

Financial Focus

Organized 1934

Working Together for Financial Freedom

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President's Message



On behalf of the Freedom Board and our employees I wish you a Healthy Happy New Year.

I last wrote to you explaining the initiative we started with our loan consultants. We were calling members and offering them reduced interest rates and monthly payments on loans that they had with other financial institutions. I'm proud to announce that so far this year we helped 1,028 members with \$18.8 million dollars in loan balances reduce their monthly payments by switching to your Credit Union. I'm sure we can help you too. Give us a try.

We have been in a low interest rate environment for over 5 years. However at your Credit Union we have some of the highest rates on certificate of deposits in the area. Check out our rates on our website **FreedomCU.org** and if you happen to have funds at another institution paying you less than the Credit Union would pay you I ask that you consider moving your money to your Credit Union.

The first quarter of 2015 you will see the introduction of an upgraded mobile banking solution. Some of the features of the new application are:

- Easy to register
- Picture Pay (Take a picture of your bill and it gets paid)
- View Images of checks paid (Same as Home Banking)
- Turn the usage of your atm/debit/credit card(s) on/off (Help prevent fraud)
- Deposit checks (Take a picture of your check and it's deposited to your account. No need to visit a branch or mail a check to be deposited)
- Apply for a loan (And close the loan on line with our digital signature application)

It is our mission to bring services to our membership that are "**quick, easy and convenient**". Our new mobile banking app fits this mission. We hope you use it and enjoy it.

We have all read or watched on the news the latest data breach involving Home Depot. Thousands of our members were caught in that compromise, including me. Our staff worked hard to quickly reissue new cards to the members that were affected. I want to thank our members for being patient as we worked to correct the issues caused by the Home Depot breach.

You can help stop data breaches. See the Member Call to Action on page 2 for more information and visit www.stophedatabreaches.com to let your legislators know that they need to hold these merchants responsible for their data. Until they are forced to do so we the credit union members will continue to pay the price.

Thank you for your membership and continued support of your Credit Union.

John F. King
President /CEO



Urgent - Member Call to Action

HELP STOP DATA BREACHES



If you shopped at Target, Home Depot, or Neiman Marcus, or dined at Jimmy John's, P.F. Changs, or Dairy Queen, you could have been a victim of a data breach in 2014. The Identity Theft Resource Center estimates over 500 data security breaches have occurred this year, exposing more than 75 million data records. This is a disturbing trend; breaches in retailer's computer systems allow sensitive consumer information to be disseminated, exposing many Americans to identity theft and fraudulent account activity.

MERCHANTS SHOULD TAKE RESPONSIBILITY



Retailers and merchants are not subject to the same federal data protection standards as financial institutions, such as Credit Unions. This means that some merchants fail to invest sufficiently in data security measures. As a result, it can be easier for hackers to gain access to a person's credit card number, debit PIN, or other sensitive data through a merchant.

When a data breach occurs, the merchants are not required to pay the costs to send individuals their new cards and generally pay none of the fraudulent charges an individual may have on their cards or accounts. In fact, when merchants are responsible for the breach, they are rarely required to pay ANY costs incurred by others.

CREDIT UNIONS SUPPORT THEIR MEMBERS

After the Target breach, credit unions incurred \$30.6 million in losses, according to estimates by the Credit Union National Association (CUNA). Additionally, credit unions reissued roughly 4.6 million credit and debit cards. Credit unions not only cover the cost of fraud, but also costs of blocking transactions, reissuing cards, increasing staff at call centers and monitoring consumer accounts.

Credit Unions are limited by law from disclosing many of the circumstances of a data breach. Often they are not able to disclose the merchant responsible. When a threat occurs, Credit Unions proactively inform members and reissue new credit and debit cards. Ensuring the safety of our members' data is a top priority.



TAKE ACTION TODAY



Freedom Credit Union is urging all members to take immediate action by contacting legislators and asking them to hold merchants accountable for their data breaches. Learn more at StoptheDataBreaches.com, a website created by the Credit Union National Association (CUNA), that offers more information regarding this important issue. Contact your member of Congress by visiting StoptheDataBreaches.com and clicking on the "Take Action" link. You'll be prompted to register in the CUNA website. Once in the Take Action area, send the form letter already prepared by CUNA. It's a quick and simple process.

Thank you for your support on this important issue.

Simple Ways to Prevent Credit Card Fraud

- Don't respond to email, text or telephone calls asking for personal or financial information
- Never give out your PIN and always cover your card and card pad when entering your PIN
- Review your account activity and immediately report any unauthorized transactions
- Report lost or stolen credit cards immediately
- Keep your credit cards in a safe and secure location; only carry the cards you'll be using that day.

Freedom Credit Union will not solicit personal or private information via email, phone or text messaging. If we suspect fraudulent card use you will be contacted by our Card Holder Security Department, please return their call as quickly as possible.

