



PRESS RELEASE

Contact: James D. Hicken
President
Chief Executive Officer
(661) 362-6001

For Immediate Release

Bank of Santa Clarita Reports Earnings for the First Quarter of 2011

SANTA CLARITA, CALIFORNIA – May 5, 2011. Bank of Santa Clarita (OTC BB: BSCA.OB) today announced financial results for the first quarter of 2011.

Bank of Santa Clarita, the only commercial bank headquartered in the Santa Clarita Valley, reported that its net earnings for the first quarter of 2011 totaled \$29,000 as compared to \$161,000 for the first quarter of 2010. The more significant items which resulted in this change are noted below.

Net Interest Income: During an extended period where the Bank has experienced some compression on its interest margin (the effective net interest margin was 3.43% during the first quarter of 2010, declining to 3.11% during the fourth quarter of 2010, but then increasing to 3.31% during the first quarter of 2011), we saw an increase in our net interest income, rising from \$1.48 million in the first quarter of 2010 to \$1.55 million in the first quarter of 2011, this growth was largely driven by increases in total balances and also by a significant reduction in the cost of deposits, offset in part by a reduction in the yield on loans, both of which are described below.

The Bank has experienced growth in deposits over the past 12 months, with deposits totaling \$144 million at March 31, 2011, reflecting growth of \$10 million or 8% during that time. This deposit growth included more than \$15 million of non-interest bearing demand deposits, representing a growth rate for such deposits of more than 60%. During the first quarter of 2011, the Bank's effective cost of deposits was 1.18% as compared to the first quarter 2010 when we had an effective cost of 1.44%. This improvement was primarily driven by two factors: (1) the significant increase in the DDAs noted above, and (2) management's decision to allow more than \$6 million of high-cost (nearly 4% on average), non-brokered, institutional CDs to mature without renewal.

During the 12 months ended March 31, 2011, the Bank's net loans grew at a rate of 5%; however, during that period we saw a reduction in the quarterly average loan yield from 5.83% during the first quarter of 2010 to 5.57% during the first quarter of 2011. This reduction in yield largely reflects the lower prevailing market rates for high quality loans which were available during 2010 and into 2011.

The Bank's investments in securities, money-market deposit accounts and Federal Funds sold averaged nearly \$60 million during the first quarter of 2011 with an effective yield of 2.18%, whereas in the year-earlier quarter these assets averaged \$49 million and had an effective yield of 2.10%.

Provision for Loan Losses: During the first quarter of 2011 the Bank reduced its Allowance for Loan Losses (the "ALL") from 1.31% of total loans to 1.28% of total loans, which, after factoring in the ALL as it applies to the first quarter loan portfolio growth of \$2 million, resulted in the net negative provision of \$14 thousand.

Noninterest Expense: The Bank experienced increases in noninterest expenses from the first quarter of 2010 to the first quarter of 2011 amounting to \$147 thousand. These increases largely resulted from two factors: (1) salaries and benefits expenses increased \$91 thousand, primarily related to an increase in our employee headcount (35 at March 31, 2010 and 38 at March 31, 2011), and (2) other noninterest expenses increased \$56 thousand largely due to our increased size (e.g. data processing and related expenses, and deposit insurance expense) and our move into our new headquarters facility.

Income Tax Expense: The Bank reported a \$96 thousand increase in income tax expense in the first quarter of 2011 as compared to the first quarter of 2010 primarily resulting from the Bank's recognition in 2010 (and in 2008 and 2009) of all of the income tax benefits relating to pre-tax losses reported in the initial four years of the Bank's operations (2004 – 2007), for which no income tax benefits had then been recorded. Such benefits amounted to \$110 thousand during the first quarter of 2010 (and \$0 in the first quarter of 2011, as the entire amount of the initial years' tax benefits was recorded during 2008 – 2010).

At March 31, 2011, shareholders' equity totaled \$20.1 million and the Bank's total risk-based regulatory capital ratio was 15.08%, exceeding the "well-capitalized" level of 10% which is prescribed in applicable capital regulations. The Bank also continues to maintain substantial liquidity positions, retaining significant balances of liquidity on its balance sheet as well as readily available collateralized borrowings and other potential sources of liquidity.

Bank of Santa Clarita, founded in 2004, is the only independent, full service commercial bank headquartered in the Santa Clarita Valley and generally serves the needs of retail consumers, small to mid-sized businesses, professionals, entrepreneurs, and high-net worth individuals. The Bank provides local, experienced decision-making and the personalized service that growing businesses need on a daily basis. Bank clients have direct access to executive management and professional staff members to address their SBA and other credit requirements, and also technology-based services that include online bill-paying, remote capture depositing, check imaging and initiating online wire transfers, among other cash management facilities, which services enable its clients to effectively and efficiently manage their cash and credit needs.

Bank of Santa Clarita, Corporate Headquarters
23780 Magic Mountain Parkway
Santa Clarita, California 91355
(661) 362-6004
www.bankofsantaclarita.com

FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain matters discussed in this release constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements relate to the Bank's current expectations regarding deposit and loan growth, operating results and the strength of the local economy. These forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause the actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from those expressed, suggested or implied by the forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to: the impact of changes in interest rates, a decline in economic conditions and increased competition among financial service providers as these factors may impact the Bank's operating results, its ability to attract deposit and loan customers, the quality of the Bank's earning assets and government regulation. The Bank does not undertake, and specifically disclaims, any obligation to update any forward-looking statements to reflect occurrences or unanticipated events or circumstances after the date of such statements.