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Jul 13, 2008

Board of Governors  
Secretary Jennifer J. Johnson  
Federal Reserve System  
20th St. and Constitution Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20551  
RE: Docket No. R-1314

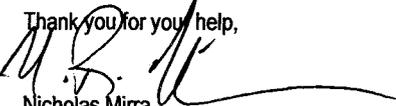
Dear Board of Governors,

As a self employed contractor it can be difficult to get by from one job to another. I use my CorTrust account for purchases of materials at Lowe's and Home Depot. This makes getting a job started easier until I am able to receive full payment at the completion of a job. Many contractors operate this way, and I am very fortunate that CorTrust took a chance on me so that I could build my credit up to move on to better credit opportunities as they become available. I have had my CorTrust account for three years, and although my credit score is improving, I kept my account open because I like the card I have.

I am 48 years old, and have gone most of my life without a credit history. Since I started my CorTrust account, I have been able to purchase a new car, which I would never have had the chance without first building a credit history. In my line of work, traveling from jobsite to jobsite, it is essential to have a reliable truck. Because of CorTrust, I have the credit to do that.

Reducing fees that credit companies charge, or even changing the fee schedule, will put many people like me out of the running for a chance to build a credit history. The upfront fees are a way for companies to take a chance on people, while still ensuring they will not take a loss. Without allowing subprime lenders to charge these upfront fees, how are people supposed to rebuild broken credit or establish credit in the first place? Companies will not have any reassurance of payment, and will begin to place tighter restrictions on whom they can extend credit. This would not help the American consumer at all.

Thank you for your help,

  
Nicholas Mirra