Please contact Freedom Credit Union at 215-612-5900 if you have any questions or concerns.

Freedom to Dream Big



Are you ready to update the pink linoleum in the bathroom or modernize your kitchen? Apply for a Home Equity Loan and make your dreams a reality. If you are planning a home improvement or have an unexpected expense, a home equity loan or line of credit is a great resource to fund your next project. With rates* still at record lows and home values on the rise in some areas this is a great time to borrow against the equity in your home.

Project	Cost	Fixed Rate/Term	Monthly Payment
Upgraded Bathroom	\$15,000	2.99%/5 years	\$269.46
Window Replacement	\$25,000	2.99%/5 years	\$449.11
Remodeled Kitchen	\$40,000	2.99%/5 years	\$718.57

Freedom Credit Union offers fixed home equity loans or variable home equity lines of credit with:

- Competitive, low rates
- Flexible rates and terms for affordable payments
- Easy application and fast approval process
- Personalized service tailored to your needs

Apply online at FreedomCU.org

*The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. Terms and rates subject to change without notice. Home Equity Line of Credit is subject to a Variable Rate. Please visit the rates page on FreedomCU.org for all rates, terms and disclosures.

Enjoy Enhanced Security with the Freedom Cash Back Rewards Platinum VISA®



Starting this month Freedom Platinum cards will have the added security benefits of an embedded EMV chip. Visa chip cards are a major advancement in card security technology, with an embedded microchip that stores and generates the information required to authenticate, authorize and process transactions.

The new cards are nearly impossible to counterfeit and the EMV technology enables more secure processing by producing a one-time use code for each transaction. Cardholders can continue to use their Visa chip cards as they were used before, as the magnetic stripe is accepted everywhere chip readers have not been deployed. Once merchants have upgraded their payment terminals to accept cards with the EMV chip, cardholders simply insert their cards into the reader instead of swiping.

Currently EMV technology is only available on the Freedom Platinum Visa, but we expect to offer the EMV chip Visa Gold card later this year. To learn more or apply for the Freedom Cash Back Rewards Platinum Visa visit the credit card information page at FreedomCU.org.

MONEY MARKET, CHECKING & SAVINGS RATES

Account	Dividend Rate	APY [*]
Money Market		
\$0 - \$9,999.99	.20%	.20%
\$10,000 and above	.30%	.30%
Checking	.10%	.10%
Primary & Club Savings	.20%	.20%
Education & IRA Savings	.20%	.20%
Health Savings	.10%	.10%

*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Rates accurate as of 1/1/15. Rates subject to change without notice and may change after Account is opened. Fees may reduce earnings. Regulations prohibit payment in excess of available earnings. Dividends on Savings and Checking Accounts are computed monthly on average daily balances of \$5 or more and posted monthly. The Money Market Account has a variable rate which will be greater than our Primary Savings rate, and subject to monthly adjustments. Dividends will be paid monthly on the average daily balance, based upon the current tier level rates.

SHARE & IRA CERTIFICATE (CD) RATES

Account Type	Dividend Rate	APY [*]
6 Months	.35%	.35%
12 Months	.50%	.50%
18 Months	.65%	.65%
24 Months	1.04%	1.05%
36 Months	1.54%	1.55%
48 Months	1.83%	1.85%
60 Months	2.18%	2.20%

*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Rates accurate as of 1/1/15. Minimum opening deposit and amount to earn APY is \$500, \$250 for ages 25 and under. Penalty required for early withdrawal. Fees may reduce earnings. Regulations prohibit payment in excess of available earnings. Terms and rates are subject to change without notice.

CREDIT CARD RATES²

Credit Card Type	APR ¹
Visa® Platinum	0.99% Intro APR, then as low as 9.90%
Visa® Classic/Gold	0.99% Intro APR, then as low as 8.90%
Student Visa	11.90%
Share Secured Visa	15.90%

NEW/USED VEHICLE LOAN RATES

Term	APR ¹
1-48 months ³	as low as 2.99%
49-66 months ³	as low as 2.99%
67-75 months ³	as low as 3.99%
76-84 months (New Only)	4.99%

HOME EQUITY LOAN RATES⁴

Term	APR ^{1,5}	Monthly payment per \$10,000 borrowed
1 - 60 months	2.99%	\$179.70
61 - 120 months	3.99%	101.25
121 - 180 months	4.24%	75.20

HOME EQUITY LINE OF CREDIT^{4,6}

Index	Margin	APR ^{1,3}
Prime Rate	-0.01%	3.99%

FIRST MORTGAGES

Call Freedom at 215-612-6196, or visit www.FreedomCU.org, for current rates and terms. Call CU Abstract at 267-803-5000 for title insurance services.

