

INVESTOR ALERT

Financial stocks pace sell-off

LATEST NEWS

PRESS RELEASE

BancTrust Financial Group, Inc. Receives Preliminary Approval Under Treasury Capital Purchase Program

Last update: 6:43 p.m. EST Dec. 15, 2008

MOBILE, Ala., Dec 15, 2008 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX/ -- BancTrust Financial Group, Inc. (BTFG: 10.07, -0.46, -4.4%) today announced that it has received preliminary approval of its application to participate in the TARP Capital Purchase Program established by the United States Department of the Treasury under the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008. Under the Capital Purchase Program, qualifying financial institutions may request additional capital of up to 3% of risk-weighted assets. The Company has received preliminary approval to sell \$50,000,000 of preferred stock, accompanied by a ten-year warrant to purchase \$7,500,000 of BancTrust common stock, to the Treasury.

The non-voting senior preferred shares to be issued to the Treasury will pay a dividend of 5% annually for the first five years after issuance and 9% annually after the fifth year, if they are not redeemed. The ten-year warrant will allow the holder to purchase 730,994 shares of BancTrust common stock at an exercise price of \$10.26 per share. Participation in the program is subject to the Treasury Department's standard terms and conditions, and the sale of preferred shares and issuance of the warrant are subject to the completion and review of required documentation.

About BancTrust Financial Group, Inc.

BancTrust Financial Group, Inc. is a bank holding company headquartered in Mobile, Alabama. The Company provides an array of traditional financial services through 44 bank offices in the southern two-thirds of Alabama and 10 bank offices in northwest Florida. BancTrust's common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol BTFG.

Additional information concerning BancTrust Financial Group, Inc. can be accessed at www.banktrustonline.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release includes forward-looking statements within the meaning and subject to the protection of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These statements can be identified by the use of words such as "expect," "may," "could," "intend," "project," "schedule," "estimate," "anticipate," "should," "will," "plan," "believe," "continue," "predict," "contemplate" and similar expressions. Such forward-looking statements are based on information presently available to BancTrust's management and are subject to various risks and uncertainties, including, without limitation, risks that competitive pressures among depository and other financial institutions may increase significantly; changes in the interest rate environment may reduce margins; general economic conditions may be less favorable than expected, resulting in, among other things, a deterioration in credit quality and/or a reduction in demand for credit; legislative or regulatory changes, including changes in accounting standards, may adversely affect the business in which BancTrust is engaged; BancTrust may be unable to obtain required shareholder or regulatory approval or financing for any proposed acquisition or other strategic or capital raising transactions; costs or difficulties related to the integration of BancTrust's businesses may be greater than expected; deposit attrition, customer loss or revenue loss following acquisitions may be greater than expected; competitors may have greater financial resources and develop products that enable these competitors to compete more successfully than BancTrust can compete; and the

Personal Finance Daily E-newsletter



Understand the most important financial issues that affect your life -- from financing a car to buying a home to planning for retirement.

MOST POPULAR

[Sign up](#)

[Privacy policy](#)

READ

E-MAILED

EDITOR'S PICK

1. [U.S. retail sales plunge 2.7% in December](#)
2. [U.S. stock futures fall on retail sales, profit warnings](#)
3. [Bank woes pull financials down; Citi shares under \\$5](#)
4. [China revises 2007 growth rate to 13%](#)
5. [HSBC Holdings may need to raise \\$30 billion, analyst says](#)
6. [Nortel files for bankruptcy protection](#)
7. [Deutsche Bank pegs quarterly loss at \\$6.4 billion](#)
8. [Citigroup doesn't need Parsons as chairman](#)
9. [Seven most horrible things about Bush's presidency](#)
10. [Small-cap seasonal strength has appeared on schedule](#)

[Get the Latest MarketWatch News >>](#)

PARTNER CENTER



Making friends on our stories?

Add them as a friend so you can keep in touch and see what they are up to. Or, just send them a message.



other risks described in BancTrust's SEC reports and filings under "Cautionary Note Concerning Forward-Looking Statements" and "Risk Factors." You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, since the statements speak only as of the date that they are made. BancTrust has no obligation and does not undertake to publicly update, revise or correct any of its forward-looking statements after the date of this press release, or after the respective dates on which such statements otherwise are made, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

SOURCE BancTrust Financial Group, Inc.

<http://www.banktrustonline.com>

Copyright (C) 2008 PR Newswire. All rights reserved ■