

The Bank that Puts You First.



Left to right: Scott Daily, Assistant District Director - VA District SBA office; Ron Bew, District Director - Virginia District Office; Keith Phillips, Sr. V.P. - First Bank & Trust Company, Susan Walthal, Acting Chief Counsel for Advocacy - SBA; Antwaun Griffin, , Senior Advisor, Office of Field Operations - SBA. Media Announcement: For immediate release First Bank & Trust Company Receives SBA Award

July 21, 2011 First Bancorp, Inc., the parent company of First Bank & Trust Company, has been awarded the 2010 District Director's Award in recognition of outstanding support of Virginia's small business community.

The awards ceremony took place in June at the annual Small Business Awards Luncheon in Richmond, Virginia. The District Director's Award recognizes a lender that not only has shown an increase in SBA lending over the previous year, but also accessed multiple lending programs to facilitate that increase. In fiscal year 2010, First Bank & Trust Company originated new SBA loans that were approved using a wide range of SBA programs and totaled over \$5 million. "We carefully examined all the SBA Lenders in the District," said Ron Bew, SBA's Virginia District Director, "and First Bank and Trust Company clearly distinguished themselves in the number of loans made and the different types of programs used to deliver capital into the hands of small business owners in Southwest Virginia."

First Bank and Trust utilized six different SBA lending programs to make ten loans including a loan to Innovative Technologies, a pharmaceutical company in Abingdon, Virginia that was featured in The Richmond Times Dispatch last May for their growth and job creation. "We've recruited an outstanding team of local bankers, and their experience will further strengthen our ability to serve the small business industry, stated J. Keith Phillips, Senior Vice President who accepted the award on behalf of First Bank & Trust Company. "Our commitment to providing superior banking services and our loyal customer base have been instrumental in our tremendous growth over the past 32 years."

The Virginia District includes the entire state of Virginia with the exception of Fairfax, Loudoun and Arlington counties and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church.

About First Bank & Trust Company

First Bank & Trust Company, one of the top community banks in the United States, is a diversified financial services firm with office locations in southwest Virginia, northeast Tennessee, and New River and Shenandoah Valleys. Financial objectives are addressed by offering free checking products for personal and business accounts, and assessing lending solutions managed by mortgage, agricultural and commercial lending divisions. Comprehensive financial solutions are available through trust and brokerage service representatives.

For more information, visit www.firstbank.com or contact Nicole Franks <u>nfranks@firstbank.com</u>