

Dave Smith
Smith's Treasure Chest, LLC
315 South 3rd Street
Hannibal, MO 63401-4411

Secretary Jennifer Johnson
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
20th Street and Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20551

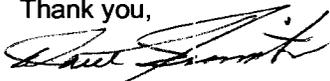
Dear Secretary Johnson:

Running a business these days is harder than it used to be. Interchange fees charged for debit and credit card use is one expense we did not have to think about, and these days they clip you big time. The percentage per transaction that these companies charge is not fair, but as retailers, we do not have a choice. Plastic is here to stay, and we cannot afford to decline their use. That is why I am so pleased to see that the Federal Reserve has issued a ruling that debit card transactions must be limited.

I started Smith's Treasure Chest, LLC, back in 1974, and it was mine until I turned it over to my son, Sherwin, two and a half years ago. We sell used furniture, appliances, antiques, and tools, etc. We are making ends meet, but higher expenses and fewer customers have seriously eroded our profit. About 45% of our customers pay with plastic, and although our monthly fee fluctuates, it is very significant. At one time, we had nine employees, but these days, we make do with Sherwin and his wife, myself and five additional employees.

Small businesses all across the country are struggling under the yoke of these unfair fees. Please resist the lobbying efforts of the credit card companies and stand firm in the ruling that you have made. We appreciate and need your help.

Thank you,



Dave Smith