OTHER LOAN RATES

Type	APR ¹
Share Secured Loan	7.00%
Share Certificate Secured Loan ⁷	7.00%
Personal Loan ⁸	as low as 8.49%
Overdraft/Line of Credit ⁹	as low as 10.90%

¹APR=Annual Percentage Rate. The maximum unsecured debt per Member is \$30,000. Rates accurate as of 1/1/15. Terms and rates subject to change without notice. ²The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. Rate will not be less than listed above or greater than 18%. 0.99% Introductory APR applies to all purchases, cash advances, and balance transfers made using the new Freedom Classic and Gold Cards during the 6-month introductory period. This offer is only available for new Card applications. Card issuance subject to final approval. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Offer subject to change without notice. ³The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. Rate will not be less than listed above or greater than 11.99%. ⁴APR applies to Loan-to-Value (LTV) less than or equal to 80%. Hazard Insurance is required. For loans over \$100,000, Title Insurance is required. Low, all services fee of \$95. ⁵APR will not be less than 3.99% or greater than 6.99%. The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. Make 60 payments of \$184.20 per \$10,000 borrowed at 3.99% APR. Applies to loans in the 2nd lien position. ⁶Home Equity Line of Credit is subject to a Variable Rate which is based on the highest Prime Rate as published in the Wall Street Journal and will be the rate 10 days prior to the first day of each calendar quarter of each year. ⁷The greater of 7% APR or 2% above the Term Share Certificate rate. ⁸The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. APR will not be less than listed above or greater than 16.99%. Loan minimum is \$500. ⁹The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. APR will not be less than listed above or greater than 17.9%.

Employee Of The Quarter

John Hummel



Congratulations to John Hummel, Freedom's Employee of the Quarter! John joined Freedom in 1999 as a Collections Representative and was promoted to Collections Supervisor. In 2012, John moved to the IT department as a systems analyst. In his current role, John ensures that the internal credit union systems run smoothly. John has taken service to a new level in the IT Department, using his knowledge and ability to find simple solutions to complex problems. He is being recognized for his contributions and dedication to the organization.

When he is not in the office, John enjoys traveling with his family to exotic locations such as: Hawaii, Jamaica and Mexico. He is also an outdoor enthusiast and an avid golfer.



Main Telephone: (215) 612-5900

Main Fax: (215) 612-5939

Telephone Teller: (215) 612-5919
(877) 612-5919 (Outside The Local PA Area)

Call Center Hours

8:00 AM - 6:00 PM (M-Th)
8:00 AM - 7:00 PM (F)
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Sa)

Website, Online Banking, Loan Application and Shared Branching: FreedomCU.org

ABA Routing/Transit #: 2360-8475-1

Operations Center

CenterPointe Office Center
626 Jacksonville Road, Suite 250 • Warminster, PA 18974

CONSOLATION BRANCH

4900 Princeton Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19135

9:00 AM - 4:30 PM (M-W)
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM (Th)
9:00 AM - 7:00 PM (F)
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Sa, Su)

SEARS BRANCH

Cottman & Bustleton Avenues • Philadelphia, PA 19149

9:30 AM - 4:30 PM (M-W)
9:30 AM - 6:00 PM (Th)
9:30 AM - 7:00 PM (F)
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Sa)
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (Su)

ABINGTON BRANCH

1440 Old York Road • Abington, PA 19001
(See Hours Below)

LANSDALE BRANCH

Hillcrest Shopping Center
636 East Main Street • Lansdale, PA 19446
(See Hours Below)

NORTHEAST BRANCH

10400 Drummond Road • Philadelphia, PA 19154
(See Hours Below)

WARMINSTER BRANCH

25 Jacksonville Road • Warminster, PA 18974
(See Hours Below)

9:00 AM - 4:30 PM (M-W)
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM (Th)
9:00 AM - 7:00 PM (F)
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Sa)

Board Of Directors

Joseph Yerkes, Chairman
George Madden, Vice Chairman
Christopher McGinley,
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Marie Sejda, Member
Lowell A. Tinner, Member
Charles Whiting, Member

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Enter the TurboTax® \$25K Giveaway!



This year, make sure your taxes are done right and get a chance to win big. Try any TurboTax® Online product for free and you'll be entered into the TurboTax \$25K Giveaway.¹

- All you need to know is yourself. TurboTax translates taxes into simple questions about your life and puts everything in the right forms for you.
- You won't miss a thing. TurboTax searches over 350 deductions and credits, so you can be confident you're getting the biggest refund you deserve.
- Double checks as you go. TurboTax runs error checks and a final review of your return to help make sure your taxes are done right.

Start TurboTax now for free and be entered for an opportunity to win!

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Focus Points

Holiday Closing

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Monday, January 19, 2015

President's Day – Monday, February 16, 2015

Voices of Inspiration

Nominations are opening soon. Visit the News and Events section on FreedomCU.org for more details

