

For Immediate Release



CONTACT:

Karen Dorway
BAUERFINANCIAL, Inc.

TEL:

1.800.388.6686

FAX:

1.800.230.9569

www.bauerfinancial.com
research@bauerfinancial.com

To Banking or Business Editor:

Nation's Banks & Credit Unions Continue to Improve

June 14, 2012: Updated quarterly star-ratings on all U.S. banks and credit unions have been released by **BAUERFINANCIAL, Inc., the nation's bank rating firm.**

The latest ratings, based on March 31, 2012 financial data, show a marked improvement over a year ago. The percentage of banks earning Bauer's recommended ratings (5-Stars or 4-Stars) stands at 65.6%, that's up over 7% from a year earlier, and more than 17% higher than three years ago. Similarly, recommended credit unions now represent 73.7% of the industry. That's a 9.6% increase from the 1st quarter 2011.

Institutions rated 2-Stars or below, (and therefore considered ***Troubled or Problematic***) are decreasing in number as well. The number of banks that fall into this category is below 800 for the first time since 2009. They currently represent 10.75% of the industry. Credit unions rated 2-Stars or below represent just 3.6% of the total.

How do you know where yours falls? It's simple, just visit www.bauerfinancial.com to find out how your financial institution fares.

It's Simple. It's Smart. And it's Free.

BAUERFINANCIAL has been providing the public with the knowledge they need to make informed decisions regarding their banking relationships since 1983. **BAUERFINANCIAL** is the source that bankers and consumers trust when making important banking decisions. Let's face it, when it comes to money, all decisions are important.

BAUERFINANCIAL.... because peace of mind matters!

##

Members of the press may request a free spreadsheet of all the bank and/or credit union star ratings in their state, along with financial highlights, by emailing research@bauerfinancial.com.