

PNC Bank Ranks No. 1 Among Small Business Lenders Across Pennsylvania

- Top Lender in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh Based on SBA and FFIEC Data for Third Consecutive Year -

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PITTSBURGH, Oct. 12 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- PNC Bank, a member of The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (NYSE: PNC) supported small business owners across Pennsylvania with \$58.4 million in U.S. Small Business Administration loans, which ranks No. 1 in total dollar volume.

PNC Bank, recognized by the SBA as a Preferred Lender for its ongoing proficiency in processing SBA-guaranteed loans, achieved the top ranking in the state for the U.S. government's reporting period of Oct. 1, 2006, to Sept. 30, 2007. PNC has been the No. 1 lender for the past three years in the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh regions. The new results include:

-- Philadelphia Region: PNC Bank's \$39.2 million loaned to 431 businesses was nearly double the dollar amount loaned by the nearest competitor. The Philadelphia SBA district is comprised of 40 counties in Eastern Pennsylvania, including Philadelphia, Lehigh and others.

-- Pittsburgh Region: PNC loaned \$19.2 million to 217 businesses in the Western Pennsylvania region, which is comprised of 27 counties, including Allegheny, Erie and others.

"PNC's disciplined approach to lending, which includes working with organizations like the SBA, helps small business owners find the cash flow and lending solutions that fit their specific needs," said Jeffrey Schmidt, executive vice president and manager of business banking, PNC Bank. "Our top ranking proves that we are helping business owners across the state achieve their financial goals."

In addition, results recently released by the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council show that PNC also ranked No. 1 for loans under \$100,000 based on dollar volume in the state of Pennsylvania, as well as in key cities, including Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Erie, Scranton and Harrisburg.

According to the FFIEC, PNC provided \$759 million in these loans to Pennsylvania businesses during 2006. That number includes SBA loans under \$100,000. The FFIEC is a federal government agency that sets standards for the federal examination of financial institutions by the Federal Reserve System, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and other agencies.

Financing was provided by PNC Bank, National Association, a member of The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.

The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc., (<http://www.pnc.com/>) is one of the nation's largest diversified financial services organizations providing consumer and business banking; specialized services for corporations and government entities, including corporate banking, real estate finance and asset-based

lending; wealth management; asset management and global fund services.

SOURCE: PNC Bank

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