

SOUTHERN FIRST BANCSHARES INC  
Form 10-Q  
November 02, 2010

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 10-Q**

**x QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE  
ACT OF 1934**

**For the Quarterly Period Ended September 30, 2010**

**OR  
o TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15 (d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE  
ACT OF 1934**

**For the Transition Period from                      to  
Commission file number 000-27719**

**Southern First Bancshares, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**864-679-9000**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**Not Applicable**

(Former name, former address, and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes x No o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes o No o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definitions of "accelerated filer" and "large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes o No x

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Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date: 3,143,181 shares of common stock, \$.01 par value per share, were issued and outstanding as of October 20, 2010.

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**PART I. CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**Item 1. Consolidated Financial Statements**

***SOUTHERN FIRST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY  
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS***

*(dollars in thousands, except share data)*

See notes to consolidated financial statements that are an integral part of these consolidated statements.

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***SOUTHERN FIRST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (LOSS)***

*(dollars in thousands, except share data)*

See notes to consolidated financial statements that are an integral part of these consolidated statements.

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***SOUTHERN FIRST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY  
AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2010 AND 2009***

*(Unaudited)*

*(dollars in thousands, except share data)*

See notes to consolidated financial statements that are an integral part of these consolidated statements.

***SOUTHERN FIRST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS***  
*(dollars in thousands)*

See notes to consolidated financial statements that are an integral part of these consolidated statements.

***SOUTHERN FIRST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY  
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***

**NOTE 1. Nature of Business and Basis of Presentation**

*Business activity*

***Southern First Bancshares, Inc.*** (the "Company") is a South Carolina corporation that owns all of the capital stock of Southern First Bank, N.A. (the "Bank") and all of the stock of Greenville First Statutory Trust I and II (collectively, the "Trusts"). On July 2, 2007, the Company and Bank changed their names to Southern First Bancshares, Inc. and Southern First Bank, N.A., respectively. The Bank is a national bank organized under the laws of the United States located in Greenville County, South Carolina. The Bank is primarily engaged in the business of accepting demand deposits and savings deposits insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the "FDIC"), and providing commercial, consumer and mortgage loans to the general public. The Trusts are special purpose subsidiaries organized for the sole purpose of issuing trust preferred securities.

*Basis of Presentation*

The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q. Accordingly, they do not include all the information and footnotes required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Operating results for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2010 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2010. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and footnotes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 (Registration Number 000-27719) as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company, and its wholly owned subsidiary, the Bank. In accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 810, "Consolidation," the financial statements related to the special purpose subsidiaries, the Trusts, have not been consolidated.

*Cash and Cash Equivalents*

For purposes of the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, cash and federal funds sold are included in "cash and cash equivalents." These assets have contractual maturities of less than three months.

*Reclassifications*

Certain amounts, previously reported, have been reclassified to state all periods on a comparable basis that had no effect on shareholders' equity or net income.

*Subsequent Events*

Subsequent events are events or transactions that occur after the balance sheet date but before financial statements are issued. Recognized subsequent events are events or transactions that provide additional evidence about conditions that existed at the date of the balance sheet, including the estimates inherent in the process of preparing financial statements. Non-recognized subsequent events are events that provide evidence about conditions that did not exist at the date of the balance sheet but arose after that date. Management performed an evaluation to determine whether or not there have been any subsequent events since the balance sheet date and no subsequent events occurred requiring accrual or disclosure.



*Formal Agreement with the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency*

On June 8, 2010, the Bank entered into a formal agreement (the "Formal Agreement") with its primary regulator, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (the "OCC"). The Formal Agreement seeks to enhance the Bank's existing practices and procedures in the areas of credit risk management, credit underwriting, liquidity, and funds management. In addition, the OCC has established Individual Minimum Capital Ratio levels of Tier 1 and total capital for the Bank that are higher than the minimum and well capitalized ratios applicable to all banks. Specifically, we must maintain total risk-based capital of at least 12%, Tier 1 capital of at least 10%, and a leverage ratio of at least 9%. The Board of Directors and management of the Bank have aggressively worked to improve these practices and procedures and believe the Company is currently in compliance with

substantially all of the requirements of the Formal Agreement. See "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" for more discussion of the Formal Agreement.

**NOTE 2. Note Payable**

The Company had a \$4.3 million term note with Silverton Bridge Bank, N.A. ("Silverton") at December 31, 2009, bearing interest at the prime rate plus 0.5% with a floor rate of 4.0% and maturing on April 30, 2014. On August 10, 2010, the Company repaid the note payable in full.

**NOTE 3. Preferred Stock Issuance**

On February 27, 2009, as part of the U.S. Treasury Department's Capital Purchase Program ("CPP"), the Company entered into a Letter Agreement and a Securities Purchase Agreement (collectively, the "CPP Purchase Agreement") with the Treasury Department, pursuant to which the Company sold 17,299 shares of its Fixed Rate Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series T (the "Series T Preferred Stock") and a warrant (the "CPP Warrant") to purchase 330,554 shares of the Company's common stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$17.3 million in cash. The Series T Preferred Stock qualifies as Tier 1 capital and is entitled to cumulative dividends at a rate of 5% per annum for the first five years, and 9% per annum thereafter. The Company is current on its dividend obligations. The Company must consult with the OCC before it may redeem the Series T Preferred Stock but, contrary to the original restrictions in the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (the "EESA"), will not necessarily be required to raise additional equity capital in order to redeem this stock. The CPP Warrant has a 10-year term and is immediately exercisable upon its issuance, with an exercise price, subject to anti-dilution adjustments equal to \$7.85 per share of the common stock. The fair value allocation of the \$17.3 million between the shares of Series T Preferred Stock and the CPP Warrant resulted in \$15.9 million allocated to the shares of Series T Preferred Stock and \$1.4 million allocated to the CPP Warrant.

**NOTE 4. Earnings (loss) per Common Share**

The following schedule reconciles the numerators and denominators of the basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share computations for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2010 and 2009. Dilutive common shares arise from the potentially dilutive effect of the Company's stock options and warrants that are outstanding. The assumed conversion of stock options and warrants can create a difference between basic and dilutive net income per common share.

At September 30, 2010 and 2009, 684,929 and 442,079 options, respectively, were anti-dilutive in the calculation of earnings per share as their exercise price exceeded the fair market value.

(1) Preferred stock dividend required to be accreted over estimated life of warrant issued in conjunction with preferred stock.

**NOTE 5. Stock Based Compensation**

The Company has a stock-based employee compensation plan. On January 1, 2006, the Company adopted the fair value recognition provisions of FASB ASC 718, "Compensation - Stock Compensation," to account for compensation costs under its stock option plan.

In adopting FASB ASC 718, the Company elected to use the modified prospective method to account for the transition from the intrinsic value method to the fair value recognition method. Under the modified prospective method, compensation cost is recognized from the adoption date forward for all new stock options granted and for any outstanding unvested awards as if the fair value method had been applied to those awards as of the date of grant.

The fair value of the option grant is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. The following assumptions were used for grants: expected volatility of 26.76% for 2010 and 2009, risk-free interest rate of 3.25% for 2010 and 2.59% for 2009, expected lives of the options were 10 years, and the assumed dividend rate was zero.

**NOTE 6. Fair Value Accounting**

As of June 30, 2009, the Company adopted FASB ASC 820, "Fair Value Measurement and Disclosures," "Determining Fair Value When the Volume and Level of Activity for the Asset or Liability Have Significantly Decreased and Identifying Transactions That Are Not Orderly." FASB ASC 820 is intended to determine the fair value when there is no active market or where the inputs being used represent distressed sales.

FASB ASC 820, "Fair Value Measurement and Disclosures," defines fair value as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. FASB ASC 820 also establishes a fair value hierarchy which requires an entity to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. The standard describes three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

Following is a description of valuation methodologies used for assets recorded at fair value.

#### *Investment Securities*

Securities available for sale are valued on a recurring basis at quoted market prices where available. If quoted market prices are not available, fair values are based on quoted market prices of comparable securities. Level 1 securities include those traded on an active exchange, such as the New York Stock Exchange or U.S. Treasury securities that are traded by dealers or brokers in active over-the-counter markets and money market funds. Level 2 securities include mortgage-backed securities and debentures issued by government sponsored entities, municipal bonds and corporate debt securities. In certain cases where there is limited activity or less transparency around inputs to valuations, securities are classified as Level 3 within the valuation hierarchy. Securities held to maturity are valued at quoted market prices or dealer quotes similar to securities available for sale. The carrying value of Other Investments, such as Federal Reserve Bank and Federal Home Loan Bank ("FHLB") stock, approximates fair value based on their redemption provisions.

#### *Loans*

The Company does not record loans at fair value on a recurring basis. However, from time to time, a loan may be considered impaired and an allowance for loan losses may be established. Loans for which it is probable that payment of interest and principal will not be made in accordance with the contractual terms of the loan agreement are considered impaired. Once a loan is identified as individually impaired, management measures the impairment in accordance with FASB ASC 310, "Receivables." The fair value of impaired loans is estimated using one of several methods, including collateral value, market value of similar debt, enterprise value, liquidation value and discounted cash flows. Those impaired loans not requiring an allowance represent loans for which the fair value of the expected repayments or collateral exceed the recorded investments in such loans. At September 30, 2010, substantially all of the impaired loans were evaluated based on the fair value of the collateral. In accordance with FASB ASC 820, "Fair Value Measurement and Disclosures," impaired loans where an allowance is established based on the fair value of collateral require classification in the fair value hierarchy. When the fair value of the collateral is based on an observable market price or a current appraised value, the Company considers the impaired loan as nonrecurring Level 2. When an appraised value is not available or management determines the fair value of the collateral is further impaired below the appraised value and there is no observable market price, the Company considers the impaired loan as nonrecurring Level 3.

#### *Other Real Estate Owned ("OREO")*

OREO, consisting of properties obtained through foreclosure or in satisfaction of loans, is reported at the lower of cost or fair value, determined on the basis of current appraisals, comparable sales, and other estimates of value obtained principally from independent sources, adjusted for estimated selling costs (Level 2). At the time of foreclosure, any excess of the loan balance over the fair value of the real estate held as collateral is treated as a charge against the allowance for loan losses. Gains or losses on sale and generally any subsequent adjustments to the value are recorded as a component of OREO expense.

#### *Assets and Liabilities Recorded at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis*

The tables below presents the recorded amount of assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis (dollars in thousands).



The Company has no liabilities carried at fair value or measured at fair value on a recurring or nonrecurring basis.

The table below presents a reconciliation for the period of January 1, 2010 to September 30, 2010 for all Level 3 assets that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis (dollars in thousands).

*Assets and Liabilities Recorded at Fair Value on a Nonrecurring Basis*

The Company is predominantly an asset based lender with real estate serving as collateral on approximately 79.3% of loans. Loans which are deemed to be impaired and real estate acquired in settlement of loans are valued on a nonrecurring basis at the lower of cost or market value of the underlying real estate collateral. Such market values are generally obtained using independent appraisals, which the Company considers to be level 2 inputs. The table below presents the recorded amount of assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis (dollars in thousands).

*Fair Value of Financial Instruments*

Financial instruments require disclosure of fair value information, whether or not recognized in the consolidated balance sheets, when it is practical to estimate the fair value. A financial instrument is defined as cash, evidence of an ownership interest in an entity or contractual obligations which require the exchange of cash. Certain items are specifically excluded from the disclosure requirements, including the Company's common stock, premises and equipment and other assets and liabilities.

The following is a description of valuation methodologies used to estimate fair value for certain other financial instruments.

Fair value approximates carrying value for the following financial instruments due to the short-term nature of the instrument: cash and due from banks, federal funds sold, federal funds purchased, and securities sold under agreement to repurchase.

*Bank Owned Life Insurance* - The cash surrender value of bank owned life insurance policies held by the Bank approximates fair values of the policies.

*Deposit Liabilities* - Fair value for demand deposit accounts and interest-bearing accounts with no fixed maturity date is equal to the carrying value. The fair value of certificate of deposit accounts are estimated by discounting cash flows from expected maturities using current interest rates on similar instruments.

*FHLB Advances and Other Borrowings* - Fair value for FHLB advances and other borrowings are estimated by discounting cash flows from expected maturities using current interest rates on similar instruments.

The Company has used management's best estimate of fair value based on the above assumptions. Thus, the fair values presented may not be the amounts that could be realized in an immediate sale or settlement of the instrument. In addition, any income taxes or other expenses, which would be incurred in an actual sale or settlement, are not taken into consideration in the fair value presented.

