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NEWS

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Bank of the West Earns \$135 million in First Quarter

(San Francisco, May 1, 2007) Bank of the West today announced that net income for the first quarter of 2007 was \$135.0 million, compared with record earnings of \$148.0 million in the first quarter of 2006.

“The decline relative to first quarter, 2006, resulted from ongoing narrowing in our net interest margin and our return to a more normal level of provisioning for credit losses,” said Chairman and CEO Don J. McGrath. “While we're disappointed in the difficult rate environment, we are pleased to see 6% organic growth over the year earlier quarter in both loans and deposits as we expand commercial banking activity throughout our footprint.”

Bank of the West is the third largest commercial bank headquartered in the West. 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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