

# **Texas Department of Banking**

## **Press Release**

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### **Former National Bank Converts To Texas State Bank Falcon International Bank, Laredo, Texas**

Date: February 2, 2000

Banking Commissioner Randall S. James announced today that Falcon International Bank, Laredo, Texas, formerly Falcon National Bank, became the second commercial bank to convert to a state charter this year. The conversion is effective February 1, 2000. This \$123 million community bank, along with Laredo, has experienced rapid growth over the last five years. The bulk of the loan portfolio is centered in mobile and single family home loans. Commissioner James noted that the bank was included in the 1999 Hispanic Business 500 list based on 1998 revenue.

Directors of the bank include Hugo A. Gutierrez, Sr., Chairman, Hugo A. Gutierrez, Jr., Adolfo E. Gutierrez, who also serves as President, John. J. Hill, Jose R. Medina, and Gilbert Narvaez, Jr. Juan Luis Perez serves as an Advisory Director. Ray A. Gonzales is the Executive Vice President.

President Gutierrez stated, "On behalf of everyone here at Falcon International Bank, I would like to express our appreciation for the honest and open communication during our conversion to the State Banking System. We truly anticipate that this conversion will enhance our ability to better serve the community that has been so good to us."

"I look forward to working with Falcon's board and management team to meet the needs of that growing city," Commissioner James said. "Falcon International Bank is positioned in a location that is vital to the state of Texas" Commissioner James adds.

The bank is located at 5219 McPherson Road in Laredo. Expansion to better serve the bank's customers is expected during this year. The bank has filed for approval to establish a branch at Del Mar Boulevard and McPherson Road.