The estimated fair values of the Company's financial instruments at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 are as follows (dollars in thousands):

## **Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.**

*The following discussion reviews our results of operations for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2010 and assesses our financial condition as of September 30, 2010. You should read the following discussion and analysis in conjunction with the accompanying consolidated financial statements and the related notes and the consolidated financial statements and the related notes for the year ended December 31, 2009 included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for that period. Results for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2010 are not necessarily indicative of the results for the year ending December 31, 2010 or any future period.*

### **DISCUSSION OF FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This report, including information included or incorporated by reference in this document, contains statements which constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Forward-looking statements may relate to our financial condition, results of operation, plans, objectives, or future performance. These statements are based on many assumptions and estimates and are not guarantees of future performance. Our actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in any forward-looking statements, as they will depend on many factors about which we are unsure, including many factors which are beyond our control. The words "may," "would," "could," "should," "will," "expect," "anticipate," "predict," "project," "potential," "believe," "continue," "assume," "intend," "plan," and "estimate," as well as similar expressions, are meant to identify such forward-looking statements. Potential

risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ from those anticipated in any forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, those described below under Item 1A- Risk Factors and the following:

- reduced earnings due to higher credit losses generally and specifically because losses in the sectors of our loan portfolio secured by real estate are greater than expected due to economic factors, including, but not limited to, declining real estate values, increasing interest rates, increasing unemployment, or changes in payment behavior or other factors;
- reduced earnings due to higher credit losses because our loans are concentrated by loan type, industry segment, borrower type, or location of the borrower or collateral;
- the high concentration of our real estate-based loans collateralized by real estate in a weak commercial real estate market;
- our ability to comply with our Formal Agreement and potential regulatory actions if we fail to comply;
- restrictions or conditions imposed by our regulators on our operations may make it more difficult for us to achieve our goals;
- significant increases in competitive pressure in the banking and financial services industries;
- changes in the interest rate environment which could reduce anticipated margins;
- changes in political conditions or the legislative or regulatory environment, including the effect of recent financial reform legislation on the banking industry;
- general economic conditions, either nationally or regionally and especially in our primary service area, being less favorable than expected, resulting in, among other things, a deterioration in credit quality;
- changes occurring in business conditions and inflation;
- changes in deposit flows;
- changes in technology;
- changes in monetary and tax policies;
- adequacy of the level of our allowance for loan losses;
- the rate of delinquencies and amount of loans charged-off;
- the rate of loan growth;
- adverse changes in asset quality and resulting credit risk-related losses and expenses;
- loss of consumer confidence and economic disruptions resulting from terrorist activities;
- changes in the securities markets; and
- other risks and uncertainties detailed from time to time in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC").

All forward-looking statements in this report are based on information available to us as of the date of this report. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in our forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee you that these expectations will be achieved. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or otherwise revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

These risks are exacerbated by the recent developments in national and international financial markets, and we are unable to predict what effect these uncertain market conditions will have on our Company. Beginning in 2008 and continuing through the first nine months of 2010, the capital and credit markets experienced unprecedented levels of volatility and disruption. There can be no assurance that these unprecedented developments will not materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

## Overview

We were incorporated in March 1999 to organize and serve as the holding company for Greenville First Bank, N.A. On July 2, 2007, we changed the name of our company and bank to Southern First Bancshares, Inc. and Southern First Bank, N.A., respectively. Since we opened our bank in January 2000, we have experienced growth in total assets, loans, deposits, and shareholders' equity.





Like most community banks, we derive the majority of our income from interest received on our loans and investments. Our primary source of funds for making these loans and investments is our deposits, on which we pay interest. Consequently, one of the key measures of our success is our amount of net interest income, or the difference between the income on our interest-earning assets, such as loans and investments, and the expense on our interest-bearing liabilities, such as deposits and borrowings. Another key measure is the spread between the yield we earn on these interest-earning assets and the rate we pay on our interest-bearing liabilities, which is called our net interest spread.

There are risks inherent in all loans, so we maintain an allowance for loan losses to absorb probable losses on existing loans that may become uncollectible. We maintain this allowance by charging a provision for loan losses against our operating earnings for each period. We have included a detailed discussion of this process, as well as several tables describing our allowance for loan losses.

In addition to earning interest on our loans and investments, we earn income through fees and other charges to our clients. We have also included a discussion of the various components of this noninterest income, as well as of our noninterest expense.

Economic conditions, competition, and the monetary and fiscal policies of the Federal government significantly affect most financial institutions, including the Bank. Lending and deposit activities and fee income generation are influenced by levels of business spending and investment, consumer income, consumer spending and savings, capital market activities, and competition among financial institutions, as well as customer preferences, interest rate conditions and prevailing market rates on competing products in our market areas.

Our business model continues to be client-focused, utilizing relationship teams to provide our clients with a specific banker contact and support team responsible for all of their banking needs. The purpose of this structure is to provide a consistent and superior level of professional service, and we believe it provides us with a distinct competitive advantage. We consider exceptional client service to be a critical part of our culture, which we refer to as "ClientFIRST."

The following discussion and analysis also identifies significant factors that have affected our financial position and operating results during the periods included in the accompanying financial statements. We encourage you to read this discussion and analysis in conjunction with our financial statements and the other statistical information included in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

### **Recent Regulatory Developments**

On June 8, 2010, the Bank entered into a formal agreement (the "Formal Agreement") with its primary regulator, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (the "OCC"). The Formal Agreement is based on the findings of the OCC during their on-site examination of the Bank as of March 31, 2009. The Formal Agreement seeks to enhance the Bank's existing practices and procedures in the areas of credit risk management, credit underwriting, liquidity, and funds management. Specifically, under the terms of the Formal Agreement, the Bank is required to (i) protect its interest in assets criticized by the OCC; (ii) develop, implement, and adhere to a written program to reduce the high level of credit risk; (iii) obtain credit information on all loans lacking such information and ensure proper collateral documentation is in place; (iv) engage the services of an independent appraiser to provide updated appraisals for certain loans where the most recent appraisal is more than 12 months old; (v) update and implement written policies/programs addressing loan policy, allowance for loan and lease losses, and other real estate owned; (vi) continue to improve its liquidity position and maintain adequate sources of funding; (vii) obtain prior written determination of no supervisory objection from the OCC before accepting, renewing, or rolling over brokered deposits in excess of 25% of total deposits; (viii) update and adhere to its profit plan designed to improve the condition of the Bank; and (ix) submit periodic reports to the OCC regarding various aspects of the foregoing actions.

The Formal Agreement with the OCC also requires the establishment of certain plans and programs within various time periods. In addition, the Formal Agreement requires that various reports be submitted to the OC on a quarterly basis until the Formal Agreement is terminated. After having completed the requirements set forth below, management believes that the Bank is in compliance with substantially all of the conditions established in the Formal Agreement. However, no assurance can be given that the OCC will concur with management's assessment until we receive formal OCC approval, which we have not received.

- The Bank has established a compliance committee of its Board of Directors to oversee management's response to all sections of the Formal Agreement. The committee consists of all 11 members of the Bank's Board of Directors and meets at least monthly to receive written progress reports from management on the results and status of actions needed to achieve full compliance with each article of the Formal Agreement.
- Policies and procedures were revised or established and approved relating to the following issues:

- Current and satisfactory credit information was obtained on all loans lacking such information to ensure proper collateral documentation is in place;
- We received and evaluated current independent appraisals or updated appraisals on loans secured by certain properties;
- The Bank's liquidity position was enhanced. We reduced our level of brokered deposits to comply with the OCC agreed upon levels.
- A profit plan was updated to improve the financial condition of the Bank.

If the Bank does not satisfy and maintain adherence with each of the requirements listed above, the Bank will not be in compliance with the Formal Agreement. Failure to comply with the Formal Agreement could result in regulators taking additional enforcement actions against the Bank. The Bank's ability to meet the goals set forth in the Formal Agreement is contingent in part upon the stabilization of the local real estate markets and on its financial performance.

In addition, we have agreed with the OCC that the Bank will maintain a total risk-based capital ratio of at least 12%, Tier 1 capital of at least 10%, and a leverage ratio of at least 9%. As of September 30, 2010, our capital ratios exceed these ratios and we remain "well capitalized." See "Management's Discussion and Analysis - Results of Operations - Capital Resources" for more discussion of the Minimum Capital Ratio levels established by the OCC and our capital ratios as of September 30, 2010.

### **Critical Accounting Policies**

We have adopted various accounting policies that govern the application of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States and with general practices within the banking industry in the preparation of our financial statements. Our significant accounting policies are described in the footnotes to our audited consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2009, as filed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Certain accounting policies involve significant judgments and assumptions by us that have a material impact on the carrying value of certain assets and liabilities. We consider these accounting policies to be critical accounting policies. The judgment and assumptions we use are based on historical experience and other factors, which we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Because of the nature of the judgment and assumptions we make, actual results could differ from these judgments and estimates that could have a material impact on the carrying values of our assets and liabilities and our results of operations.

### ***Allowance for Loan Losses***

We believe the allowance for loan losses is the critical accounting policy that requires the most significant judgment and estimates used in preparation of our consolidated financial statements. Some of the more critical judgments supporting the amount of our allowance for loan losses include judgments about the credit worthiness of borrowers, the estimated value of the underlying collateral, assumptions about cash flow, determination of loss factors for estimating credit losses, and the impact of current events, conditions, and other factors impacting the level of probable inherent losses. Under different conditions, the actual amount of credit losses incurred by us may be different from management's estimates provided in our consolidated financial statements. Refer to the portion of this discussion that addresses our allowance for loan losses for a more complete discussion of our processes and methodology for determining our allowance for loan losses.

### ***Real Estate Acquired in Settlement of Loans***

Real estate acquired through foreclosure is initially recorded at the lower of cost or estimated fair value. Subsequent to the date of acquisition, it is carried at the lower of cost or fair value, adjusted for net selling costs. Fair values of real

estate owned are reviewed regularly and writedowns are recorded when it is determined that the carrying value of real estate exceeds the fair value less estimated costs to sell. Costs relating to the development and improvement of such property are capitalized, whereas those costs relating to holding the property are expensed.

### ***Income Taxes***

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis. When income and expenses are recognized in different periods for financial reporting purposes versus for the purposes of computing income taxes currently payable, deferred taxes are provided on such temporary differences. Under ASC 740, "Income Taxes," deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the expected future tax consequences of events that have been recognized in the consolidated financial statements or tax returns. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using the enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be realized or settled. The Company believes that the income tax filing positions taken or expected to be taken in its tax returns will more likely than not be sustained upon audit by the taxing authorities and does not anticipate any adjustments that would result in a material adverse impact on the Company's financial condition, results of operations, or cash flow. Therefore, no reserves for uncertain income tax positions have been recorded pursuant to ASC 740.

### **Effect of Economic Trends**

The first nine months of 2010 continue to reflect the tumultuous economic conditions which have negatively impacted our clients' liquidity and credit quality. Concerns regarding increased credit losses from the weakening economy have negatively affected capital and earnings of most financial institutions. Financial institutions have experienced significant declines in the value of collateral for real estate loans and heightened credit losses, which have resulted in record levels of non-performing assets, charge-offs and foreclosures.

Liquidity in the debt markets remains low in spite of efforts by the U.S. Department of the Treasury ("Treasury") and the Federal Reserve Bank ("Federal Reserve") to inject capital into financial institutions. The federal funds rate set by the Federal Reserve has remained at 0.25% since December 2008, following a decline from 4.25% to 0.25% during 2008 through a series of seven rate reductions.

Treasury, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the "FDIC") and other governmental agencies continue to enact rules and regulations to implement the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 ("EESA"), the Troubled Asset Relief Program ("TARP"), the Financial Stability Plan, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act ("ARRA"), the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the "Dodd-Frank Act"), and related economic recovery programs, many of which contain limitations on the ability of financial institutions to take certain actions or to engage in certain activities if the financial institution is a participant in the TARP Capital Purchase Program ("CPP") or related programs. Future regulations, or enforcement of the terms of programs already in place, may require financial institutions to raise additional capital and result in the conversion of preferred equity issued under TARP or other programs to common equity. There can be no assurance as to the actual impact of the EESA, the FDIC programs or any other governmental program on the financial markets.

The weak economic conditions are expected to continue through the remainder of 2010. Financial institutions likely will continue to experience heightened credit losses and higher levels of non-performing assets, charge-offs and foreclosures. In light of these conditions, financial institutions also face heightened levels of scrutiny from federal and state regulators. These factors negatively influenced, and likely will continue to negatively influence, earning asset yields at a time when the market for deposits is intensely competitive. As a result, financial institutions experienced, and are expected to continue to experience, pressure on credit costs, loan yields, deposit and other borrowing costs, liquidity, and capital.

