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# NEWS

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## **Bank of the West Earns \$417.3 Million for 2007; \$1.7 Million in 4Q**

San Francisco -- January 30, 2008 -- Bank of the West today announced that net income for the full year 2007 was \$417.3 million compared with 2006 earnings of \$572.0 million.

Net income for the fourth quarter of 2007 was \$1.7 million, compared with \$138.7 million earnings of the last quarter of 2006. The quarterly results include impairment charges on the investment portfolio of \$189.5 million (pretax) as well as a loan and lease provision of \$82.0 million (pretax) to cover an increased risk in the loan portfolio and chargeoffs.

Surpassing \$60 billion for the first time, the bank's assets grew 11.1% over year-end 2006 to \$61.8 billion. Loans and leases outstanding for the bank stood at \$43.7 billion at December 31, 2007, up 10.4% over the end of 2006.

"We're pleased with our strong asset generation, especially in our middle market banking and agribusiness sectors, and with fee income growth," said President and CEO Michael Shepherd. "Like most of our peers, however, we're disappointed in our fourth quarter results, which were reduced by substantial impairment charges taken primarily against subprime investment securities. We also made additional provisions for possible credit losses, particularly related to loans to home builders."

(more)

Bank of the West is among the 25 largest commercial banks in the U.S.

The bank has more than 700 branch banking locations and commercial banking offices in 19 states: 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 leading global financial services institution.

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