MAKING EXAMINATIONS GO BETTER

The Headache: Coping with bank examinations in a troubled industry environment

Our Question: Examinations have been a trying experience in this environment for most community banks. In your own recent exam, were there any steps that your bank took that helped ease the understandable tension?

Come share your ideas and views, see what other bankers have tried

We've heard bankers joke about bank examinations--you have to have something to laugh about, these days.

• One banker told us how his old CEO used to advise him, "When they get to staying too long, turn up the thermostat in the boardroom. That'll clear them out right quick." As far as we know, he didn't really try that advice out, but it makes a good story.

• Another banker, not willing to have the public see examiners in bank's glass-walled ground-floor boardroom, put them in upper-floor bank-held space in the headquarters building, in hopes of keeping things a bit more low-key. It was better to give up the rent for a few months, and avoid folks getting the wrong impression.

Now let's hear your views and ideas below!
(Editorial Note: Contributions to Pass the Aspirin may also appear in our print edition. While we will ask for your e-mail address, this is only as an aid to verifying identity and will not be used for any marketing or promotional purpose. The e-mail address will not be published.)

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