recess. Previously, members said they were shooting for the July 4 recess. But that’s only a few weeks (!) away, the Senate hasn’t even started putting together a proposal, and the House isn’t scheduled to vote again until June 30 (although the committees are still working). Meanwhile, the Senate is struggling to pass a bipartisan fix to a small business loans program, which was expected to pass this week. “At the moment, it’s a complicated picture,” said Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.), the GOP whip. “Multiple members are opposed for different reasons, but some are just opposed to doing anything right now.” The deets from CNN’s Lauren Fox: <https://cnn.it/2ZYkSe>.

### **Fed's "Main Street" Lending Program: Headed For Trouble?**

According to *Politico* a \$600 billion Federal Reserve loan program designed to offer a lifeline to tens of thousands of struggling U.S. companies is heading for trouble before it even gets under way. Some potential borrowers complain that the "Main Street" lending program - so named because it's aimed at helping midsize companies hit hard by the coronavirus crisis - imposes interest rates that are too high and requires businesses to pay back loans too quickly. Meanwhile, the *Wall Street Journal* notes the Federal Reserve thawed credit markets in March by promising a whatever-it-takes program to buy corporate bonds. Ten weeks later, the Fed has yet to buy a single bond.

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**IBANYS will continue to provide updates as additional information becomes available. Thank you all for your continued participation and support.**

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