

## Metropolitan District Employees' Credit Union, Inc.



Dear Members,

We've closed another year with many changes here and in the financial world. Michelle, Ana and I are always learning about new products and new processes, as well as new precautions that are necessary as technology changes and improves.

### FINANCIAL ADVISORY

#### WRITING CHECKS WITHOUT HAVING FUNDS TO COVER THEM.

**Q:**

My brother-in-law ( or friend, or sibling) is low on cash and is paying his creditors by writing checks for money he doesn't have. I know this is wrong, but what options does he have? And, what can I do about it?

**A:**

It's nice that you care, but there really isn't anything you can do about it. However, if he's openly talking about it, you might want to share some facts with him: knowingly writing a check for more than your account can cover is illegal. Aside from the fees he'll get, which will cost him more in the long run, it isn't a game. It's really against the law.

If you can, advise him or her to sit down with the creditors and explain the situation. With the economy where it is today, this is a common occurrence. How he deals with it, however, will make all the difference.

We've also had a few events for our members and special drawings for one reason or another. For instance, we had International Credit Union Day in October with many winners and handouts for anyone who came in.

We also started collecting Cell phones for Soldiers. Anyone that brought in used cell phones got a healing plant. So far we've sent in over 100 phones!

We also had drawings for new ATM accounts and members. And, new Discount Power Accounts. So come on in sometime, you never know what you'll be in for!

Keep in mind that tax season is coming up. Make your IRA contributions and/or have your tax refunds directly deposited here.



## Our Annual meeting is Monday, April 2, 2012

### If You're Ready to Retire

If you're like many Americans, you probably have a mix of assets to draw upon. Each type of account has different tax laws governing it. How you spend down these accounts can have big consequences on your taxes.

The government taxes money from traditional IRAs and 401(k)s at the ordinary income tax rate, but it levies investment gains at a lower tax, so you might consider spending down taxable accounts first

At age 70½ you will be required to take a minimum distribution from your IRA, thereby triggering the ordinary tax rate. Until then, let it grow tax deferred if you can.

Roth IRAs, on the other hand, can be very tax efficient. Because you generally paid taxes when you made the contribution, withdrawals are tax-free. If possible, hold off on tapping your Roth as long as possible to allow this pool of money to grow.

Go green, get E-statements.  
*Reduce: Re-use: Recycle*



250 Murphy Road / P.O. Box 1348  
Hartford, CT 06143  
860.560.9036

**Home Banking:** [www.mdecu.org](http://www.mdecu.org)

**Access 24:** 860.549.5349

860.549.5357

**Text Short code:** 95495

**Office Hours:**

**Monday, Wednesday, Thursday,**

**Friday**—7:30 to 4:00 PM

**Tuesday**—9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**Holiday Closings:**

Monday, January 2,

New Year's Day

Monday, January 16

Martin Luther King Day

Monday, February 20

Presidents' day

**Products Offered:**

Online Banking

Certificates of Deposit

Telephone Banking

ATM/Debit Cards

Mobile Banking

Student Loans

Visa Credit Cards

E-statements

### LOCATION INFO:

250 Murphy Road!

Free parking and easy access to the credit union. We are easy on and off the highway.

Directions:

**91 South to Exit 27**, left on Airport Road, Right on Brainard Road, left on Murphy Road, #250.

**91 North to Exit 27**, straight at light onto Murphy Road, #250.

### DID YOU KNOW?



Membership in your credit union is extended to **any** of your relatives! Immediate family or extended family. Your grandchildren, nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, etc.. They can ALL join and take advantage of our services and products.

**Make it a family affair!**

# LOAN RATES\* & Other Important Data

Rates effective until 01.31.12

\*Management reserves the right to change rates at any time due to management decisions or typos.

