

NEWS RELEASE



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Contact: Genevieve Gannon
602.952.5438

Alliance Bank announces 2008 milestones

Local business bank exhibits strong liquidity, well-capitalized position and continued growth in loans and deposits

PHOENIX – Alliance Bank of Arizona President and CEO **Jim Lundy** announces 2008 milestones. Alliance Bank now ranks as the 11th largest bank in Arizona with \$867 million in assets and posted solid growth in deposits and loans in 2008.

“Our year-end results underscore our strong liquidity, sound capital base and prudent loan growth due to our outstanding team of very talented and experienced bankers,” said Lundy. “Given the current market conditions, our relationship-driven banking model makes more sense than ever. During these challenging economic times, Alliance Bank of Arizona is well positioned to continue to gain market share and be opportunistic as customers seek out local bankers they know and trust.”

During 2008, Alliance Bank posted total loans of \$678 million, up \$93 million or 16%, from December 31, 2007, and total deposits of \$680 million, up \$67 million or 11%, since year end 2007. In addition, Alliance Bank recently marked another milestone by exceeding 8,000 customer deposit accounts.

As Alliance Bank celebrates its 6th anniversary (opening in February 2003), the bank now has 11 offices in Arizona and 151 employees.

“The real key to our success has been outstanding leadership from our board of directors and our ability to recruit and retain some of the most proven and ‘cycle tested’ bankers in Arizona,” added Lundy.

Also in 2008, Alliance Bank of Arizona’s holding company – Western Alliance Bancorporation (WAL-NYSE) – received approval from the U.S. Treasury Department for \$140 million of the company’s preferred stock and warrants as part of the TARP Capital Purchase Program. Including two private placements of common stock, WAL raised a total of \$220 million of capital during 2008, and now ranks as the 100th largest U.S. banking company. With the new capital raised in 2008, WAL’s capital ratios are expected to be among the highest in the industry. Alliance Bank is actively putting its share of the TARP money WAL received, to work on a daily basis.

Alliance Bank continues to show its resiliency as one of the state’s strongest banks. Alliance Bank has strong liquidity and capital levels, as well as non-performing asset levels that are well below its peers. In addition, Alliance Bank, in conjunction with Western Alliance Bancorporation, was selected by the FDIC to bid

on both failed bank acquisitions in Arizona during 2008, emphasizing the bank's financial strength and soundness.

Founded in 2003, Alliance Bank has quickly become one of the fastest-growing banks in the U.S. Alliance Bank is a "super community" commercial bank with local decision-making, focused on Arizona's business and professional community, along with individuals seeking personalized banking service. Alliance Bank now has 11 offices statewide including Phoenix, Scottsdale, Mesa, Tucson, Flagstaff and Sedona. For more information, visit the Alliance Bank of Arizona website at alliancebankofarizona.com.

Alliance Bank of Arizona is a subsidiary of Western Alliance Bancorporation, westernalliancebancorp.com, one of the largest regional bank holding companies in the country with more than \$5 billion in assets.