### **Recent Legislative and Regulatory Initiatives to Address Financial and Economic Crises**

Markets in the United States and elsewhere have experienced extreme volatility and disruption over the past three years. These circumstances have exerted significant downward pressure on prices of equity securities and virtually all other asset classes, and have resulted in substantially increased market volatility, severely constrained credit and capital markets, particularly for financial institutions, and an overall loss of investor confidence. Loan portfolio

performances have deteriorated at many institutions resulting from, among other factors, a weak economy and a decline in the value of the collateral supporting their loans. Dramatic slowdowns in the housing industry, due in part to falling home prices and increasing foreclosures and unemployment, have created strains on financial institutions. Many borrowers are now unable to repay their loans, and the collateral securing these loans has, in some cases, declined below the loan balance. In response to the recent challenges facing the financial services sector, several regulatory and governmental actions have been announced including:





- The second plan is the Securities Program, which is administered by the Treasury and involves the creation of public-private investment funds ("PPIFs") to target investments in eligible residential mortgage-backed securities and commercial mortgage-backed securities issued before 2009 that originally were rated AAA or the equivalent by two or more nationally recognized statistical rating organizations, without regard to rating enhancements (collectively, "Legacy Securities"). Legacy Securities must be directly secured by actual mortgage loans, leases or other assets, and may be purchased only from financial institutions that meet TARP eligibility requirements. The U.S. Treasury received over 100 unique applications to participate in the Legacy Securities PPIP and in July 2009 selected nine PPIF managers. As of September 30, 2010, the PPIFs had completed their fundraising and have closed on approximately \$7.4 billion of private sector equity capital, which was matched 100 percent by Treasury, representing \$14.7 billion of total equity capital. The U.S.

Treasury has also provided \$14.7 billion of debt capital, representing \$29.4 billion of total purchasing power. As of September 30, 2010, PPIFs have drawn-down approximately \$18.6 billion of total capital which has been invested in eligible assets and cash equivalents pending investment.

- On May 22, 2009, the FDIC levied a one-time special assessment on all banks due on September 30, 2009.
- On November 12, 2009, the FDIC issued a final rule to require banks to prepay their estimated quarterly risk-based assessments for the fourth quarter of 2009 and for all of 2010, 2011 and 2012 and to increase assessment rates effective on January 1, 2011.
- On July 21, 2010, the U.S. President signed into law the Dodd-Frank Act, a comprehensive regulatory framework that will affect every financial institution in the U.S. The Dodd-Frank Act includes, among other measures, changes to the deposit insurance and financial regulatory systems, enhanced bank capital requirements, and provisions designed to protect consumers in financial transactions. The Dodd-Frank Act also alters certain corporate governance matters affecting public companies. Over the next 6 to 18 months, regulatory agencies will implement new regulations which will establish the parameters of the new regulatory framework and provide a clearer understanding of the legislation's effect on banks.
- Internationally, both the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (the "Basel Committee") and the Financial Stability Board (established in April 2009 by the Group of Twenty ("G-20") Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors to take action to strengthen regulation and supervision of the financial system with greater international consistency, cooperation, and transparency) have committed to raise capital standards and liquidity buffers within the banking system ("Basel III"). On September 12, 2010, the Group of Governors and Heads of Supervision agreed to the calibration and phase-in of the Basel III minimum capital requirements (raising the minimum Tier 1 common equity ratio to 4.5% and minimum Tier 1 equity ratio to 6.0%, with full implementation by January 2015) and introducing a capital conservation buffer of common equity of an additional 2.5% with implementation by January 2019. The U.S. federal banking agencies support this agreement. The Basel Committee is expected to finalize the new capital

and liquidity standard later this year and to present them for approval of the G-20 Finance Minister and Central Bank Governors in November 2010.

- On September 27, 2010, the U.S. President signed into law the Small Business Jobs and Credit Act which, among other things, creates a \$30 billion fund to provide capital for banks with assets under \$10 billion to increase their small-business lending. The U.S. Treasury is currently working to finalize terms of participation for this fund.

In response to the above regulatory initiatives, we entered into the CPP Purchase Agreement described above. We have chosen to participate in the TAGP and have opted out of the DGP. On April 13, 2010, the FDIC approved an interim rule that extends the TAGP to December 31, 2010. We have elected to continue our voluntary participation in the program. Coverage under the program is in addition to and separate from the basic coverage available under the FDIC's general deposit insurance rules. We believe participation in the program is enhancing our ability to retain customer deposits. As a result of the enhancements to deposit insurance protection and the expectation that there will be demands on the FDIC's deposit insurance fund, our deposit insurance costs increased significantly.

Although the TAGP expires on December 31, 2010, a provision of the Dodd-Frank Act requires the FDIC to provide unlimited deposit insurance for all deposits in non-interest-bearing transaction accounts. This deposit insurance mandate created by the Dodd-Frank Act will take effect on December 31, 2010, and will continue through December 31, 2012. The deposit insurance mandate created by the Dodd-Frank Act is not an extension of the TAGP. Although the TAGP and the Dodd-Frank Act establish unlimited deposit insurance for certain types of non-interest-bearing deposit accounts, unlike the TAGP, the coverage provided by the Dodd-Frank Act does not apply to NOW accounts or IOLTAs and will be funded through general FDIC assessments, not special assessments.

Although it is likely that further regulatory actions will arise as the Federal government attempts to address the economic situation, we cannot predict the continuing effect that fiscal or monetary policies, economic control, or new federal or state legislation may have on our business and earnings in the future.

## RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

### Income Statement Review

#### *Summary*

#### *Three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009*

Our net income was \$337,000 and \$424,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, a decrease of \$87,000, or 20.5%. The decrease in net income resulted primarily from a \$190,000 increase in the provision for loan losses and a \$450,000 impairment charge on an investment security, partially offset by a \$281,000 increase in net interest income and a \$269,000 decrease in noninterest expenses. After our dividend payment to the US Treasury as our preferred shareholder, net income to common shareholders for the third quarter of 2010 was \$5,000. Our efficiency ratio, excluding the gain on sale of investments, impairment charge, and real estate owned activity, was 61.7% for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared to 69.1% for the same period in 2009. The improvement in the efficiency ratio relates primarily to the increase in net interest income and decrease in compensation costs during the third quarter 2010.

#### *Nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009*

Our net income was \$450,000 and \$1.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, a decrease of \$817,000, or 64.5%. The decrease in net income resulted primarily from a \$2.2 million increase in the provision for loan losses and \$450,000 impairment charge on an investment security, partially offset by a \$1.1 million gain on sale of investment securities. In addition, net interest income increased by \$579,000 and noninterest income, excluding the gain on sale and impairment charge on investment securities, increased by \$123,000, while income tax expense decreased by \$449,000. Offsetting these increases in income was a \$457,000 increase in noninterest expenses. After our dividend payments to the US Treasury as our preferred shareholder, the net loss to common shareholders for the first nine months of 2010 was \$555,000. Our efficiency ratio, excluding the gain on sale of investments, impairment charge, and real estate owned activity, was 70.7% for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared to 70.8% for the same period in 2009. The efficiency ratio remained virtually unchanged for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared the same period in 2009 as the increase in net interest income for the 2010 period was offset by additional general and administrative expenses during the same time period.

#### *Net Interest Income*

Our level of net interest income is determined by the level of earning assets and the management of our net interest margin. For each of the three month periods ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 our net interest income was \$5.2 million and \$5.0 million, respectively. Our average earning assets increased \$10.5 million during the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared to the average for the three months ended September 30, 2009, while our interest bearing liabilities increased only \$2.8 million due to the majority of our deposit growth being in non-interest bearing liabilities. The increase in average earning assets is primarily related to a \$10.0 million increase in our average loans while the increase in average interest-bearing liabilities is related to a \$42.7 million increase in interest bearing deposits, partially offset by a \$39.9 million decrease in notes payable and other borrowings.

Our net interest income was \$14.9 million and \$14.3 million for the nine month periods ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. During the nine months ended September 30, 2010, our average earning assets increased \$19.3 million and our average interest bearing liabilities increased only \$10.3 million compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2009 due to the majority of our deposit growth being in non-interest bearing liabilities. The increase in average earning assets is primarily related to a \$12.3 million increase in our average loans and a \$7.9 million increase in federal funds sold, while the increase in average interest-bearing liabilities is related to a \$37.5 million increase in interest bearing deposits, partially offset by a \$27.2 million decrease in notes payable and other borrowings.

We have included a number of tables to assist in our description of various measures of our financial performance. For example, the "Average Balances, Income and Expenses, Yields and Rates" table shows the average balance of each category of our assets and liabilities as well as the yield we earned or the rate we paid with respect to each category during the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2010 and 2009. A review of this table shows that our loans typically provide higher interest yields than do other types of interest-earning assets, which is why we direct a substantial percentage of our earning assets into our loan portfolio. Similarly, the "Rate/Volume Analysis" table demonstrates the effect of changing interest rates and changing volume of assets and liabilities on our financial condition during the periods shown. We also track the sensitivity of our various categories of assets and liabilities to changes in interest rates, and we have included tables to illustrate our interest

rate sensitivity with respect to interest-earning accounts and interest-bearing accounts. Finally, we have included various tables that provide detail about our investment securities, our loans, our deposits, and other borrowings.

The following tables set forth information related to our average balance sheets, average yields on assets, and average costs of liabilities (dollars in thousands). We derived these yields by dividing income or expense by the average balance of the corresponding assets or liabilities. We derived average balances from the daily balances throughout the periods indicated. During the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, we had only \$100,000 in interest-bearing deposits at another bank and had no securities purchased with agreements to resell. All investments owned have an original maturity of over one year. Nonaccrual loans are included in the following tables. Loan yields have been reduced to reflect the negative impact on our earnings of loans on nonaccrual status. The net of capitalized loan costs and fees are amortized into interest income on loans.

(1) Annualized for the three month period.

(2) The tax-equivalent adjustment to net interest income adjusts the yield for assets earning tax-exempt income to a comparable yield on a taxable basis.

Our net interest margin is calculated as net interest income, on an annualized basis, divided by average interest-earning assets. Our net interest margin, on a tax-equivalent basis, for the three months ended September 30, 2010 was 3.00% compared to 2.86% for the three months ended September 30, 2009. Our net interest spread was 2.75% for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared to 2.62% for the three months ended September 30, 2009. The net interest spread is the difference between the yield we earn on our interest-earning assets and the rate we pay on our interest-bearing liabilities.

The increase in net interest margin resulted primarily from the 13 basis point increase in our net interest spread. The increase in the net interest spread is primarily due to the fact that more of our rate-sensitive liabilities repriced downward than our rate-sensitive assets during the twelve months ended September 30, 2010. While our loan yield increased 14 basis points for

the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared to the three months ended September 30, 2009, our investment yield decreased 163 basis points, causing the yield on our interest-earning assets to decrease by 13 basis points during the same period. However, the decrease in our interest-earning asset yield was offset by a 26 basis point decrease in the cost of our interest bearing liabilities. During the third quarter of 2010 the cost of our interest-bearing deposits decreased by 21 basis points compared to the same period in 2009 while the cost of our borrowings increased by 7 basis points due to the maturity of several lower costing instruments. As of September 30, 2010, substantially all of our Federal Home Loan Bank ("FHLB") advances were at fixed rates, while all of our other borrowings, including notes payable and junior subordinated debt, had variable rates.

The \$3.7 million increase in average noninterest-earning assets during the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared to the same period in 2009 is due primarily to increases of \$2.3 million in both prepaid FDIC insurance and real estate owned. In addition, average noninterest-bearing liabilities increased \$11.0 million during the 2010 period, primarily due to increased noninterest bearing deposits.

(1) Annualized for the nine month period.

(2) The tax-equivalent adjustment to net interest income adjusts the yield for assets earning tax-exempt income to a comparable yield on a taxable basis.

Our net interest margin, on a tax-equivalent basis, for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 was 2.87% compared to 2.84% for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. During the first nine months of 2010, interest-earning assets averaged \$699.1 million compared to \$679.8 million during the same period of 2009. Our net interest spread was 2.63% for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared to 2.61% for the nine months ended September 30, 2009.

