

Media Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Valley Bank: A Sense of Security in an Insecure World

December 2008: BAUERFINANCIAL, Inc., Coral Gables, Florida, is pleased to announce that **Valley Bank, Puyallup, Washington** has earned its highest 5-Star Superior rating for financial strength and stability. It is heartening to know that there are still well run community banks, like Valley Bank, that have risen above the calamity that has befallen so many others. The 5-Star Superior rating is based on the overall financial picture of the bank and indicates that Valley Bank is one of the strongest banks in the nation. In fact, this represents the 62nd consecutive quarter that Valley Bank has earned this highest honor giving it the added distinction of being an “Exceptional Performance Bank”. Only institutions that have achieved this highest 5-Star rating for ten years or longer can claim this distinction.

“It gives me great pleasure to announce that there are still banks, like Valley Bank, that continue to build a sense of security in this insecure world,” heralds Karen L. Dorway, president of BAUERFINANCIAL. “Residents in and around Pierce County have the privilege of banking with a true community bank that has stuck to true, common-sense, banking values. They can sleep soundly in the knowledge that they are banking with one of the strongest banks in the country.”

Valley Bank was established in 1973 and has been serving the financial needs of its neighbors and friends for 35 years. It currently operates through nine conveniently located offices in Auburn, Graham, Kent and throughout Puyallup and can also be found on the internet at www.vbwa.com.

Valley Bank: “Still Local After All These Years.”

BAUERFINANCIAL, INC., Coral Gables, Florida, the nation’s leading independent bank rating and research firm, has been reporting on and analyzing the performance of U.S. banks and credit unions since 1983. No institution pays for its rating, nor can they elude it. Consumers may obtain star-ratings by visiting www.bauerfinancial.com.

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For more information on Valley Bank, or any other U.S. bank or credit union, contact Karen Dorway directly at 800.388.6686 or e-mail her at kdorway@bauerfinancial.com.

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