

Media Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

5-Star Valley Bank Soars Above the Competition

June 2010: It is with great pride that **BAUERFINANCIAL, Inc., Coral Gables, Florida,** announces that **Valley Bank, Puyallup, Washington** has earned its highest 5-Star Superior rating for strength and stability. The past few years have been extremely difficult for the banking industry and the fact that Valley Bank continues to excel in such areas as capital adequacy, delinquent loan levels and profitability, clearly indicates it is one of the strongest banks in the country. In fact, only 8% of the nation's banks can claim to have earned this top rating for 69 consecutive quarters, like Valley Bank has.

"With a full ten percent of the nation's banks now on the FDIC's "problem" list and even more on ours," notes Karen L. Dorway, president of BAUERFINANCIAL, "the fact that Valley Bank continues to not just withstand the pressures, but even excel in this environment, indicates its management is doing things right. Bauer's stringent 5-Star requirements haven't changed, but the climate definitely has and the fact that Valley Bank has earned this prestigious rating sets it well above the competition."

Valley Bank was established in 1973 and has been serving the banking needs of its neighbors and friends for 37 years. It currently operates through nine conveniently located offices in King and Pierce counties and can be found on the internet at www.vbwa.com.

Valley Bank: "Still Local After All These Years."

BAUERFINANCIAL, INC., Coral Gables, Florida, the nation's leading independent bank and credit union rating and research firm, has been reporting on and analyzing the performance of U.S. banks and credit unions since 1983. No institution pays BauerFinancial to rate it, nor can any choose to be excluded. Consumers may obtain star-ratings by visiting www.bauerfinancial.com.

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