The slight increase in the net interest spread is primarily due to the fact that more of our rate-sensitive liabilities repriced downward than our rate-sensitive assets during the twelve months ended September 30, 2010. While our loan yield increased slightly by 2 basis points for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared to the same period in 2009, our investment yield decreased 125 basis points, resulting in a 21 basis point decrease in the yield on our interest earning assets during the same period. However, the decrease in our interest earning asset yield was offset by a 24 basis point decrease in the cost of our interest-bearing liabilities. During the first nine months of 2010, the cost of our interest bearing deposits decreased by 29 basis points compared to the first nine months of 2009, while the cost of our borrowings

increased by 26 basis points due to the maturity of several lower costing borrowing instruments. As of September 30, 2010, substantially all of our FHLB advances were at fixed rates, while all of our other borrowings, including notes payable and junior subordinated debt, had variable rates.

The \$5.2 million increase in average noninterest-earning assets during the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared to the same period in 2009 is due to a \$2.3 million increase in property and equipment related to the construction of our new regional headquarters facility in Columbia, South Carolina as well as increases in both prepaid FDIC insurance and other real estate owned. Average noninterest-bearing liabilities increased \$8.6 million during the 2010 period, primarily due to increased noninterest bearing deposits. In addition, the \$5.6 million increase in shareholders' equity during the 2010 period is primarily related to the \$17.3 million received in February 2009 for the issuance of the Series T Preferred Stock under the TARP CPP.

*Rate/Volume Analysis*

Net interest income can be analyzed in terms of the impact of changing interest rates and changing volume. The following tables set forth the effect which the varying levels of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities and the applicable rates have had on changes in net interest income for the periods presented (dollars in thousands).



Net interest income, the largest component of our income, was \$5.2 million for the three month period ended September 30, 2010 and \$5.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2009. Average interest-earning assets were \$10.5 million higher during the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared to the same period in 2009, while average interest-bearing liabilities increased \$2.8 million. The higher average balances resulted in \$167,000 of additional net interest income for the three months ended September 30, 2010, while lower rates on these average balances produced additional net interest income of \$46,000.

In addition, net interest income was \$14.9 million and \$14.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The increase in the 2010 period related primarily to the net effect of higher levels of both average interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities. Average interest-earning assets were \$19.3 million higher during the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared to the same period in 2009, while average interest-bearing liabilities increased \$10.3 million. The higher average balances resulted in \$671,000 of additional net interest income for the nine months ended September 30, 2010; however, lower rates on the average balances reduced net interest income by \$267,000.

*Three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009*

Interest income for the three months ended September 30, 2010 was \$9.0 million, consisting of \$8.3 million on loans, \$661,000 on investments, and \$13,000 on federal funds sold. Interest income for the three months ended September 30, 2009 was \$9.1 million, consisting of \$8.0 million on loans, \$1.1 million on investments, and \$9,000 on federal funds sold. Interest on loans for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 represented 92.5% and 87.5%, respectively, of total interest income, while income from investments and federal funds sold represented only 7.5% and 12.5%, respectively, of total interest income. The high percentage of interest income from loans relates to our strategy to maintain a significant portion of our assets in higher earning loans compared to lower yielding investments. Average loans represented 82.9% and 82.8% of average interest-earning assets for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Included in interest income on loans for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 was \$112,000 and \$145,000, respectively, related to the net amortization of loan fees and capitalized loan origination costs.

Interest expense for the three months ended September 30, 2010 was \$3.8 million, consisting of \$2.4 million related to deposits and \$1.4 million related to other borrowings. Interest expense for the three months ended September 30, 2009 was \$4.2 million, consisting of \$2.4 million related to deposits and \$1.8 million related to other borrowings. Interest expense on deposits for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 represented 62.7% and 57.3%, respectively, of total interest expense, while interest expense on other borrowings represented 37.3% and 42.7%, respectively, of total interest expense for the same three month periods. During the three months ended September 30, 2010, average interest-bearing deposits increased by \$42.7 million over the same period in 2009, while our notes payable and other borrowings decreased \$39.9 million during the three months ended September 30, 2010 over the same period in 2009.

*Nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009*

Interest income for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 was \$26.8 million, consisting of \$24.4 million on loans, \$2.4 million on investments, and \$34,000 on federal funds sold. Interest income for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was \$27.1 million, consisting of \$23.7 million on loans, \$3.4 million on investments, and \$17,000 on federal funds sold. Interest income on loans for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 represented 90.9% and 87.4%, respectively, of total interest income, while income from investments and federal funds sold represented only 9.1% and 12.6%, respectively, of total interest income. The high percentage of interest income from loans relates to our strategy to maintain a significant portion of our assets in higher earning loans compared to lower yielding investments. Average loans represented 83.0% and 83.5% of average interest-earning assets for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Included in interest income on loans for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 was \$344,000 and \$462,000, respectively, related to the net amortization of loan

fees and capitalized loan origination costs.

Interest expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 was \$11.9 million, consisting of \$7.2 million related to deposits and \$4.6 million related to borrowings. Interest expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was \$12.8 million, consisting of \$7.6 million related to deposits and \$5.1 million related to borrowings. Interest expense on deposits for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 represented 61.0% and 59.7%, respectively, of total interest expense, while interest expense on other borrowings represented 39.0% and 40.3%, respectively, of total interest expense for the same nine month periods. During the nine months ended September 30, 2010, average interest-bearing deposits increased by \$37.5 million over the same period in 2009, while our notes payable and other borrowings decreased \$27.2 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2010 over the same period in 2009.

*Provision for Loan Losses*

We have established an allowance for loan losses through a provision for loan losses charged as an expense on our statement of income. We review our loan portfolio periodically to evaluate our outstanding loans and to measure both the performance of the portfolio and the adequacy of the allowance for loan losses. Please see the discussion below under "Balance Sheet Review - Provision and Allowance for Loan Losses" for a description of the factors we consider in determining the amount of the provision we expense each period to maintain this allowance.

*Three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009*

For the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, we incurred a noncash expense related to the provision for loan losses of \$1.3 million and \$1.1 million, respectively, bringing the allowance for loan losses to \$8.4 million and \$7.9 million, respectively. The allowance represented 1.45% of gross loans at September 30, 2010 and 1.39% of gross loans at September 30, 2009. During the three months ended September 30, 2010, we charged-off \$1.2 million of loans and recorded \$6,000 of recoveries on loans previously charged-off. During the three months ended September 30, 2009, we charged-off \$1.0 million of loans and recorded \$91,000 of recoveries on loans previously charged-off. The \$1.2 million and \$909,000 net charge-offs during the third quarters of 2010 and 2009, respectively, represented 0.83% and 0.63% of the average outstanding loan portfolio for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2010, we incurred a noncash expense related to the provision for loan losses of \$5.0 million, bringing the allowance for loan losses to \$8.4 million, or 1.45% of gross loans, as of September 30, 2010. The \$5.0 million provision for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 related to the \$4.5 million of loans charged-off, partially offset by \$127,000 of recoveries on loans previously charged-off. In contrast, for the nine months ended September 30, 2009, we added \$2.8 million to the provision for loan losses, resulting in an allowance of \$7.9 million at September 30, 2009. We charged-off \$2.0 million of loans and recorded \$95,000 of recoveries on loans previously charged-off during the nine months ended September 30, 2009. The \$4.3 million and \$1.9 million net charge-offs during the first nine months of 2010 and 2009, respectively, represented 1.00% and 0.45% of the average outstanding loan portfolio for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

At September 30, 2010 and 2009, the allowance for loan losses represented 81.3% and 80.2% of the amount of non-performing loans. A significant portion, or 81.6%, of nonperforming loans at September 30, 2010 is secured by real estate. Our nonperforming loans have been written down to approximately 64% of their original nonperforming balance. We have evaluated the underlying collateral on these loans and believe that the collateral on these loans is sufficient to minimize future losses. As a result of this level of coverage on non-performing loans, we believe the provision of \$5.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 to be adequate.

*Noninterest Income*

The following table sets forth information related to our noninterest income (dollars in thousands).

*Three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009*

Noninterest income for the three month period ended September 30, 2010 was \$87,000, a decrease of 83.7% over noninterest income of \$533,000 for the same period of 2009. The \$446,000 decrease during the 2010 period is related primarily to a \$450,000 impairment charge on an investment security. Partially offsetting the impairment charge were increases of \$52,000



in loan fee income, \$88,000 in real estate owned activity, and \$21,000 from other income. In addition, noninterest income decreased by \$44,000 related to service fees on deposit accounts and \$79,000 in income from bank owned life insurance.

Loan fee income was \$190,000 and \$138,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, consisting primarily of late charge fees, fees from issuance of lines and letters of credit, and mortgage origination fees we receive on residential loans funded and closed by a third party. The \$52,000 increase in loan fee income third quarter of 2010 compared to the same period in 2009 related primarily to the \$63,000 increase in mortgage origination fees. Mortgage origination fees were \$159,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared to \$96,000 for the same period in 2009. Income related to fees received from the issuance of lines and letters of credit was \$10,000 for the third quarter of 2010 and \$12,000 for the third quarter of 2009, while late charge fees were \$21,000 and \$30,000 for the three month periods ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Service fees on deposit accounts consist primarily of service charges on our checking, money market, and savings accounts and the fee income received from client non-sufficient funds ("NSF") transactions. Deposit fees were \$155,000 and \$199,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The \$44,000 decrease is primarily related to a \$52,000 decrease in NSF fees and a \$2,000 decrease in overdraft and returned item fees, partially offset by a \$10,000 increase in deposit related fees such as service charges. Service charge fees were \$77,000 and \$67,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, while other fees such as overdraft and returned item fees were \$12,000 and \$14,000 for the same periods in 2010 and 2009, respectively. NSF fee income was \$66,000 and \$118,000 for the third quarters of 2010 and 2009, respectively, representing 42.6% of total service fees on deposits in the 2010 period compared to 59.3% of total service fees on deposits in the 2009 period.

Income derived from bank owned life insurance was \$134,000 and \$213,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The \$79,000 decrease in income from life insurance is due to reduced rates of return on the insurance policies due to the current market environment.

We recorded a \$450,000 other-than-temporary impairment charge on one of our private-label collateralized mortgage obligations during the three months ended September 30, 2010.

Real estate owned activity includes income and expenses from property held for sale and other real estate we own, including real estate acquired in settlement of loans. For the three months ended September 30, 2010, our expenses related to the properties we owned exceeded income received on the real estate by \$60,000. Rental income was \$39,000 for the third quarter of 2010 and expenses such as maintenance, legal and property taxes were \$34,000. In addition, the loss on the sale of real estate owned properties was \$65,000 during the three months ended September 30, 2010. Comparatively, during the third quarter of 2009, income from real estate owned was \$75,000 and expenses related to owning the real estate were \$31,000. In addition, we recorded a \$192,000 write-down on a property for a net loss of \$148,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2009.

Other income consists primarily of fees received on debit card transactions, sale of customer checks, and wire transfers. Other income was \$118,000 and \$97,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The \$21,000 increase related primarily to an \$19,000 increase in debit card transaction fees and a \$2,000 increase in other client service related fees. Debit card transaction fees were \$88,000 and \$69,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, and represented 74.6% and 71.1% of total other income for the third quarters of 2010 and 2009, respectively. The corresponding transaction costs associated with debit card transactions are included in noninterest data processing and related costs. The debit card transaction costs were \$35,000 and \$27,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The net impact of the fees received and the related cost of the debit card transactions on earnings for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 was \$53,000 and \$42,000, respectively. Wire transfer and other deposit related fees were \$30,000 and \$28,000 for the third quarters ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

As previously reported, on July 21, 2010, the U.S. President signed into law the Dodd-Frank Act. The Dodd-Frank Act calls for new limits on interchange transaction fees that banks receive from merchants via card networks like Visa, Inc. and MasterCard, Inc. when a customer uses a debit card. The results of this proposed legislation may impact our other income from debit card transactions in the future.

*Nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009*

Noninterest income in the nine month period ended September 30, 2010 was \$2.2 million, an increase of 53.0% over noninterest income of \$1.5 million in the same period of 2009. The \$777,000 increase in noninterest income is related primarily to a \$1.1 million gain on sale of investment securities, partially offset by a \$450,000 impairment charge on an investment security. In addition, noninterest income also increased by \$119,000 from loan fee income, \$89,000 from real estate owned

activity, and \$63,000 from other income. However, these increases were partially offset by a \$107,000 decrease in service fees on deposit accounts and \$25,000 decrease in income from bank owned life insurance.

