



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Community Bank & Trust of West Georgia Achieves SBA Preferred Lender Program (PLP) Status

LaGrange, GA, XX/XXXX – Community Bank & Trust (CB&T), an independent community bank headquartered in LaGrange, GA, proudly announces its recent designation as a Preferred Lender with the Small Business Administration (SBA). This elite status, known as PLP (Preferred Lender Program) status, enables Community Bank & Trust to streamline and expedite the loan approval process for small business clients throughout the country. This achievement was made possible through the expertise and guidance of Chris Hurn, a valued partner and industry leader formerly the CEO of Fountainhead SBF.

Chris Hurn has played a tremendous role for Community Bank & Trust, providing strategic insights and support that have strengthened the bank's capabilities in small business lending. His collaboration has been instrumental in helping CB&T achieve this prestigious SBA designation, enhancing its ability to serve small businesses effectively and efficiently.

Steve Jefferies, President & CEO of Community Bank & Trust, stated, "Receiving PLP status is a testament to our dedication to fostering economic growth and supporting small businesses nationwide. We are honored to be recognized by the SBA for our commitment to delivering reliable, flexible and responsive financial solutions that meet the unique needs of our communities. We're especially grateful to Chris Hurn for his invaluable partnership in helping us reach this milestone and look forward to a future working with him."

Community Bank & Trust thrives on helping rural and underserved communities and businesses access the capital they need to grow and succeed. As a PLP lender, the bank is now better positioned to expedite the approval process on SBA-guaranteed loans, making it easier for businesses in these communities to secure essential funding for expansion, job creation, and economic development.

For more information about Community Bank & Trust's SBA loan programs or to inquire about the benefits of working with a PLP lender, please contact:

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About Community Bank & Trust:

Community Bank & Trust is a nationwide independent community bank headquartered in LaGrange, GA, providing personalized banking solutions that foster economic growth and community development. Committed to helping rural and underserved communities, the bank offers innovative financial products and services to support local businesses, families, and individuals. As a subsidiary of Community Bankshares Inc., Community Bank & Trust proudly contributes to strengthening the local economy and enhancing quality of life across West Georgia.