



July 16, 2009

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Honorable Sheila Bair
Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
550 17th Street, N.W
Washington, DC 20429

Honorable Ben Bernanke
Chairman, Federal Reserve Board
20th and C Streets, N.W
Washington, DC 20551

The Honorable Timothy F. Geithner
Secretary, Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Chairman Bair, Chairman Bernanke, and Secretary Geithner:

On behalf of The United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC), the national representative for the nearly 3 million Hispanic-owned businesses, I write to share with you our concerns about the ongoing difficulties CIT Group, Inc. has had in remaining financially viable and gaining access to the Temporary Liquidity Guarantee Program (TLGP) and/or other forms of immediate federal assistance. We support CIT's efforts and ask that you give every consideration to providing immediate relief to keep this critical "main street" focused financial institution from failing and therefore causing further harm to the already distressed small business sector of our economy.

As you know, CIT has been the nation's leading Small Business Administration 7(a) lender for the last 9 years overall and for the last five years, the number 1 SBA 7(a) lender to women, veteran and minority-owned businesses. This is a fact not lost on the millions of Hispanic businessmen and women we represent. In writing to you in support of CIT, we recognize this important lender's future is vital for the small and mid-size businesses that depend on it. The fact is, the traditional banking institutions are not serving Hispanic business. Interestingly, many of these banks, some of our nation's largest, have been supported by the government during this economic crisis.

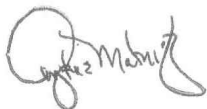
In our opinion, allowing CIT to become insolvent is not an option. In the absence of the kind of lending that CIT has long been known for, the terrible economic situation Hispanic business now faces, will only worsen. For Hispanic-owned businesses across the nation, the need for companies like CIT is absolutely critical, as their lending sources are even more limited. Access to capital for ongoing operations, for re-financing and for needed capital investment is critical at this time and the needs are immediate.

* Denotes Regional Chair

I am reminded of President Obama's words when he addressed our membership this past March in Washington, "the spirit of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the desire to create jobs and provide opportunity to people who sometimes have been left out -- that's exactly what this administration is about."

Given CIT's importance to the overall American economy and our shared commitment to helping minority business, we hope the Administration will continue to fulfill that pledge.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Augustine Martinez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and "M".

Augustine Martinez
President & CEO