



BANK OF THE WEST

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NEWS

Contact: Roberta Wong Murray 415.399-8220
roberta.wong@bankofthewest.com

Bank of the West's First Quarter 2006 Results \$148 Million, Up 21% From 2005

(San Francisco, May 1, 2006) – Bank of the West announced that net income for the first quarter of 2006 was \$148.0 million, up 21% from the same quarter of 2005.

Organic growth as well as the acquisition of \$10 billion-asset Commercial Federal Bank of Omaha, Nebraska in December, 2005 positively impacted first quarter performance. Earnings represent the first full quarter following the acquisition.

"During the first quarter, we concentrated on integrating Bank of the West products and services at more than 200 new banking locations we acquired," said Don J. McGrath, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Bank of the West. "We will continue to incorporate our traditional product strengths such as agricultural and church lending into our expanded branch network across the Rockies and the Midwest."

With assets of \$55 billion, Bank of the West is now the third largest commercial bank headquartered in the West. The bank has 680 branch banking locations in California, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming. Bank of the West's holding company, BancWest Corporation, is a wholly owned subsidiary of BNP Paribas, a global financial services institution. Bank of the West's First Quarter 2006 Results \$148 Million, Up 21% From 2005

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