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Rebeca Romero Rainey, *President and CEO*

September 6, 2023

NCUA Office of General Counsel
Attn: FOIA Officer
1775 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-3415

Dear Sir or Madam:

On behalf of the Independent Community Bankers of America,¹ I am making a request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) for information, records, or material related to Rakuten Inc.'s application to the National Credit Union Administration for a federal credit union charter and/or for insurance under the Share Insurance Fund.

Specifically, ICBA is interested in information, records, or material that would confirm that Rakuten Inc. has, indeed, applied for a charter and/or insurance. ICBA does not seek records that contain deliberative decision-making information. Nor do we seek information related to trade secrets or commercial/financial information. Simply, we seek records that contain ministerial information, such as any records or communication between NCUA and Rakuten that confirm NCUA's receipt of Rakuten's application and the date on which such application was received.

In contrast to the NCUA, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency maintain public databases of organizations and entities that have

¹ The Independent Community Bankers of America® creates and promotes an environment where community banks flourish. ICBA is dedicated exclusively to representing the interests of the community banking industry and its membership through effective advocacy, best-in-class education, and high-quality products and services. With nearly 50,000 locations nationwide, community banks employ nearly 700,000 Americans and are the only physical banking presence in one in three U.S. counties. Holding \$5.8 trillion in assets, \$4.8 trillion in deposits, and \$3.8 trillion in loans to consumers, small businesses and the agricultural community, community banks channel local deposits into the Main Streets and neighborhoods they serve, spurring job creation, fostering innovation and fueling their customers' dreams in communities throughout America. For more information, visit ICBA's website at www.icba.org.

The Nation's Voice for Community Banks.®

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applied for federal insurance² or for a national charter.³ ICBA believes that providing this basic information, in-line with the practices of other federal banking agencies, would demonstrate transparency, furthering the goals of good public policy.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 659-8111 or Michael.Emancipator@icba.org.

Sincerely,

/s/

Michael Emancipator

Senior Vice President and Senior Regulatory Counsel

² See FDIC's "Bank Application Actions," available at https://www.fdic.gov/regulations/applications/rmsbankapp/result.html?start_date=07%2F01%2F2022&end_date=07%2F31%2F2023&date_range_type=1&applicant_name=&ddlstate=&applTypes_hidden=7&applTypes_desc_hidden=Deposit+Insurance+-+New+Bank&cert=&ddlaction=-1&action_desc_hidden=.

³ See OCC's "Corporate Applications Search," available at https://apps.occ.gov/CAAS_CATS/.