**SOURCE: Plaza Bank** 



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## Plaza Bank Continues Momentum, Growth and Evolution

IRVINE, CA--(Marketwired - Jul 7, 2014) - Plaza Bank (OTCBB: <u>PLZB</u>) is enjoying another year of solid performance and expansion.

## **Industry Ratings Reflect Ongoing Excellence**

The Bank continues to be recognized for its outstanding performance and customer service. For the sixth consecutive quarter, Plaza Bank received the highest possible five-star "Superior" rating from Bauer Financial, Inc., indicating the Bank "is one of the strongest in the United States." Furthermore, Plaza Bank was awarded "Super Premier Performance" by The Findley Reports on Financial Institutions -- again, the highest rating possible -- for exceeding all of the criteria for such classification during 2013.

"Both of these honors, from highly prominent and objective bank rating services, reflect the dedication of our entire team," said Gene Galloway, President and CEO at Plaza Bank. "We have established a reputation for exceeding expectations, and we remain committed to upholding our high standards as a top-tier community bank."

## **New Lending Programs Serve Unique Customer Needs**

Reflecting its commitment to highly personalized business banking, Plaza Bank has launched three new lending programs to meet the unique and evolving needs of customers, including:

- Fast Track Program--Providing expedited microloans to entrepreneurial small business owners in the markets that support job creation and growth.
- **Tenant Improvement Program**--Offering commercial real estate loans to small businesses, now with the added benefit of providing funding for most minor improvement allowances as well.
- Investor Real Estate Program--Delivering specialized loan solutions for investor-owned properties. The Investor CRE product addresses the underserved segment of the market. "Our move into each of these areas addresses the increased demand of our customers for a broader range of lending options, as they seek to invest in and grow their businesses," said Todd Massas, Senior Vice President, Commercial Lending Manager at Plaza Bank. "These tailored offerings allow Plaza Bank to continue to be a source of creative and valuable lending solutions to the clients and the markets we serve."

## **Imaging Program Demonstrates Environmental Stewardship**

Operationally, Plaza Bank has implemented a company-wide imaging program -- as part of its "Gone Green" initiative -- to help reduce the use of paper and preserve natural resources. Nearly all new and existing documentation, from account information to loan and deposit originations to employee files, have been or are being imaged into electronic files.

"In addition to enabling easier access to important information and creating more space for new personnel, this effort demonstrates Plaza Bank's commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainability," said Michael Vantrease, Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative

Officer at Plaza Bank. "As we continue our growth as a premier community business bank, it's imperative that we develop more 'green' behaviors and habits that ultimately benefit our customers, our communities and our people."