



PRIVATE BANK *of Buckhead*

NEWS RELEASE



Adolph Casal



Charlie Crawford



M. Bryan Freeman



Jim Givan

'Clients respond positively' to bank's mission

Plus four directors re-elected

Atlanta, April 23, 2009 – At its annual meeting April 23, shareholders of Private Bancshares, the parent company of Private Bank of Buckhead, learned that the bank continues its steady, planned growth. In fact, Chairman, President and CEO Charlie Crawford told attendees that, as of March 31, the bank crossed over the milestone of \$100 million in assets.

“Although our focus on quality and profitability remains central to our mission,” he says, “this asset-milestone helps demonstrate that our clients have responded positively to a high level of service and a personal relationship with their banker. We continue to find ourselves positioned favorably because we have followed a balanced strategy, and we focus on quality rather than quantity in terms of relationships, loans and deposits.”

Crawford reminded shareholders that a key ingredient in the bank's successful formula is a team of seasoned, highly experienced banking professionals. He highlighted that the bank has added key team members both “up front and in our back offices.”

“For instance,” he says, “2008 saw us hiring an experienced chief lending officer and adding the duties of ‘chief operating officer’ to the role of our stalwart CFO. Likewise, we hired an SBA lending veteran to create that new department, which has already been expanded.” He went on to note the addition of operations personnel and “experienced front-line faces,” and emphasized that every Private Bank of Buckhead employee is empowered to assist clients.

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Noting that “client confidence and support affirms our work daily,” Crawford cited the bank’s first client service survey, conducted in late 2008: Among other positive results, the survey returned a satisfaction rating of 96 percent.

In other news from the meeting, shareholders of Private Bancshares re-elected four of 12 board members: Adolph Casal, Charlie Crawford, M. Bryan Freeman and Jim Givan were re-elected to three-year terms.

Casal is Medical Director of Psychiatry at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta; Crawford is Chairman, President & CEO of Private Bank of Buckhead; Freeman is Founder & President of Habersham Funding, LLC; and Givan retired as President & CEO of Design Build Concepts. Other members of the board, who did not stand for re-election, are: Joel Arogeti, Marvin Banks, Frank Bell, Marc Bromley, Rick Huddleston, Donny Jackson, Jill Jinks and Jeff Lemming.

Private Bank of Buckhead (www.PrivateBankofBuckhead.com) serves both businesses and individuals, bringing a private banking approach to all clients across all functions of the bank.

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