

# **Texas Department of Banking**

## **Press Release**

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### **New State Bank Charter — 1<sup>st</sup> Choice Bank, Houston, Texas**

Date: April 14, 1999

Today Texas Banking Commissioner Catherine A. Ghiglieri announced the issuance of a new state bank charter to 1<sup>st</sup> Choice Bank, Houston, Texas, effective April 14, 1999. The bank will be capitalized at \$8,880,000. The bank will open in temporary quarters at 2311 Yale while permanent quarters are being completed at 2310 Yale. A branch located at 3100 South Shaver is slated to open on April 19, 1999.

Directors of the bank include Jeff A. Bowen, Brett Gilbreath, Ricardo J. Guerra, Donald R. Harding, James L. Jay, Richard L. Kinsel, Jr., Raymond Mohn, Gerry E. Monzingo, J. Wayne Robinson and Greg Walla. Donald R. Harding will serve as Chairman of the Board and President. Gerry E. Monzingo will act as President of the branch. The Commissioner remarked, "The organizing group brings a wealth of experience in successful banking to this newly chartered bank and a commitment to serve the community."

President Don Harding stated, "We feel strongly that the independent banks are still viable in the banking community. They serve the need for the small businessman as well as consumers."

This is the sixth charter issued since January 1, 1998, and the second commercial bank charter issued in 1999.