Loan fee income was \$416,000 and \$297,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, consisting primarily of late charge fees, fees from issuance of lines and letters of credit, and mortgage origination fees we receive on residential loans funded and closed by a third party. The \$119,000 increase for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared to the same period in 2009 related primarily to an increase of \$131,000 in mortgage origination fees, partially offset by a decrease of \$4,000 in late charge fees and \$8,000 in fees from issuance of lines and letters of credit. Mortgage origination fees were \$316,000 and \$185,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Late charge fees were \$73,000 and \$77,000 for the first nine months of 2010 and 2009, respectively, while income related to issuance of lines and letters of credit was \$27,000 and \$35,000 for the same periods in 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Service fees on deposit accounts consist primarily of service charges on our checking, money market, and savings accounts and the fee income received from client NSF transactions. Deposit fees were \$444,000 and \$551,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The \$107,000 decrease is primarily related to a \$132,000 decrease in NSF fees, partially offset by a \$29,000 increase in deposit related fees. NSF income decreased \$132,000 to \$197,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 from \$329,000 for the same period in 2009, representing 44.4% of total service fees on deposits in the 2010 period compared to 59.7% of total service fees on deposits in the 2009 period. Service charge fees were \$211,000 and \$182,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, while other fees such as overdraft and returned item fees were \$36,000 and \$40,000, respectively.

Income derived from life insurance was \$434,000 and \$459,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The \$25,000 decrease in income from life insurance is due to reduced rates of return on the insurance policies due to the current market environment.

We recorded a \$1.1 million gain on sale of investment securities during the nine months ended September 30, 2010. We sold \$59.2 million of securities and purchased \$58.2 million of securities, allowing us to reposition our investment portfolio to better match our anticipated future cashflow needs. The gain on sale also assisted us in meeting our higher regulatory capital requirements. In addition, we recorded a \$450,000 other-than-temporary impairment charge on one of our private-label collateralized mortgage obligations during the nine months ended September 30, 2010. Comparatively, we recorded a \$34,000 gain on sale of investment securities during the nine months ended September 30, 2009.

Real estate owned activity includes income and expenses from property held for sale and other real estate we own, including real estate acquired in settlement of loans. For the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, our expenses related to owning the real estate exceeded income received on the properties by \$63,000 and \$152,000 respectively. Rental income was \$114,000 for the nine months of 2010 and expenses such as maintenance, legal and property taxes were \$107,000. In addition, we recorded a \$60,000 loss on sale and \$10,000 write-down on real estate owned during the first nine months of 2010. For the first nine months of 2009, income on real estate owned was \$124,000 and expenses related to owning the real estate were \$78,000. In addition, we recorded a \$4,000 gain on the sale of real estate owned and write-downs of \$202,000 during the nine months ending September 30, 2009 for a net loss of \$152,000.

Other income consists primarily of fees received on debit card transactions, sale of customer checks, and wire transfers. Other income was \$340,000 and \$277,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The \$63,000 increase relates primarily to a \$52,000 increase in debit card transaction fees and an \$11,000 increase in other client service related fees. Debit card transaction fees were \$249,000 and \$197,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively and represented 73.2% and 71.1% of total other income for the first nine months of 2010 and 2009, respectively. The corresponding transaction costs associated with

debit card transactions are included in noninterest data processing and related costs. The debit card transaction costs were \$94,000 and \$75,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The net impact of the fees received and the related cost of the debit card transactions on earnings for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 was \$155,000 and \$122,000, respectively.

As previously reported, on July 21, 2010, the U.S. President signed into law the Dodd-Frank Act. The Dodd-Frank Act calls for new limits on interchange transaction fees that banks receive from merchants via card networks like Visa, Inc. and MasterCard, Inc. when a customer uses a debit card. The results of this proposed legislation may impact our other income from debit card transactions in the future.



*Noninterest expenses*

The following table sets forth information related to our noninterest expenses (dollars in thousands).

*Three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009*

We incurred noninterest expenses of \$3.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared to \$3.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2009, an decrease of \$269,000 or 7.0%.

Noninterest expense as a percentage of noninterest income and net interest income, excluding the gain on sale and impairment charge on investments and real estate owned activity, or the efficiency ratio, was 61.7% for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared to 69.1% for the same period in 2009. The improvement in the efficiency ratio relates primarily to the increase in net interest income and decrease in compensation costs during the third quarter 2010.

For the three months ended September 30, 2010, compensation and benefits, occupancy, and data processing and related costs represented 73.9% of the total noninterest expense compared to 74.7% for the same period in 2009.

*Nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009*

We incurred noninterest expenses of \$11.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared to \$11.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2009, an increase of \$457,000, or 4.1%.

The efficiency ratio, or noninterest expense as a percentage of noninterest income and net interest income, excluding the gain on sale and impairment charge on investments and real estate owned activity, was 70.7% for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared to 70.8% for the same period in 2009. The efficiency ratio remained virtually unchanged for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared the same period in 2009 as the increase in net interest income for the 2010 period was offset by additional general and administrative expenses during the same time period.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2010, compensation and benefits, occupancy, and data processing and related costs represented 75.4% of the total noninterest expense compared to 74.2% for the same period in 2009.

The following table sets forth information related to our compensation and benefits (dollars in thousands).

*Three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009*

Total compensation and benefits expense was \$1.7 million and \$2.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Compensation and benefits represented 47.3% and 51.2% of our total noninterest expense for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The \$280,000 decrease in compensation and benefits in the third quarter of 2010 compared to the same period in 2009 resulted from decreases of \$213,000 in incentive compensation and \$152,000 in benefits expense, partially offset by an increase of \$82,000 in base compensation expense. In addition, loan origination compensation expense, which is required to be capitalized and amortized over the life of the loan as a reduction of loan interest income, decreased by \$3,000.

The \$82,000 increase in base compensation expense related primarily to the cost of two additional full-time employees as we have added two positions in our information technology and support departments. Incentive compensation represented (5.4%) and 6.1% of total compensation and benefits for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The incentive compensation expense recorded for the third quarters of 2010 and 2009 represented an accrual of the estimated incentive compensation earned during the third quarter of the respective year. Benefits expense decreased \$152,000 in the third quarter of 2010 compared to the same period in 2009. The decrease in benefit expense is related to a reduction in the accrual related to our executive retirement plan. Benefits expense represented 13.6% and 21.7% of the total compensation for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

*Nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009*

Total compensation and benefits expense was \$6.0 million and \$5.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Compensation and benefits represented 51.0% and 52.1% of our total noninterest expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The \$107,000 increase in compensation and benefits in the first nine months of 2010 compared to the same period in 2009 resulted from increases of \$489,000 in base compensation, partially offset by a reduction of \$349,000 in incentive compensation, and \$38,000 in benefits expense. In addition, loan origination compensation expense, which is required to be capitalized and amortized over the life of the loan as a reduction of loan interest income, decreased by \$5,000.

The \$489,000 increase in base compensation expense related primarily to the cost of the additional employees hired to staff our new regional headquarters in Columbia, South Carolina. We have also added positions in client services, deposit operations, and information technology and support during the past twelve months. Incentive compensation represented 3.6% and 9.6% of total compensation and benefits for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The incentive compensation expense recorded for the first nine months of 2010 and 2009 represented an accrual of the estimated incentive compensation earned during the first nine months of the respective year. Benefits expense decreased \$38,000 in the first nine months of 2010 compared to the same period in 2009. The decrease in benefit expense is related to a reduction in the accrual related to our executive retirement plan. Benefits expense represented 21.8% and 23.2% of the total compensation for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

The following tables set forth information related to our data processing and related costs (dollars in thousands).

*Three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009*

Total data processing and related costs were \$421,000 and \$358,000, an increase of \$63,000, or 17.6%, for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. During the first nine months of 2010 and the same period of 2009, our data processing and related costs were \$1.2 million and \$1.1 million, respectively, an increase of \$131,000, or 12.2%.

We have contracted with an outside computer service company to provide our core data processing services. Our core data processing costs increased \$59,000, or 22.8%, from \$259,000 to \$318,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared to the same period in 2009. A significant portion of the fee charged by the third party processor is directly related to the number of loan and deposit accounts and the related number of transactions. Our electronic banking and credit bureau

fees, specifically, have increased as we have grown our client base during the nine months ended September 30, 2010. During the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, data processing costs for our core processing system were \$909,000 and \$810,000, respectively, an increase of \$99,000, or 12.2%.

We receive income from debit card transactions performed by our clients. Since we outsource this service, we are charged related transaction expenses from our merchant service provider. Debit card transaction expense was \$35,000 and \$27,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, and \$94,000 and \$75,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Occupancy expense represented 14.9% and 14.2% of total noninterest expense for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Occupancy expense decreased by \$15,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2010 to \$535,000 from \$550,000 for the same period ended September 30, 2009. For the nine months ended September 30, 2010, occupancy expense increased \$239,000 to \$1.7 million from \$1.4 million for the same period ended September 30, 2009. The increase during the nine month period is due primarily to the expenses related to our new regional headquarters which was opened in August 2009. Occupancy expense represented 14.1% and 12.5% of total noninterest expense for the first nine months of 2010 and 2009, respectively.

The remaining noninterest expenses represent a \$37,000 decrease for the three month period ended September 30, 2010 compared to the same period in 2009 resulting primarily from decreases of \$52,000 in professional fees, \$25,000 in marketing expenses, and \$42,000 in other noninterest expenses, partially offset by an \$84,000 increase in insurance expense. The decrease in professional fees is primarily related to reduced legal expenses during the 2010 period while the reduction in marketing and other noninterest expenses is primarily related to the additional marketing and other costs associated with opening our regional headquarters in Columbia, South Carolina during the third quarter of 2009. The increase in insurance expense is due to the increased cost of FDIC insurance premiums resulting from our Formal Agreement with the OCC.

For the nine month period ended September 30, 2010, remaining noninterest expenses decreased \$20,000 from the same period in 2009. During this period, professional fees decreased by \$14,000, insurance expenses by \$27,000, and other noninterest expenses by \$73,000; however, these decreases were partially offset by a \$52,000 increase in marketing expenses and \$42,000 in telephone expenses. The decrease in professional fees is primarily related to reduced legal and accounting fees during the first nine months of 2010, while the decrease in insurance expenses is due to the FDIC's special assessment of approximately \$300,000 during the second quarter of 2009, partially offset by increased premiums during the second and third quarters of 2010. The increases in marketing and telephone expenses are essentially due to increased community support and additional marketing efforts in our two primary markets and to additional communication costs associated with our new regional headquarters in Columbia, South Carolina. In addition, the \$73,000 decrease in other expenses is primarily due to decreases of \$43,000 in office supplies and forms and \$52,000 in collection expenses, partially offset by a \$34,000 increase in deposit account losses.

We incurred income tax expense of \$110,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared to \$109,000 during the same period in 2009. For the nine months ended September 30, 2010, our income tax expense was \$12,000 compared to \$461,000 for the same period in 2009. The lower income tax expense for the nine month period resulted from our tax exempt income approximating our pre-tax net income.

## **Balance Sheet Review**

### **General**

At September 30, 2010, we had total assets of \$743.9 million, consisting principally of \$571.4 million in net loans, \$92.1 million in investments, \$28.5 million in federal funds sold, \$14.4 million in bank owned life insurance, and \$16.0 million in property and equipment. Our liabilities at September 30, 2010 totaled \$683.8 million, which consisted principally of \$542.7 million in deposits, \$122.7 million in other borrowings, and \$13.4 million in junior subordinated debentures. At September 30, 2010, our shareholders' equity was \$60.1 million.

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At December 31, 2009, we had total assets of \$719.3 million, consisting principally of \$566.5 million in net loans, \$94.6 million in investments, \$6.5 million in federal funds sold, \$14.0 million in bank owned life insurance, and \$16.4 million in property and equipment. Our liabilities at December 31, 2009 totaled \$659.5 million, consisting principally of \$494.1 million in deposits, \$147.0 million in notes payable and other borrowings, and \$13.4 million of junior subordinated debentures. At December 31, 2009, our shareholders' equity was \$59.8 million.

*Federal Funds Sold*

At September 30, 2010, our federal funds sold were \$28.5 million, or 3.8% of total assets. At December 31, 2009, our \$6.5 million in short-term investments in federal funds sold on an overnight basis comprised 0.9% of total assets.

*Investments*

At September 30, 2010, the \$92.1 million in our investment securities portfolio represented approximately 12.4% of our total assets. We held government sponsored enterprise securities, municipal securities, and mortgage-backed securities with a fair value of \$82.8 million and an amortized cost of \$82.1 million for an unrealized gain of \$719,000.

