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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Ciaran McMullan, CEO
Suncrest Bank
559-802-1000
cmcmullan@suncrestbank.com

From Ireland to Australia to Visalia: Suncrest Bank Announces New CEO

VISALIA – Ciaran McMullan has taken the reins as Chief Executive Officer of Suncrest Bank, a local bank headquartered in Visalia, with business throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

McMullan is a native of Northern Ireland, who held senior roles in the banking sector in Europe and Australia, before moving to the U.S. He most recently served as Chairman of the Great Western Bancorporation and Chief Executive Officer of National Australia Bank Americas, a multi-billion dollar community and commercial banking business in the Midwest, specializing in agriculture and supporting the growth of small business. McMullan designed and executed the bank's highly successful growth strategy in the U.S., and opened its first-ever office in Brazil.

Previously, McMullan was head of Corporate Development for NAB Group, responsible for developing and executing investments focused on new business acquisitions, mergers and integration. He has also been a Managing Director with the Banking Group at Cappello Capital Corp., a Los Angeles-based investment bank, and is a co-founder of the Institute for Conversational Leadership. He holds an undergraduate degree in Management Science from Stirling University in Scotland and a post-graduate certificate in Operational Research from Sheffield Hallam in England. He also attended the Harvard Business School's Executive Education Program in Agribusiness.

Asked what attracted McMullan to the role at Suncrest, he said, "It's rare to find a local community bank with such great capability and expertise. The Board, management and staff deserve great credit for the platform they have built. I really feel it's now poised for significant growth."

McMullan enjoys mountaineering, and has climbed the highest peaks on 4 continents. He also enjoys poetry, writing and international affairs.

Suncrest Bank completed its fourth year in business in 2012, and posted profitable operating results for each quarter. Assets at Dec. 31, 2012, increased \$7.9 million over Dec. 31, 2011, for a total of over \$99 million. The bank specializes in agriculture and commercial lending, and is a Preferred Lender through the Small Business Administration.

“The Board of Directors is very pleased to have someone of Ciaran’s caliber leading Suncrest Bank into the future,” said William Benneyan, Chairman of the Board who served as interim CEO prior until McMullan took the position on April 1. “Ciaran’s background and experience are extraordinary. The future is bright under his stewardship.”

Suncrest Bank stock trades on NASDAQ's Over the Counter Bulletin Board under the ticker symbol [SBKK](#). If you would like to purchase stock, contact either Michael Natzic or Troy Norlander at Crowell, Wheedon & Co., 800-288-2811. To request additional shareholder information, contact Robert Moore at rmoore@suncrestbank.com. Suncrest Bank, member FDIC, has a branch in Visalia, 400 W. Center Ave., and in Porterville, 65 W. Olive Ave. For general information visit www.suncrestbank.com.

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