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Contact: Patrick F. Patrick  
President/Chief Executive Officer  
Phone: 206.568.7805

## **Local Business Leaders Invest \$50 million in Seattle Bank “A chance for Seattle once again to have a bank to call its own”**

Seattle, Wash. In a first-of-its-kind transaction in Washington State, a group of local investors and business leaders invested more than \$50 million into Seattle Bank, creating one of the state’s strongest financial institutions, announced Patrick F. Patrick, president and chief executive officer of Seattle Bank.

Local business leaders and investors, led by merchant banking firm Delafield Hambrecht, Inc., infused \$50 million into the community bank. The new financial foundation, new management team, and new strategic plan set Seattle Bank on a course to become the leading community bank in the Puget Sound region.

“These business and civic leaders with strong ties to the Puget Sound region are making a long-term commitment to build a strong bank headquartered in our own community,” said Patrick. “They recognize this as a once-in-a-generation opportunity to establish a truly Seattle bank, based on the needs of this region. And while the Puget Sound has no shortage of banks, there is a significant need for one that is part of the fabric of our community, gives local businesses access to decision makers, and most importantly shares a common set of values with our neighbors.”

The investors include entrepreneur and venture capitalist Nick Hanauer, Expedia/Zillow Co-Founder Rich Barton, McCaw Cellular’s John McCaw, fishing executives and investors Peter Kuttel and Roger May, and local entrepreneur, angel investor and former CEO of Everett Shipyard, Nick Eitel. More than 60 individuals invested in Seattle Bank.

“This recapitalization is extraordinary,” said J.D. Delafield, Chairman of Delafield Hambrecht, Inc. “Seattle Bank was able to do something no other bank in the state has done. We see this as a chance for Seattle once again to have a bank to call its own.”

The infusion brings Seattle Bank’s Total Risk Based Capital Ratio to 21 percent, as of the close of the transaction. This significantly exceeds the federal regulatory standard for a “well capitalized” financial institution. The recapitalization is part of a comprehensive plan approved by regulatory agencies to strengthen Seattle Bank’s balance sheet, enhance overall compliance management, and diversify and expand business and consumer lending.

“Looking ahead, Seattle Bank plans on continuing to offer competitive products and services and friendly, trusted, and knowledgeable local banking professionals”, explains Patrick. The bank’s strategic plan calls for adding new locations as well as more products created with the businesses and residents of the Puget Sound in mind. By doing so, he says, “Seattle Bank brings the community a strong, competitive, local alternative at a time when out-of-state and large national banks are controlling the majority of our community’s deposit resources and how those resources are reinvested.”

Seattle Bank had total assets of \$468 million, as of December 31, 2010. Seattle Bank offers businesses and consumers the products and services of a big bank backed by the flexibility, service, and peer-to-peer relationships of a neighborhood bank. Together with its wholly-owned subsidiary, Seattle Mortgage Company, Seattle Bank operates five full-service banking centers, a comprehensive virtual online branch and three residential mortgage offices in the greater Puget Sound area. Seattle Bank is the Official Bank of the Seattle Seahawks and Seattle Sounders FC.