The amortized costs and fair value of investment securities available for sale and held to maturity are as follows (dollars in thousands):

Contractual maturities and yields on our investments that are available for sale and are held to maturity at September 30, 2010 are shown in the following table (dollars in thousands). Expected maturities may differ from contractual maturities because issuers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties. We had no securities with maturities less than one year at September 30, 2010.

The tables below summarize gross unrealized losses on investment securities and the fair market value of the related securities, aggregated by investment category and length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position, at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 (dollars in thousands).

At September 30, 2010, the Company had nine individual investments that were in an unrealized loss position for less than 12 months. The unrealized losses were primarily attributable to changes in interest rates, rather than deterioration in credit quality. The majority of these securities are government or agency securities and, therefore, pose minimal credit risk. The Company considers the length of time and extent to which the fair value of available-for-sale debt securities have been less than cost to conclude that such securities were not other-than-temporarily impaired. We also consider other factors such as the financial condition of the issuer including credit ratings and specific events affecting the operations of the issuer, volatility of the security, underlying assets that collateralize the debt security, and other industry and macroeconomic conditions. As the Company has no intent to sell securities with unrealized losses and it is not more-likely-than-not that the Company will be required to sell these securities before recovery of amortized cost, we have concluded that the securities are not impaired on an other-than-temporary basis.

At September 30, 2010, we held two private label collateralized mortgage obligations ("CMOs") with a book value of \$5.7 million, one of which has been in an unrealized loss position for 12 months or longer. The Company evaluates these securities for other-than-temporary impairment quarterly based on the methodology outlined below. As prescribed by FASB ASC 320-10-35, the Company recognizes the credit component of an other-than-temporary impairment ("OTTI") on debt securities through earnings and the non-credit component in other comprehensive income ("OCI") for those securities in which the Company does not intend to sell the security and it is more-likely-than-not that the Company will not be required to sell the securities prior to recovery.

We utilized the Bloomberg Default model to evaluate our two non-agency CMOs for OTTI which is comprised of five sub-models:

- Prepayment models
- Foreclosure models
- Liquidity models
- Loss severity models
- 60+ Delinquency rate models

Credit risk is prominent for collateralized non-agency mortgage obligations, such as our private-label CMOs, because credit risk is not assumed by any government sponsored agency. Credit risk, arising from borrower default, is especially difficult to quantify given the market's lack of clarity on future home prices as well as the impact of loan attributes. The primary cause of borrower delinquency and default is attributable to the loss of household income due to unemployment. Therefore, the change in unemployment rates is a predictor of the likelihood of mortgage loan delinquency and foreclosures. Prime mortgage borrowers, with secure or steady employment are more likely to stay current on their mortgages, even if home prices drop significantly, as in a period of severe home price depreciation. Subprime borrowers, on the other hand, who only marginally sustained their initial home purchase, are more likely to become delinquent when home prices drop precipitously. Higher unemployment rates and home price depreciation have a positive correlation with higher foreclosure rates.

Other factors such as low Fair Isaac Corporation ("FICO") scores which measure a borrower's credit worthiness, limited or reduced documentation at the time a loan is originated, geographic location, and occupancy types such as non-owner occupied, are also strong indicators of future loan performance and higher mortgage delinquency and foreclosure rates.

The prepayment and foreclosure models consider loan level inputs including loan to value, loan size, FICO score, loan purpose, loan type, property type, loan documentation, state of origin, and weighted average coupon. In addition, the prepayment and foreclosure models include macro-economic inputs such as interest rate, mortgage rates, home price appreciation and unemployment rates based on the various metropolitan areas. Regression analysis including logistical and survival analysis are used for model development. The liquidation model projections are derived from net foreclosure rates and the transition matrices. The liquidation rates are calculated separately according to judicial and non-judicial states.

The loss severity models are calculated based on each loan characteristics and other macro-economic inputs such as:

- Original loan to value
- Cumulative home price appreciation
- Liquidation markdown
- Back interest owed
- Property tax owed
- Broker and lawyer fees

Although, the individual loan level data was utilized as of June 30, 2010, the home price appreciation assumptions and the future unemployment rate assumptions were as of December 1, 2009. The current home price appreciation assumptions are as follows:

- Continue to decline at an annual rate of 10% until December of 2009
- Stays at 0% for two years
- Increases at an annual rate of 5% for two years
- Increases at an annual rate of 3% for the remaining periods



The unemployment rate assumptions are as follows:

- Continues to rise to 10.5% until January of 2010
- Stay at 10.5% for three months
- Declines to 5.8% over the next five years
- Continue at 5.8% for the remaining periods

Listed below is various historical data related to our two private label CMOs.

Although these are not classified as sub-prime obligations or considered the "high risk" tranches, the majority of "structured" investments within all credit markets have been impacted by volatility and credit concerns and economic stresses throughout 2008 and 2009 and continuing into 2010. The result has been that the market for these investments has become significantly less liquid and the spread as compared to alternative investments has widened dramatically. Due to this illiquidity, the Company has recorded a liquidity discount in the form of an unrealized loss of \$350,000. In addition, one of the CMOs continues to experience increasing deterioration in the credit quality, collateral values and credit support underlying the investment. During the third quarter of 2010, the Company concluded that an other-than-temporary impairment has occurred on the security and based on this evaluation, we have recorded a credit-related OTTI in the amount of \$450,000. Other than this impairment charge, the Company believes that it will receive all of the principal and interest in accordance with the original contractual terms of the securities; however we will continue to monitor these securities on a quarterly basis to determine whether additional impairment has occurred. Also, since the Company has no intent to sell these securities and it is not more-likely-than-not that we will be required to sell these securities before recovery of amortized cost, we have concluded that the securities are not impaired on an other-than-temporary basis other than what we have already recorded.

Other investments at September 30, 2010, consisted of FHLB stock with a cost of \$6.6 million, Federal Reserve Bank stock with a cost of \$1.5 million, certificate of deposit investments totaling \$849,000, and investments in Greenville First Statutory Trust I and II of \$186,000 and \$217,000, respectively. At September 30, 2010, our investments included securities issued by Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Federal National Mortgage Association, and Government National Mortgage Association with carrying values of \$24.9 million, \$40.5 million, and \$1.3 million, respectively.

At December 31, 2009, the \$94.6 million in our investment securities portfolio represented approximately 13.2% of our total assets. We held Government sponsored enterprise securities, municipal securities, and mortgage-backed securities with a fair value of \$85.7 million and an amortized cost of \$84.7 million for an unrealized gain of \$1.0 million.

Contractual maturities and yields on our investments at December 31, 2009 are shown in the following table (dollars in thousands). Expected maturities may differ from contractual maturities because issuers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties. At December 31, 2009, we had no securities with a maturity of less than one year.

Other investments at December 31, 2009 consisted of FHLB stock with a cost of \$7.1 million, Federal Reserve Bank stock with a cost of \$1.5 million, and investments in Greenville First Statutory Trust I and II of \$186,000 and \$217,000, respectively.

### *Loans*

Since loans typically provide higher interest yields than other types of interest earning assets, a substantial percentage of our earning assets are invested in our loan portfolio. For the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, average loans were \$580.2 million and \$570.2 million, respectively. Before the allowance for loan losses, total loans outstanding at September 30, 2010 were \$579.9 million. Average loans for the year ended December 31, 2009 were \$568.6 million. Before the allowance for loan losses, total loans outstanding at December 31, 2009 were \$574.3 million.

The principal component of our loan portfolio is loans secured by real estate mortgages. Most of our real estate loans are secured by residential or commercial property. We do not generally originate traditional long term residential mortgages, but we do issue traditional second mortgage residential real estate loans and home equity lines of credit. We obtain a security interest in real estate whenever possible, in addition to any other available collateral. This collateral is taken to increase the likelihood of the ultimate repayment of the loan. Generally, we limit the loan-to-value ratio on loans we make to 80%. Due to the short time our portfolio has existed, the current mix may not be indicative of the ongoing portfolio mix. We attempt to maintain a relatively diversified loan portfolio to help reduce the risk inherent in concentration in certain types of collateral.

The following table summarizes the composition of our loan portfolio at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 (dollars in thousands).

*Maturities and Sensitivity of Loans to Changes in Interest Rates*

The information in the following tables is based on the contractual maturities of individual loans, including loans which may be subject to renewal at their contractual maturity. Renewal of such loans is subject to review and credit approval, as well as modification of terms upon maturity. Actual repayments of loans may differ from the maturities reflected below because borrowers have the right to prepay obligations with or without prepayment penalties.

The following table summarizes the loan maturity distribution by type and related interest rate characteristics at September 30, 2010 (dollars in thousands).

The following table summarizes the loan maturity distribution by type and related interest rate characteristics at December 31, 2009 (dollars in thousands).

*Provision and Allowance for Loan Losses*

We have established an allowance for loan losses through a provision for loan losses charged as an expense. Loan losses are charged against the allowance when management believes the uncollectibility of a loan balance, either in whole or in part, is confirmed. Subsequent recoveries, if any, are credited to the allowance.

In conjunction with the changes in the current economic environment and as required by our Formal Agreement with the OCC, we have revised and updated our allowance for losses policy. Management regularly evaluates the allowance for loan losses and periodically reviews the collectibility of the loans in light of historical experience, the nature and volume of the loan portfolio, adverse situations that may affect the borrower's ability to repay, estimated value of any underlying collateral and prevailing economic conditions. This evaluation is inherently subjective as it requires estimates that are susceptible to significant revision as more information becomes available. Periodically, we adjust the amount of the allowance based on changing circumstances.

We maintain an unallocated component of the allowance in order to reflect the margin of imprecision inherent in the underlying assumptions used in the methodologies for estimating specific and general losses in the portfolio. Uncertainties and subjective issues such as changes in the lending policies and procedures, changes in the local/national economy, changes in

volume or type of credits, changes in volume/severity or problem loans, quality of loan review and board of director oversight, concentrations of credit, and peer group comparisons are factors considered in determining the unallocated portion.

For loans that are also classified as impaired, an allowance is established when the discounted cash flows (or collateral value or observable market price) of the impaired loan are lower than the carrying value of that loan. A loan is considered impaired when, based on current information and events, it is probable that the Company will be unable to collect the scheduled payments of principal or interest when due according to the contractual terms of the loan agreement. Factors considered by management in determining impairment include payment status, collateral value, and the probability of collecting scheduled principal and interest payments when due. Loans that experience insignificant payment delays and payment shortfalls generally are not classified as impaired. Management determines the significance of payment delays and payment shortfalls on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration all of the circumstances surrounding the loan and the borrower, including the length of the delay, the reasons for the delay, the borrower's prior payment record, and the amount of the shortfall in relation to the principal and interest owed. Impairment is measured on a loan by loan basis for commercial and construction loans by either the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at the loan's effective interest rate, the loan's obtainable market price, or the fair value of the collateral if the loan is collateral dependent. Large groups of smaller balance homogeneous loans are collectively evaluated for impairment. Accordingly, the Company does not separately identify individual consumer and residential loans for impairment disclosures, unless such loans are the subject of a restructuring agreement.

A significant portion of the loans in our loan portfolio have been originated in the past five years. In general, loans do not begin to show signs of credit deterioration or default until they have been outstanding for some period of time, a process known as seasoning. The benefit of having time for loans to "season," is that it allows a company to evaluate how loans perform during different economic cycles. We believe that the recent prolonged recession has allowed us to evaluate the performance of our loan portfolio during "stressful" times. If delinquencies and defaults increase, we may be required to increase our provision for loan losses, which would adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

We do not allocate the allowance for loan losses to specific categories of loans. Instead, we evaluate the adequacy of the allowance for loan losses on an overall portfolio basis utilizing our credit grading system which we apply to each loan. We have retained an independent consultant to review the loan files on a test basis to assess the grading of each loan.

The allowance for loan losses was \$8.4 million and \$7.9 million at September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, or 1.45% and 1.39% of outstanding loans, respectively. At December 31, 2009, our allowance for loan losses was \$7.8 million, or 1.35% of outstanding loans, and we had net charged-off loans of \$3.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. During the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 we had net charge-offs of \$4.3 million and \$1.9 million, respectively. The increase in the allowance for loan losses is a result, in large part, of the general conditions of the current economic climate, including, among other things, a rise in unemployment, which affects borrowers' ability to repay loans, and a decrease in values in the real estate market, which affects the value of collateral securing certain loans with the Bank.

