Banking Commissioner Approves Charter for Greater South Texas Bank, Falfurrias, Texas

Date: September 14, 2004

Banking Commissioner Randall S. James has issued a state bank charter for Greater South Texas Bank, Falfurrias, Texas, effective September 14, 2004. The locally-owned, community bank with assets of \$29 million, formerly known as Greater South Texas Bank, FSB, was opened in 1974. In addition to its main office, the bank has one branch in Hebbronville, Texas.

The Board of Directors, led by Charles Thomas "Pete" Hornsby, Chairman of the Board, includes Luis Carlos Cortinas, who also serves as President and Chief Executive Officer, Benny E. Dominguez, Oscar Galindo, John Richard Holbein, Rogelio Ibanes, Jr., and Bill E. Talley. Chairman Hornsby stated, "We are pleased and excited to be a part of the strong and sound Texas state banking system. In our conversion process, the Texas Department of Banking has already demonstrated to us the benefits of its cooperative attitude toward the institutions it regulates as well as its ready accessibility to resolve issues that arise. We appreciate the efficient assistance we received from many people at the Department in the processing of our application to become a state bank."

Commissioner James welcomed Greater South Texas Bank to the family of state-chartered banks and expressed his confidence in Greater South Texas Bank's ability and dedication to serving its community.