



News Release  
Republic First Bancorp, Inc.  
February 7, 2011

**REPUBLIC BANK ANNOUNCES NATIONALLY  
RANKED SBA TEAM TO JOIN BANK**

Philadelphia, PA (Feb. 7, 2011) – Republic Bank (Nasdaq: FRBK) today announced the launch of a Small Business Administration (“SBA”) lending group to provide much needed credit to small businesses throughout the Mid-Atlantic states.

This nationally ranked SBA lending unit will be led by ARNOLD F. HORVATH (Executive V.P.) and PAMELA TAURIELLO (Sr. V.P.), both former Executives with Commerce Bank and more recently Metro Bank.

Prior to Metro Bank, a majority of this specialized group were employed by Commerce Bank 1999 through 2009. During this ten year period, Commerce Bank closed in excess of \$1.6 Billion in SBA Loans and consistently ranked among the nation’s TOP 15 producers of SBA loans.

While at Metro Bank (Harrisburg, PA) this eight person team was ranked #1 in New Jersey, #4 in PA, and #22 nationally among 2,590 banks participating in the SBA program based upon three month figures released by the SBA through December 31, 2010.

Andrew J. Logue, President and COO of Republic Bank commented:

“The small businesses of America are crying for credit support. The SBA Loan Guarantee Program gives Republic Bank, with its recent approval from the SBA as a Preferred Lender, a unique opportunity to fulfill these credit needs while maintaining robust asset quality. Arnie Horvath and his team have long been the premier SBA lending group in the Mid-Atlantic States and we look forward to their continued success.”

James Kocsi, recently retired District Director of the SBA’s New Jersey office commented:

“Arnie Horvath and his team of business lenders have been responsible for many small business success stories. During the last ten years, this talented group of professionals was the top provider of SBA backed loans in New Jersey. They supported small businesses with creative financing packages, provided quick turnarounds on approvals and realistic advice to their customers. We also valued their sustained commitment and support of our community marketing efforts.”

## **About Republic Bank**

Republic Bank is a full-service, state-chartered commercial bank, whose deposits are insured up to the applicable limits by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). The Bank provides diversified financial products through its thirteen offices located in Abington, Ardmore, Bala Cynwyd, Plymouth Meeting, Media and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Voorhees and Haddonfield, New Jersey.

## **Forward Looking Statements**

The Company may from time to time make written or oral “forward-looking statements”, including statements contained in this release and in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The forward-looking statements contained herein are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. For example, risks and uncertainties can arise with changes in: general economic conditions, including their impact on capital expenditures; new service and product offerings by competitors and price pressures; and similar items. You should carefully review the risk factors described in the Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2010 and other documents the Company files from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The words “may”, “believes,” “expect,” “estimate,” “project,” “anticipate,” “should,” “intend,” “probability,” “risk,” “target,” “objective,” and similar expressions or variations on such expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. All such statements are made in good faith by the Company pursuant to the “safe harbor” provisions of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The Company does not undertake to update any forward-looking statement, whether written or oral, that may be made from time to time by or on behalf of the Company, except as may be required by applicable law or regulations.

## **Source:**

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