The following table summarizes the activity related to our allowance for loan losses for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 (dollars in thousands):

We do not allocate the allowance for loan losses to specific categories of loans. Instead, we evaluate the adequacy of the allowance for loan losses on an overall portfolio basis utilizing our credit grading system which we apply to each loan. We have retained independent consultants to review the loan files on a test basis to confirm the grading of our loans.

*Nonperforming Assets*

The following table shows the nonperforming assets and the related percentage of nonperforming assets to total assets and gross loans as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 (dollars in thousands). Generally, a loan is placed on nonaccrual status when it becomes 90 days past due as to principal or interest, or when we believe, after considering economic and business conditions and collection efforts, that the borrower's financial condition is such that collection of the loan is doubtful. A payment of interest on a loan that is classified as nonaccrual is recognized as a reduction in principal when received.

At September 30, 2010 nonperforming assets were \$16.7 million, or 2.24% of total assets and 2.88% of gross loans. Comparatively, nonperforming assets were \$15.5 million, or 2.15% of total assets and 2.69% of gross loans at December 31, 2009. Nonaccrual loans decreased \$1.4 million to \$10.4 million at September 30, 2010 from \$11.7 million at December 31, 2009. This decrease is primarily related the transfer of seven properties totaling \$2.8 million to real estate acquired in settlement of loans. The amount of foregone interest income on the nonaccrual loans in the first nine months of 2010 was approximately \$354,000. The amount of interest income recorded in the first nine months of 2010 for loans that were on nonaccrual at September 30, 2010 was approximately \$19,000.

Other nonperforming assets include real estate acquired in settlement of loans which increased by \$2.6 million from December 31, 2009. During the first nine months of 2010 we added eight new properties totaling \$3.2 million and sold four properties and five lots of another residential property which is under development for a total of \$538,000. In addition, we incurred a write-down of \$10,000 on one of our properties. The balance at September 30, 2010 includes nine commercial properties totaling \$4.4 million and three residential properties for \$1.9 million all of which are located in Upstate South Carolina. We believe that these properties are appropriately valued at the lower of cost or market as of September 30, 2010. In conjunction with the changes in the current economic environment and as required by our Formal Agreement with the OCC, we have revised and updated our credit risk policy which addresses treatment of other real estate owned.

As a general practice, most of our loans are originated with relatively short maturities of five years or less. As a result, when a loan reaches its maturity we frequently renew the loan and thus extend its maturity using the same credit standards as those used when the loan was first originated. Due to these loan practices, we may, at times, renew loans which are classified as nonperforming after evaluating the loan's collateral value and financial strength of its guarantors. Nonperforming loans are renewed at terms generally consistent with the ultimate source of repayment and rarely at reduced rates. In these cases the Bank will seek additional credit enhancements, such as additional collateral or additional guarantees to further protect the loan. When a loan is no longer performing in accordance with its stated terms, the Bank will typically seek performance under the guarantee.

In addition, approximately 80% of our loans are collateralized by real estate and over 95% of our impaired loans are secured by real estate. The Bank utilizes third party appraisers to determine the fair value of collateral dependent loans. Our current loan and appraisal policies require the Bank to obtain updated appraisals on an annual basis, either through a new external appraisal or an appraisal evaluation. Impaired loans are individually reviewed on a quarterly basis to determine the level of impairment. As of September 30, 2010, we do not have any impaired loans carried at a value in excess of the appraised value. We typically charge-off a portion or create a specific reserve for impaired loans when we do not expect repayment to occur as agreed upon under the original terms of the loan agreement.

At September 30, 2010 and 2009, impaired loans amounted to approximately \$9.5 million and \$9.9 million, respectively. Specific reserves allocated to these impaired loans totaled \$1.4 million and \$1.2 million at September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. At September 30, 2010, there were approximately \$4.1 million of impaired loans with specific reserves and approximately \$5.4 million in impaired loans for which no specific reserve had been recognized. The average recorded investment in impaired loans for the quarters ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 was \$10.4 million and \$9.3 million, respectively.

The Company's loan approval process includes review of modifications on all criticized loans greater than \$100,000. A loan is considered to be a troubled debt restructuring ("TDR") when the debtor was experiencing financial difficulties and the Company provided concessions such that we will not collect all principal and interest in accordance with the original terms of the loan agreement. As of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, we determined that we had two loans totaling \$498,000 and \$482,000, respectively, which we considered TDRs. These loans are included in the nonaccrual loan amounts in the above table.

#### *Deposits and Other Interest-Bearing Liabilities*

Our primary source of funds for loans and investments is our deposits, advances from the FHLB, and structured repurchase agreements. National and local market trends over the past several years suggest that consumers have moved an increasing percentage of discretionary savings funds into investments such as annuities, stocks, and fixed income mutual funds. Accordingly, it has become more difficult to attract deposits. We have chosen to obtain a portion of our certificates of deposits from areas outside of our market. The deposits obtained outside of our market area generally have lower rates than rates being offered for certificates of deposits in our local market. We also utilize out-of-market deposits in certain instances to obtain longer term deposits than are readily available in our local market. We generally obtain out-of-market time deposits of \$100,000 or more through brokers with whom we maintain ongoing relationships. In accordance with our Formal Agreement, we have adopted guidelines regarding our use of brokered CDs that limit our brokered CDs to 25% of total deposits and dictate that



our current interest rate risk profile determines the terms. In addition, we do not obtain time deposits of \$100,000 or more through the Internet. These guidelines allow us to take advantage of the attractive terms that wholesale funding can offer while mitigating the inherent related risk.

The amount of out-of-market deposits was \$92.4 million at September 30, 2010 and \$147.9 million at December 31, 2009. As our wholesale deposits have matured during the past 12 months, we have successfully replaced them with local deposits. While wholesale deposits decreased \$55.4 million during the first nine months of 2010, our retail deposits have increased \$104.1 million. We anticipate being able to continue to either renew or replace these out-of-market deposits when they mature, although we may not be able to replace them with deposits with the same terms or rates. Our loan-to-deposit ratio was 107% and 116% at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively

The following table shows the average balance amounts and the average rates paid on deposits held by us for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 (dollars in thousands).

The \$35.6 million increase in time deposits less than \$100,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared to the 2009 period and the \$49.8 million decrease in time deposits of \$100,000 or more is a result of our intense focus to replace our out-of-market deposits with local deposits.

Core deposits, which exclude out-of-market deposits and time deposits of \$100,000 or more, provide a relatively stable funding source for our loan portfolio and other earning assets. Our core deposits were \$351.2 million and \$246.8 million at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively.

All of our time deposits are certificates of deposits. The maturity distribution of our time deposits of \$100,000 or more at September 30, 2010 was as follows (dollars in thousands):

The Dodd-Frank Act also permanently raises the current standard maximum deposit insurance amount to \$250,000. The standard maximum insurance amount of \$100,000 had been temporarily raised to \$250,000 until December 31, 2013. The FDIC insurance coverage limit applies per depositor, per insured depository institution for each account ownership category. In addition, we are voluntarily participating in the FDIC's TAGP. Under this program, all noninterest-bearing transaction accounts are fully guaranteed by the FDIC for the entire amount of the account. On April 13, 2010, the FDIC approved an interim rule that extends the TAGP to December 31, 2010. We have elected to continue our voluntary participation in the program. Coverage under the program is in addition to and separate from the basic coverage available under the FDIC's general deposit insurance rules. We believe participation in the program is enhancing our ability to retain customer deposits.

On September 1, 2010, we entered into new agreements with the FHLB on three of our FHLB advances totaling \$37.5 million. In accordance with EITF 96-19, we determined that the fair value of the modified advances will not change by more than 10% from the fair value of the original advance. Therefore, the modified FHLB advances are considered to be a restructuring and no gain or loss is recorded. The original FHLB advances had a weighted rate of 4.65% and an average remaining life of 18 months. Under the modified arrangements, the \$37.5 million in FHLB advances have a weighted average rate of 2.67% and an average remaining life of 43 months.

## Capital Resources

Total shareholders' equity at September 30, 2010 was \$60.1 million. At December 31, 2009, total shareholders' equity was \$59.8 million.

On February 27, 2009, as part of the CPP, the Company entered into the CPP Purchase Agreement with the Treasury, pursuant to which we sold 17,299 shares of our Series T Preferred Stock and the CPP Warrant to purchase 330,554 shares of our common stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$17.3 million in cash. The Series T Preferred Stock is entitled to cumulative dividends at a rate of 5% per annum for the first five years, and 9% per annum thereafter. The CPP Warrant has a 10-year term and is immediately exercisable upon its issuance, with an exercise price, subject to anti-dilution adjustments equal to \$7.85 per share of the common stock.

Under the CPP, we received \$17.3 million through issuance of Series T Preferred Stock and the CPP Warrant for common stock to the Treasury. The Series T Preferred Stock issuance and the related CPP Warrant both qualify for Tier 1 capital and added approximately 300 basis points to that measure. The fair value allocation of the \$17.3 million between the shares of Series T Preferred Stock and the CPP Warrant resulted in \$15.9 million allocated to the shares of Series T Preferred Stock and \$1.4 million allocated to the CPP Warrant. See discussion of shareholders' equity above for additional details.

The following table shows the return on average assets (net income divided by average total assets), return on average equity (net income divided by average equity), and equity to assets ratio (total equity divided by total assets) annualized for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and the year ended December 31, 2009. Since our inception, we have not paid cash dividends.

Our return on average assets was 0.08% for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared to 0.20% for the year ended December 31, 2009. In addition, our return on average equity decreased to 0.99% from 2.51% for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and the year ended December 31, 2009, respectively. Our equity to assets ratio at September 30, 2010 was 8.08% compared to 8.32% at December 31, 2009. In addition, our return on average common equity was (1.63%) and our common equity to total assets ratio was 6.05% for the nine months ended September 30, 2010.

Under the capital adequacy guidelines, regulatory capital is classified into two tiers. These guidelines require an institution to maintain a certain level of Tier 1 and Tier 2 capital to risk-weighted assets. Tier 1 capital consists of common shareholders' equity, excluding the unrealized gain or loss on securities available for sale, minus certain intangible assets. In determining the amount of risk-weighted assets, all assets, including certain off-balance sheet assets, are multiplied by a risk-weight factor of 0% to 100% based on the risks believed to be inherent in the type of asset. Tier 2 capital consists of Tier 1 capital plus the general reserve for loan losses, subject to certain limitations. We are also required to maintain capital at a minimum level based on total average assets, which is known as the Tier 1 leverage ratio.

At both the holding company and bank level, we are subject to various regulatory capital requirements administered by the federal banking agencies. To be considered "well-capitalized," we must maintain total risk-based capital of at least 10%, Tier 1 capital of at least 6%, and a leverage ratio of at least 5%. To be considered "adequately capitalized" under these capital guidelines, we must maintain a minimum total risk-based capital of 8%, with at least 4% being Tier 1 capital. In addition, we must maintain a minimum Tier 1 leverage ratio of at least 4%.

In addition, we have agreed with the OCC that the Bank will maintain total risk-based capital of at least 12%, Tier 1 capital of at least 10%, and a leverage ratio of at least 9%. As of September 30, 2010, our capital ratios exceed these ratios and we remain "well capitalized." However, if we fail to maintain these required capital levels, then the OCC may deem noncompliance to be an unsafe and unsound banking practice which may make the Bank subject to a

capital directive, a consent order, or such other administrative actions or sanctions as the OCC considers necessary. It is uncertain what actions, if any, the OCC would take with respect to noncompliance with these ratios, what action steps the OCC might require the Bank to take to remedy this situation, and whether such actions would be successful.

The following table summarizes the capital amounts and ratios of the Bank and the regulatory minimum requirements at September 30, 2010.

The ability of the Company to pay cash dividends is dependent upon receiving cash in the form of dividends from the Bank. The dividends that may be paid by the Bank to the Company are subject to legal limitations and regulatory capital requirements. The approval of the OCC is required if the total of all dividends declared by a national bank in any calendar year exceeds the total of its net profits for that year combined with its retained net profits for the preceding two years, less any required transfers to surplus. Further, the Company cannot pay cash dividends on its common stock during any calendar quarter unless full dividends on the Series T preferred stock for the dividend period ending during the calendar quarter have been declared and the Company has not failed to pay a dividend in the full amount of the Series T Preferred Stock with respect to the period in which such dividend payment in respect of its common stock would occur. In addition, the Company must currently obtain preapproval of the Federal Reserve before paying dividends.

