

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

March 20, 2014

<u>Via E-mail</u> Mary Ann Frantz, Esq. 3400 U.S. Bancorp Tower 111 S.W. Fifth Avenue Portland, OR 97204

Re: Harvard Illinois Bancorp, Inc.

Preliminary Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed March 13, 2014

Filed by Stilwell Value Partners II, L.P., et al.

File No. 0-53935

Dear Ms. Frantz:

We have reviewed the above filing and have the following comments. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand the disclosure.

Please respond to this letter by amending the proxy statement, by providing the requested information or by advising us when you will provide the requested response. If you do not believe our comments apply to the Company's facts and circumstances or do not believe an amendment is appropriate, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing any amendment to the filings and the information you provide in response to these comments, we may have additional comments. All defined terms used in this letter have the same meaning as in the proxy statement listed above unless otherwise indicated.

## Schedule 14A

## Proposal Number 1: Election of Directors, page 3

- 1. Please revise the disclosure regarding Demitri Sibbing to describe more specifically his principal occupations and employment during the past five years. Please refer to Item 401(e)(1) of Regulation S-K.
- 2. Please revise the disclosure to indicate whether Mr. Sibbing and Ms. Korte have consented to being named in the proxy statement and to serve if elected in the circumstances described in the proxy statement.

## Other Matters

3. The Stilwell Group refers shareholders to information that will be contained in the

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Company's proxy statement. The Stilwell Group is required to provide some of this information in its proxy statement. We presume that the Stilwell Group is relying upon Rule 14a-5(c) to refer to this information. If so, please note that we believe that reliance upon Rule 14a-5(c) before the Company distributes the information to security holders would be inappropriate. Alternatively, if the Stilwell Group determines to disseminate its proxy statement prior to the distribution of the Company's proxy statement, it must undertake to provide the omitted information to security holders. Please advise as to the Stilwell Group's intent in this regard.

## Solicitation; Expenses page 5

4. Disclosure indicates that the filing persons may solicit proxies by mail, e-mail, advertisement, telephone, facsimile and personal solicitation. Please be advised that all written soliciting materials, including any e-mails or scripts to be used in soliciting proxies must be filed under the cover of Schedule 14A on the date of first use. Refer to Rule 14a-6(b) and (c). Please confirm your understanding.

\* \* \*

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable Exchange Act rules require. Since the Company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to a Company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

In responding to our comments, please provide a written statement from the Company acknowledging that:

- the Company is responsible for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing;
- staff comments or changes to disclosure in response to staff comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing; and
- the Company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

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Please direct any questions to me at (202) 551-3444. You may also contact me via facsimile at (202) 772-9203. Please send all correspondence to us at the following ZIP code: 20549-3628.

Sincerely,

/s/ Perry J. Hindin

Perry J. Hindin Special Counsel Office of Mergers and Acquisitions