

Commerce Street Capital to Raise Capital With N.C. De Novo: The Gate City's Community Bank (Proposed)

DALLAS, TX (August 5, 2008) Commerce Street Capital LLC (CSC), an investment banking firm serving community banks, will assist The Gate City's Community Bank (Proposed) in its initial capital raising efforts. The goal of the public common stock offering, which commenced on July 1, 2008, is to raise a minimum of \$12,100,000 and maximum of \$16,500,000 in capital. Commerce Street Capital's announcement was made today by Lee Bradley, managing director of the bank development group. Bradley's team has helped raise more than \$1.3 billion for 128 community banks, 17 of them, including this bank, in N.C.

"If the words 'community banker' were found together in the dictionary, you'd find a picture of Thomas E. Smith," stated Bradley, who met Smith in 1995 while raising capital with him at a community bank where Smith was senior lender. Smith is now the proposed bank's President and CEO. Both have maintained a solid friendship throughout the years. "In my opinion, Thomas has an excellent knowledge of community banking and has built a strong management team to help build a new bank that will make a positive impact on its community for years to come."

CSC's Senior Vice President Robert Gallert is working closely with the bank's proposed Chairman Moses Kiser, Jr., President and CEO Thomas E. Smith, and the bank's organizers. The Gate City's Community Bank (Proposed) will be a full-service bank targeting small-to-medium sized businesses, professional customers and consumers in the Greensboro/Guilford County area. The bank's headquarters and operations are located at 1515 West Cornwallis Drive, Suite G101, Greensboro, N.C. 27408, and the bank's branch will be at 3802 Lawndale Drive in Greensboro.

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 leadership has built their reputation as leading investment bankers, financial advisors and investors in community banks across the United States. For more information, visit www.commercestreetcapital.com. Commerce Street Capital is a member of FINRA/SIPC.

This press release is for information purposes only and does not constitute a solicitation or offer by Commerce Street Capital LLC to buy or sell any securities, futures, options, foreign exchange or other financial instrument or to provide any investment advice or service. The testimonials stated within this press release may not be representative of the experience of other clients. The testimonials stated within this press release are not indicative of future performance or success. The testimonials stated within this press release are not paid testimonials.

###

Photos and interviews available