### **Effect of Inflation and Changing Prices**

The effect of relative purchasing power over time due to inflation has not been taken into account in our consolidated financial statements. Rather, our financial statements have been prepared on an historical cost basis in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Unlike most industrial companies, our assets and liabilities are primarily monetary in nature. Therefore, the effect of changes in interest rates will have a more significant impact on our performance than will the effect of changing prices and inflation in general. In addition, interest rates may generally increase as the rate of inflation increases, although not necessarily in the same magnitude. As discussed previously, we seek to manage the relationships between interest sensitive assets and liabilities in order to protect against wide rate fluctuations, including those resulting from inflation.

### **Off-Balance Sheet Risk**

Commitments to extend credit are agreements to lend money to a client as long as the client has not violated any material condition established in the contract. Commitments generally have fixed expiration dates or other termination clauses and may require the payment of a fee. At September 30, 2010, unfunded commitments to extend credit were \$85.8 million, of which \$11.7 million was at fixed rates and \$74.1 million was at variable rates. At December 31, 2009, unfunded commitments to extend credit were \$90.5 million, of which approximately \$10.6 million was at fixed rates and \$79.9 million was at variable rates. A significant portion of the unfunded commitments related to consumer equity lines of credit. Based on historical experience, we anticipate that a significant portion of these lines of credit will not be funded. We evaluate each client's credit worthiness on a case-by-case basis. The amount of collateral obtained, if deemed necessary by us upon extension of credit, is based on our credit evaluation of the borrower. The type of collateral varies but may include accounts receivable, inventory, property, plant and equipment, and commercial and residential real estate.

At September 30, 2010, there was a \$3.8 million commitment under letters of credit. At December 31, 2009 there was a \$5.5 million commitment under letters of credit. The credit risk and collateral involved in issuing letters of credit is essentially the same as that involved in extending loan facilities to customers. Since most of the letters of credit are expected to expire without being drawn upon, they do not necessarily represent future cash requirements.

Except as disclosed in this document, we are not involved in off-balance sheet contractual relationships, unconsolidated related entities that have off-balance sheet arrangements or transactions that could result in liquidity needs or other commitments that significantly impact earnings.



### **Market Risk and Interest Rate Sensitivity**

Market risk is the risk of loss from adverse changes in market prices and rates, which principally arises from interest rate risk inherent in our lending, investing, deposit gathering, and borrowing activities. Other types of market risks, such as foreign currency exchange rate risk and commodity price risk, do not generally arise in the normal course of our business.

We actively monitor and manage our interest rate risk exposure in order to control the mix and maturities of our assets and liabilities utilizing a process we call asset/liability management. The essential purposes of asset/liability management are to ensure adequate liquidity and to maintain an appropriate balance between interest sensitive assets and liabilities in order to minimize potentially adverse impacts on earnings from changes in market interest rates. Our asset/liability management committee ("ALCO") monitors and considers methods of managing exposure to interest rate risk. We have both an internal ALCO consisting of senior management that meets at various times during each month and a board ALCO that meets monthly. The ALCOs are responsible for maintaining the level of interest rate sensitivity of our interest sensitive assets and liabilities within board-approved limits.

Our interest rate risk exposure is managed by measuring our interest sensitivity "gap," which is the positive or negative dollar difference between assets and liabilities that are subject to interest rate repricing within a given period of time. Interest rate sensitivity can be managed by repricing assets or liabilities, selling securities available for sale, replacing an asset or liability at maturity, or adjusting the interest rate during the life of an asset or liability. Managing the amount of assets and liabilities repricing in this same time interval helps to hedge the risk and minimize the impact on net interest income of rising or falling interest rates. We generally would benefit from increasing market rates of interest when we have an asset-sensitive gap position and generally would benefit from decreasing market rates of interest when we are liability-sensitive.

The following table sets forth information regarding our rate sensitivity as of September 30, 2010 for each of the time intervals indicated (dollars in thousands).

The following table sets forth information regarding our rate sensitivity, as of December 31, 2009 at each of the time intervals (dollars in thousands).

As measured over the one-year time intervals, we were liability sensitive at both September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009. Our variable rate loans and a majority of our deposits reprice over a 12-month period. Approximately 50% of our loans were variable rate loans at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009. The ratio of cumulative gap to total earning assets after 12 months is (15.3%) because \$104.5 million more liabilities will reprice in a 12 month period than assets. However, our gap analysis is not a precise indicator of our interest sensitivity position. The analysis presents only a static view of the timing of maturities and repricing opportunities, without taking into consideration that changes in interest rates do not affect all assets and liabilities equally. For example, rates paid on a substantial portion of core deposits may change contractually within a relatively short time frame, but those rates are viewed by us as significantly less interest-sensitive than market-based rates such as those paid on noncore deposits. Net interest income may be affected by other significant factors in a given interest rate environment, including changes in the volume and mix of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities.

At September 30, 2010, 78.9% of our interest-bearing liabilities were either variable rate or had a maturity of less than one year. Of the \$383.0 million of interest-bearing liabilities set to reprice within three months, 59.1% are transaction, money market or savings accounts which are already at or near their lowest rates and provide little opportunity for benefit should market rates continue to decline or stay constant. However, certificates of deposit that are currently maturing or renewing are repricing at lower rates. We expect to benefit as these deposits reprice, even if market rates increase slightly. At September 30, 2010, we had \$104.5 million more liabilities than assets that reprice within the next twelve months. Included in our other borrowings are a number of FHLB advances and structured repurchase agreements with callable features as of September 30, 2010. We believe that the optionality on many of these borrowings will not be exercised until interest rates increase significantly. In addition, we believe that the interest rates that we pay on the majority of our interest-bearing transaction accounts, would only be impacted by a portion of any change in market rates. This key assumption is utilized in our overall evaluation of our level of interest sensitivity.

## **Liquidity Risk**

Liquidity represents the ability of a company to convert assets into cash or cash equivalents without significant loss, and the ability to raise additional funds by increasing liabilities. Liquidity management involves monitoring our sources and uses of funds in order to meet our day-to-day cash flow requirements while maximizing profits. Liquidity management is made more complicated because different balance sheet components are subject to varying degrees of management control. For example, the timing of maturities of our investment portfolio is fairly predictable and subject to a high degree of control at the time investment decisions are made. However, net deposit inflows and outflows are far less predictable and are not subject to the same degree of control.

At September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, our liquid assets, consisting of cash and due from banks and federal funds sold, amounted to \$32.9 million and \$12.1 million, or 4.4% and 1.7% of total assets, respectively. Our investment securities at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 amounted to \$92.1 million and \$94.6 million, or 12.4% and 13.2% of total assets, respectively. Investment securities traditionally provide a secondary source of liquidity since they can be converted into cash in a timely manner. However, a substantial portion of these securities are pledged against outstanding debt. Therefore, the related debt would need to be repaid prior to the securities being sold in order for these securities to be converted to cash.

Our ability to maintain and expand our deposit base and borrowing capabilities serves as our primary source of liquidity. We plan to meet our future cash needs through the liquidation of temporary investments, the generation of deposits, and from additional borrowings. In addition, we will receive cash upon the maturity and sale of loans and the maturity of investment securities. We maintain three federal funds purchased lines of credit with correspondent banks totaling \$30.5 million for which there were no borrowings against the lines at September 30, 2010.

We are also a member of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta, from which applications for borrowings can be made. The FHLB requires that securities, qualifying mortgage loans, and stock of the FHLB owned by the bank be pledged to secure any advances from the FHLB. The unused borrowing capacity currently available from the FHLB at September 30, 2010 was \$14.0 million, based on the bank's \$6.6 million investment in FHLB stock, as well as qualifying mortgages available to secure any future borrowings. However, we are able to pledge additional securities to the FHLB in order to increase our available borrowing capacity.

We have a lease on our main office building with a remaining term of eight years. The lease provides for annual lease rate escalations based on cost of living adjustments.

We believe that our existing stable base of core deposits, borrowings from the FHLB, and short-term repurchase agreements will enable us to successfully meet our long-term liquidity needs.

As a result of the Treasury's CPP, we received \$17.3 million of capital on February 27, 2009 in exchange for 17,299 shares of our Series T Preferred Stock and the CPP Warrant to purchase 330,554 shares of the Company's common stock to the Treasury. This additional capital should allow us to remain well-capitalized and provide additional liquidity on our balance sheet.

## **Accounting, Reporting, and Regulatory Matters**

### *Recently Issued Accounting Standards*

The following is a summary of recent authoritative pronouncements that affect accounting, reporting, and disclosure of financial information by us:

In March 2010, guidance related to derivatives and hedging was amended to exempt embedded credit derivative features related to the transfer of credit risk from potential bifurcation and separate accounting. Embedded features



related to other types of risk and other embedded credit derivative features are not exempt from potential bifurcation and separate accounting. The amendments were effective for the Company on July 1, 2010. These amendments will have no impact on the financial statements.

Income Tax guidance was amended in April 2010 to reflect an SEC Staff Announcement after the President signed the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 on March 30, 2010, which amended the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act signed on March 23, 2010. According to the announcement, although the bills were signed on separate dates, regulatory bodies would not object if the two Acts were considered together for accounting purposes. This view is based on the SEC staff's understanding that the two Acts together represent the current health care reforms as passed by Congress and signed by the President. The amendment had no impact on the financial statements.

Stock compensation guidance was updated in April 2010 to address the classification of employee share-based payment awards with exercise prices dominated in the currency of a market in which a substantial portion of the entity's equity securities trade. The guidance states that these awards should not be considered to contain a condition that is not a market, performance,

or service condition. Share based payments that contain conditions related to market, performance and service must be recorded as liabilities. These awards should not be classified as liabilities if they otherwise qualify to be classified as equity. The amendments in this update are effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning on or after December 15, 2010. The Company does not expect the update to have an impact on the financial statements.

In July 2010, the Receivables topic of the ASC was amended to require expanded disclosures related to a company's allowance for credit losses and the credit quality of its financing receivables. The amendments will require the allowance disclosures to be provided on a disaggregated basis. The Company is required to begin to comply with the disclosures in its financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2010.

On July 21, 2010, President Obama signed into law the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act"), which significantly changes the regulation of financial institutions and the financial services industry. The Dodd-Frank Act includes several provisions that will affect how community banks, thrifts, and small bank and thrift holding companies will be regulated in the future. Among other things, these provisions abolish the Office of Thrift Supervision and transfer its functions to the other federal banking agencies, relax rules regarding interstate branching, allow financial institutions to pay interest on business checking accounts, change the scope of federal deposit insurance coverage, and impose new capital requirements on bank and thrift holding companies. The Dodd-Frank Act also establishes the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection as an independent entity within the Federal Reserve, which will be given the authority to promulgate consumer protection regulations applicable to all entities offering consumer financial services or products, including banks. Additionally, the Dodd-Frank Act includes a series of provisions covering mortgage loan origination standards affecting originator compensation, minimum repayment standards, and pre-payments. Management is actively reviewing the provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act and assessing its probable impact on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

In August 2010, two updates were issued to amend various SEC rules and schedules pursuant to Release No. 33-9026: Technical Amendments to Rules, Forms, Schedules and Codification of Financial Reporting Policies and based on the issuance of SEC Staff Accounting Bulletin 112. The amendments related primarily to business combinations and removed references to "minority interest" and added references to "controlling" and "noncontrolling interests(s)". The updates were effective upon issuance but had no impact on the Company's financial statements.

Other accounting standards that have been issued or proposed by the FASB or other standards-setting bodies that do not require adoption until a future date are not expected to have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements upon adoption.

**Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk.**

Not applicable

**Item 4. Controls and Procedures.**

As of the end of the period covered by this report, we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(e). Based upon that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer have concluded that our current disclosure controls and procedures are effective as of September 30, 2010. There have been no significant changes in our internal controls over financial reporting during the fiscal quarter ended September 30, 2010 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal controls over financial reporting.

The design of any system of controls and procedures is based in part upon certain assumptions about the likelihood of future events. There can be no assurance that any design will succeed in achieving its stated goals under all potential future conditions, regardless of how remote.

**PART II. OTHER INFORMATION**

**Item 1. Legal Proceedings.**

There are no material pending legal proceedings to which the company is a party or of which any of its property is the subject.

**Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds.**

Not applicable

**Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities.**

Not applicable

**Item 4. [Removed and Reserved]**

**Item 5. Other Information.**

Not applicable

**Item 6. Exhibits.**

31.1 Rule 13a-14(a) Certification of the Principal Executive Officer.

31.2 Rule 13a-14(a) Certification of the Principal Financial Officer.

32 Section 1350 Certifications.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

**INDEX TO EXHIBITS**

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