

# Media Release



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**To the Editor:**

## Second Bank Closing This Year

September 28, 2007: There is no question that the nation's banking industry is in particularly good health these days. In fact, 75% of the nation's banks earned BAUERFINANCIAL's recommended rating (either 5-Stars or 4-Stars) based on June 30, 2007 financial data.

But there are some rotten eggs out there, too. Case in point: **Zero-star NetBank, Alpharetta, GA** was closed by regulators today after a failed attempt to find a suitable or willing buyer. NetBank began a downward spiral in 2005 with mounting losses, a deteriorating loan portfolio and poor underwriting standards. It debuted on BAUERFINANCIAL's problem report (banks rated two-stars or lower) based on June 30, 2006 financial data and reached the bottom rung (zero-stars) with March 31, 2007 financial data. There was no shortage of warning that this was coming.

That being said, there are another 80 banks listed on our problem report that merit equal scrutiny. Do your homework! If you are looking for a new bank, it's simple: you can obtain the star-rating of your local banks either by phoning 800.388.6686 (limit two free ratings per day) or on the web at [www.bauerfinancial.com](http://www.bauerfinancial.com) (unlimited free ratings).

You'll sleep better at night knowing you're banking with a winner.

- 30 -

Members of the press may contact Karen Dorway at 1.800.388.6686 or [kdorway@bauerfinancial.com](mailto:kdorway@bauerfinancial.com) for: free spreadsheets of all the bank and/or credit union star ratings in their state, financial highlights, specific information on the industry, specific quotes or to receive press releases via email instead of fax.

Like what you see? **BAUERFINANCIAL** is here for all you bank related questions and answers.

Why Bauer? **BAUERFINANCIAL** has been reporting on and analyzing the performance of U.S. banks and credit unions since 1983. Nobody knows the industry better nor is better respected than **BAUERFINANCIAL**.

How can we get more information? Simply phone 1.800.388.6686, fax 1.800.230.9569 or email [customerservice@bauerfinancial.com](mailto:customerservice@bauerfinancial.com).

For more information on bank star-ratings or the highest CD rates in the country, visit our website at [www.bauerfinancial.com](http://www.bauerfinancial.com).

How do we know we can trust **BAUER**'s ratings? No bank pays for its rating, nor can any bank elude it. Consumers may obtain free star-ratings by calling 800.388.6686 or visiting [www.bauerfinancial.com](http://www.bauerfinancial.com).

**Other information:**

For **FDIC** Decisions on Applications, visit:

<http://www.fdic.gov/regulations/laws/bankdecisions/DepIns/index.html>

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