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AmericanWest Bank to Enter California with Acquisition of Sunrise Bank

(SPOKANE) American West Bank and Sunrise Bank today announced the execution of a definitive agreement whereby Sunrise Bank will merge with an affiliate of AmericanWest Bank, pending regulatory and shareholder approval.

“This merger brings together two like-minded community banks which ensures continuity for customers,” said Scott A. Kisting, Chairman and CEO, AmericanWest Bank. “The experienced team at Sunrise Bank shares our core value of building a business model around providing best-in-class customer service.”

In December 2010, SKBHC Holdings LLC acquired AmericanWest Bank and immediately infused \$185 million of new capital into the bank. With an additional \$500 million in funding commitments available through SKBHC, AmericanWest is focused on growing both organically and through acquisitions. Sunrise Bank’s four offices in Point Loma, Escondido, Palm Desert and San Diego provide AmericanWest with an entry into California.

“We recognize California’s strong growth potential which is why expanding into the state was always a strong possibility if the right opportunity presented itself—that opportunity is Sunrise Bank,” Kisting said. “I spent a good portion of my career in California, as have several other members of our leadership team, and as a result, we know this market well and understand what it takes to excel here as a business-focused community bank.”

“We are excited to be joining a team that truly values community banking just as we do, and provides the strength and stability that will support our future growth,” said Scott R. Andrews,

Chairman & CEO, Sunrise Bank. “As a part of AmericanWest Bank, we can offer our customers increased lending capabilities, expanded products and services and additional benefits inherent with being a well-capitalized bank.”

AmericanWest Bank had total assets of \$1.6 billion and deposits of \$1.4 billion as of March 31, 2011. Sunrise Bank had total assets of \$232 million and total deposits of \$212 million as of the same date.

The transaction is structured as a merger of Sunrise Bank with a newly-formed affiliate of AmericanWest Bank pursuant to which all of the outstanding shares of Sunrise Bank will be converted into \$4.31 per share in cash, or a total transaction consideration of approximately \$18.5 million. Shortly after the merger with the affiliate of AmericanWest Bank, the resulting bank will be merged into AmericanWestBank. The transaction is subject to the receipt of all necessary regulatory and shareholder approvals, as well as other closing conditions. Sunrise Bank is controlled by certain affiliates of Capitol Bancorp Limited which have entered into voting agreements pursuant to which they have agreed to vote all of the shares of Sunrise Bank owned by them in favor of the merger. The merger is expected to close in the third quarter.

Based in Spokane, Washington, AmericanWest Bank is a business-focused community bank offering commercial and small business banking, mortgage lending, treasury management products and consumer accounts. The bank currently operates 58 branches in Washington, Idaho and Utah.

Sunrise Bank was previously formed through the consolidation of Point Loma Community Bank, Bank of Escondido, Sunrise Community Bank and Sunrise Bank of San Diego.

This will be the second transaction between Capitol Bancorp Limited and AmericanWest Bank, following a previous announcement of the proposed acquisition of Bank of the Northwest.

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

Certain of the statements contained herein (other than statements of historical facts) are forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the

Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and include estimates and assumptions related to economic, competitive and legislative developments. These forward-looking statements are subject to change and uncertainty that are, in many instances, beyond Sunrise Bank's or AmericanWest Bank's control and have been made based upon management's expectations and beliefs concerning future developments and their potential effect on Sunrise Bank or AmericanWest Bank. There can be no assurance that future developments will be in accordance with management's expectations so that the effect of future developments on Sunrise Bank or AmericanWest Bank will be those anticipated by management. Factors that might cause such a difference include, without limitation, the possibility that the closing does not occur or is delayed, either due to the failure of closing conditions, including approval of Sunrise Bank shareholders, the failure to obtain required regulatory approvals, or other reasons. Other factors not currently anticipated by management may also materially and adversely affect the closing of the merger. Sunrise Bank and AmericanWest Bank do not undertake, and expressly disclaim any obligation, to update or alter their respective statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by applicable law.

Important Additional Information

This communication may be deemed to be solicitation material in respect of the proposed merger of Sunrise Bank with an affiliate of AmericanWest Bank. Sunrise Bank intends to prepare a proxy or information statement and other relevant materials in connection with the merger. The proxy or information statement will be sent or given to Sunrise Bank shareholders. INVESTORS AND SHAREHOLDERS OF SUNRISE BANK ARE ADVISED TO READ THE PROXY OR INFORMATION STATEMENT AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE, BECAUSE THESE DOCUMENTS WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE MERGER AND THE PARTIES THERETO.

Sunrise Bank, Capitol Bancorp Limited, AmericanWest Bank (or its affiliates) and their respective directors, executive officers and other members of management and employees, may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies or consents from Sunrise Bank's shareholders in connection with the merger. Information concerning the interests of these persons will be set forth in the proxy or information statement relating to the merger when it becomes available.

Note to assignment editors and newsroom staff: K. McPhee is acting media point of contact for AmericanWest Bank and Sunrise Bank for today's announcement.

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