

Texas Department of Banking Press Release

Commissioner James Approves Bank Charter for United Bank of El Paso del Norte, El Paso, Texas

Date: February 13, 2001

Banking Commissioner Randall S. James met in El Paso with the organizers and supporters of the proposed United Bank of El Paso del Norte. James formally announced his approval of the charter application for the bank, which is expected to open in mid-March. Plans call for the bank to open with two locations. The home office of the bank will be located at 125 Mesa Hills Drive and the branch is to be located at 9601 Gateway West. The bank's initial capitalization totals \$6,000,000.

The executive team will be led by Chairman Jesus A. (Jesse) Alvarez and President and CEO Lester (Les) Parker. Also serving on the Board of Directors are Lorenzo Aguilar, George Bailey, Richard Fleager, Henry (Hank) Hernandez, John Karlsruher, Alfredo (Fred) Loya, James Maloney and Frank (Charles) Napier. Jim McVay and Randolph Young will serve as Executive Vice Presidents. The organizing group consists of the Board of Directors and twenty-one community leaders, who represent the various business interests in the area.

Commissioner James congratulated the entire group of organizers for their efforts to bring together all of the various interests in El Paso to form this new bank. The bank is to focus on personalized service to professionals and small businesses in the El Paso area. Upon opening, the bank will join the 352 Texas state chartered banks and eight interstate state banks with total assets of approximately \$88 billion.