



DIVISION OF
CORPORATION FINANCE

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

July 30, 2015

Gregory W. Norwood
Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
First Niagara Financial Group, Inc.
726 Exchange Street, Suite 618
Buffalo, NY 14210

**Re: First Niagara Financial Group, Inc.
Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended
December 31, 2014
Filed March 17, 2015
File No. 001-35390**

Dear Mr. Norwood,

We have completed our review of your filings. We remind you that our comments or changes to disclosure in response to our comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the company or the filings 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. We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filings to be certain that the filings include the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable rules require.

Sincerely,

/s/ Michael Volley

Michael Volley
Staff Accountant