

# Bull/Bear Debates: 2023 Outlook On Online Banks + Investor Sentiment: A Year Of Recovery Or Recession?

JANUARY 6, 2023 | 11:00AM ET

We invite investors to join our 2023 Outlook call on the online banks, which includes all five Credit Cards in our coverage (AXP, BFH, COF, DFS, SYF), as well as auto lender Ally Financial, student lender Sallie Mae, and online marketplace LendingClub. Investor sentiment has varied widely but directionally positive, with most investors bullish on a soft recovery and Fed rate cuts in 2023. Conversely the bearish take has centered on slowing loan growth, rising credit losses, and deposit betas overwhelming rising asset yields. We will debate all these bull/bear points, address our views, and recommend long and short positions to kick off 2023.

Conference call date and time subject to change. To join the call or to obtain more information, please contact your Stephens sales representative.

## Topics of Discussion

- Consumer themes in a recovery and recession, such as affordability and spending behaviors, payment rates and propensity to borrow, credit trends and payment hierarchies
- Online Bank themes, particularly the impact to Net Interest Margins from rising interest rates
- Who's helped/hurt once the Fed begins cutting rates? Who benefits from further rate increases?
- Investor sentiment and relative positioning between the online banks. Hint: asset class matters
- Our picks for longs and shorts among online banks in 2023. What's counter-consensus? And, why could we be wrong?
- Can we dismiss the fintechs now, or are they still dangerous to our traditional lenders?

## Conference Call Host

Vincent Cointic, CFA  
Managing Director  
Specialty Finance  
(646) 620-7702  
[Vincent.Cointic@stephens.com](mailto:Vincent.Cointic@stephens.com)

Stephens

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[stephens.com](https://stephens.com)

f in  800-443-9491

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