

## **Commerce Street Capital Assists Cherokee Bank in Raising \$4.1 million in Capital**

**DALLAS, TX (November 2, 2009)** Commerce Street Capital LLC, an investment banking firm that focuses on financial institutions, has assisted Cherokee Banking Company (OTC Bulletin Board: CHKJ), the holding company of Canton, Ga.-based Cherokee Bank, N.A. (the Bank), in raising \$4.1 million in a private secondary offering. The offering was closed on October 29, 2009. This announcement was made by Derek Cunningham, senior vice president of Commerce Street Capital's bank development group.

"Cherokee Bank had been given a consent order and needed to raise capital to comply," explained Cunningham. "Not only did we assist the Bank in exceeding the capital required by the regulators, but we also helped it raise twice as much. In a difficult market for financial institutions, especially in Georgia, we consider this an enormous accomplishment and are pleased to have been a part of improving Cherokee Bank's capital position. We also want to recognize the Bank's board of directors as being instrumental in helping raise the necessary capital."

Commerce Street Capital's team worked closely with Cherokee Bank's President and CEO Dennis Burnette, Chairman Donald F. Stevens, Sr. Vice President and CFO A.R. "Rick" Roberts, III, members of the board and bank staff. Cherokee Bank is a full-service commercial bank providing a broad range of consumer and business banking services through offices in Canton and Woodstock, Ga.

### **About Commerce Street Capital**

Commerce Street Capital, LLC is a privately held investment banking firm headquartered in Dallas, Texas, focused on serving financial institutions across the United States through three lines of business: investment banking, bank development and fund management. For more than 20 years, the firm's leaders have built their reputations as leading investment bankers, financial advisors and investors in community banks across the United States. For more information, visit [www.commercestreetcapital.com](http://www.commercestreetcapital.com). Commerce Street Capital is a member of FINRA/SIPC.

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