<p><b>New Cars</b>  <b>2.99%</b>                  No maximum \$\$                  100% Financing up to 72 months.                  Any vehicle with less than 2500 is a "new" car.</p>	 <p><b>Newer used cars</b>                  (under 5 years old)  <b>3.99%</b>                  100% financing of                  NADA retail value</p>	<p><b>Older Used Cars</b>                  5 to 8 years old  <b>4.99%</b>                  100% financing of                  NADA retail value</p>																				
	<p><b>Frozen Share Loans* 3.95%</b>                  *Frozen share loans are available on any shares except IRA accounts. "Term accounts" such as CDS cannot be used to secure loans at this time.</p>	<p><b>TERMS for Personal Loans*</b>                  12—48 months 7.00%                  49—72 Months 8.50%                  73—120 Months 10.00%                  *Maximum Amount \$20,000</p>																				
<p><b>Variable Home Equity*</b>                  Prime rate + .50%                  \$400,000 maximum                  Up to 240 months                  *Rate adjusted every 60 months</p>	<p><b>Credit Unions,</b>  <i>We're all about people helping people.</i>                  We'd be glad to answer any questions you've got about loans or credit.                  860.560.9036, ext 100, 102 or 103</p>	<p><b>Recreational vehicles.</b>                  Call for details.</p>																				
<p><b>FIRST PLACE HOME EQUITY VARIABLE</b>  <b>Prime rate*</b>                  *Rate adjusted</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <th colspan="2">CD rates</th> <th colspan="2">IRA CD rates</th> </tr> <tr> <td>3 Months</td> <td>.50%</td> <td>3 Months</td> <td>.50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6 Months</td> <td>.60%</td> <td>6 Months</td> <td>.75%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12 Months</td> <td>.75%</td> <td>12 Months</td> <td>1.00%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18 Months</td> <td>1.00%</td> <td>18 Months</td> <td>1.25%</td> </tr> </table>	CD rates		IRA CD rates		3 Months	.50%	3 Months	.50%	6 Months	.60%	6 Months	.75%	12 Months	.75%	12 Months	1.00%	18 Months	1.00%	18 Months	1.25%	<p><b>Savings rates</b>                  are declared quarterly by the board of directors. The quarter ending 12.31.2011 paid .25% on all regular shares and .50% on IRA shares.</p>
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<p><b>Fixed home equity*</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th>Term</th> <th>Rate</th> </tr> <tr> <td>5 years</td> <td>4.50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10 years</td> <td>4.75%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15 years</td> <td>5.25%</td> </tr> </table> <p>*Maximum Amount \$400,000</p>	Term	Rate	5 years	4.50%	10 years	4.75%	15 years	5.25%	<p><b>VISA CREDIT CARDS</b>                  with a low low Introduction rate of <b>1.99%</b>, for 6 months.                  the regular rate will be only 9.99%</p>	<p><b>Put this number in your cell phone or wallet!</b>  <b>For lost or stolen ATM/Debit Cards</b>  <b>1-800-236-2442</b></p>												
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Banking regulations require us to in form membership about our

**MEMBERSHIP EXPULSION POLICY.**

In the interest of protecting the assets of the Metropolitan District Employees Credit Union and maximizing dividends to members, the board of directors adopts the following policy. This policy provides for expulsion of members who have caused the Credit Union a loss or who have engaged in actions that put the credit union at risk of loss or liability. Expulsion may result, upon board action, in the situations described below.

**Expulsion Criteria.** Member-caused loss that may subject the member to expulsion action by the board of directors includes the following:

Members failure to pay amounts due under a loan. "Amounts due" include, without limitation: principal; interest; fees and charges; financed insurance premiums; collection agency charges or attorney's fee incurred in collecting amounts due under a note or guarantee, in repossessing and liquidating collateral under a security agreement, or in obtaining a deficiency judgment.

A member who files bankruptcy, but signs an enforceable reaffirmation agreement or otherwise voluntarily makes arrangements to repay all amounts due, **will remain eligible for membership.**

Member's failure to provide collected funds to cover share account withdrawals or to cover personal share drafts.

Member's failure to provide collected funds to cover Credit Union drafts purchased by the member.

Member's failure to pay fees or charges due the Credit Union for any reason.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, a member who has caused a loss (due to bankruptcy) but, in the sole discretion of the management of the MDECU, establishes that the loss was unavoidable and the result of extraordinary hardship resulting from: loss of job, serious family illness, dissolution of marriage, or death in the immediate family, **will remain eligible for membership.**

Member actions that put the credit union at risk of loss or liability that may subject the member to expulsion action by the board include the following:

Members who engage in check kiting, attempted or actual deposits of counterfeit checks or other non-negotiable items, foreign ATM transfers between checking and savings accounts which result in overdrafts of both accounts, attempted or actual theft of credit union or other members funds, or similar activities whereby the member illegally attempts to obtain funds not due the member.

Members threatening staff who deny loan applications or other services, members who engage in inappropriate conduct or language directed at staff based on sex, race, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, physical or mental impairment, age, or membership in the uniformed services, or similar activity whereby staff are subjected to verbal or physical abuse.

Members who fail to protect blank personal checks as evidenced by repeated

claims of lost checks and unauthorized transactions (particularly when the forgeries are committed by persons living in the members household), or engage in similar activities resulting from repeated failure to keep their accounts and records secure.

Notice to Current Members. The expulsion criteria will be communicated to all members.

Notice to New Members. The expulsion criteria will be communicated to new members at the time of application, as of the date of mailing the notice to current members. Members who do not apply in person will be mailed the notice as soon as possible but no later than twenty (20) days after application for membership.

**Expulsion Procedure.** In the event a member causes a loss to the credit union that meets the Expulsion Criteria, the board of directors may expel the member in accordance with the following procedure:

(a) The matter of expulsion will be placed on the agenda for the next regularly or specially scheduled meeting of the board of directors;

(b) If the board votes to expel the member:(1) The credit union will apply any member shares available to cover the loss;

(2) The member who has caused such loss will be sent a letter notifying the member of his or her expulsion. Any shares remaining, after the credit union exercises its right to apply shares to amounts due, will be sent to the member with the expulsion letter.