



## Whitney Receives Preliminary Approval to Participate in U.S. Treasury Capital Purchase Program

NEW ORLEANS, Nov 26, 2008 (GlobeNewswire via COMTEX News Network) -- Whitney Holding Corporation (Nasdaq:WTNY) today announced it has received preliminary approval to participate in the U.S. Treasury Capital Purchase Program under the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008. Whitney is eligible to sell to the Treasury Department approximately \$301 million in preferred stock and the related warrants for common stock. Participation in the program is subject to shareholder approval on December 17, 2008 at a special shareholders' meeting, to amend the charter permitting the issuance of the preferred stock required by the program, along with the execution of definitive agreements and Whitney's timely satisfaction of the Treasury Department's standard closing conditions.

Whitney Holding Corporation, through its banking subsidiary Whitney National Bank, serves the five-state Gulf Coast region stretching from Houston, Texas; across southern Louisiana and the coastal region of Mississippi; to central and south Alabama; the panhandle of Florida; and the Tampa Bay metropolitan area of Florida. (WTNY-G)

The Whitney Holding Corporation 125th Anniversary Logo is available at <http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=5572>

In connection with the proposed amendments to our charter to authorize the issuance of preferred stock and to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock, we have filed a definitive proxy statement (the "Proxy Statement") with the SEC. Investors and shareholders are advised to read the proxy statement and other relevant materials because they will contain important information about Whitney and the proposed amendments to our charter. Investors and shareholders may obtain free copies of these documents and other documents filed with the SEC at the SEC's Internet site at <http://www.sec.gov> and on our website at [www.whitneybank.com](http://www.whitneybank.com) by clicking on "Investor Relations," under "SEC Filings." In addition, documents filed by Whitney with the SEC may be obtained free of charge by directing a written request to: Mrs. Shirley N. Fremin, Manager, Shareholder Services, Whitney Holding Corporation, P. O. Box 61260, New Orleans, LA 70161-1260, (504) 586-3627 or by calling toll free (800) 347-7272, ext. 3627, or by sending an e-mail to the following address: [investor.relations@whitneybank.com](mailto:investor.relations@whitneybank.com).

This news release was distributed by GlobeNewswire, [www.globenewswire.com](http://www.globenewswire.com)

SOURCE: Whitney Holding Corporation

Whitney Holding Corporation  
Trisha Voltz Carlson  
504/299-5208  
[tcarlson@whitneybank.com](mailto:tcarlson@whitneybank.com)

(C) Copyright 2008 GlobeNewswire, Inc. All rights reserved.

News Provided by COMTEX