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**MERCANTIL COMMERCEBANK REPORTS A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN REAL ESTATE LOANS
AND NET PROFIT OF \$3.8 MILLION FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2015**

CORAL GABLES, FL (January 29, 2016) – Mercantil Commercebank, one of the largest banks headquartered in Florida, today announced a net profit of \$3.8 million and total assets of \$8.2 billion for the quarter ended December 31, 2015.

Net loans closed at \$5.6 billion, 1.9% higher than the previous quarter, and 6.2% higher than the same quarter last year. Real estate loans grew 10.5% from the previous quarter, and 39.0% over the last twelve months. The Bank continues to focus on supporting economic development in key sectors of the economies where it does business, most notably the real estate sectors in South Florida; Houston, Texas; and New York. Deposits closed at \$6.6 billion, a 2.6% increase over the previous quarter, and 3.9% over the same quarter last year.

The Bank's capital closed at \$747.8 million, and its capital ratios continued to significantly exceed the regulatory benchmarks to be considered "well capitalized." At December 31, the Bank's Tier 1 Leverage Ratio was 9.4% and the Total Risk Weighted Capital Ratio was 12.3%.

Net interest income for the quarter was \$46.4 million, an increase of 6.9% with respect to the same quarter last year. Operating profit for the quarter was \$8.9 million, a 2.3% increase with respect to the previous quarter and 37.8% lower than the same quarter last year.

The Bank maintains a significant portion of its assets, \$2.2 billion or 26.4%, in highly liquid short-term placements and a securities portfolio primarily comprised of bonds issued or guaranteed by U.S. Government Agencies and Sponsored Enterprises and high-quality corporate bonds. This high level of liquidity positions the Bank to continue supporting its lending activities.

"We are pleased with what we accomplished this quarter and throughout 2015," said Millar Wilson, Vice-Chairman and CEO of Mercantil Commercebank. "We made strategic investments in support of our growing customer base, which fueled our expansion and diversification efforts in the three states where we operate. We are also very proud of the achievements made in partnership with community organizations aimed at improvements in education, health, the environment and social services. In education, we were proud to continue supporting a series of Leadership Lectures with Florida International University aimed at providing students with developmental and experiential opportunities that foster leadership and community involvement."

Period ended:

	Dec 31, 2015	Sept 30, 2015	Dec 31, 2014
Total Assets	\$ 8,152.6	\$ 8,025.4	\$ 7,903.0
Total Loans, net	\$ 5,555.9	\$ 5,450.9	\$ 5,232.9
Allowance for Loan Losses	\$ 77.0	\$ 74.5	\$ 65.4
Non-accruing Loans	\$ 68.0	\$ 68.8	\$ 40.9
Repossessed Assets	\$ 0.4	\$ 2.0	\$ 3.0
Non-performing Assets to Total Assets	0.84%	0.88%	0.56%
Non-accruing Loans to Total Loans	1.21%	1.25%	0.77%
Total Deposits	\$ 6,563.2	\$ 6,396.5	\$ 6,318.3
Capital	\$ 747.8	\$ 754.5	\$ 746.0
<u>Quarter Results</u>			
Net Interest Income	\$ 46.4	\$ 46.1	\$ 43.4
Operating Profit	\$ 8.9	\$ 8.7	\$ 14.3
Loan Provisions	\$ 2.9	\$ 2.1	\$ 2.6
Net Income	\$ 3.8	\$ 4.5	\$ 8.0
Return on Assets	0.19%	0.22%	0.37%
<u>Year-to-Date Results</u>			
Net Interest Income	\$ 179.1		\$ 158.7
Operating Profit	\$ 42.3		\$ 48.9
Loan Provisions	\$ 11.2		\$ 8.0
Net Income	\$ 20.6		\$ 27.7
Return on Assets	0.26%		0.38%

(\$'s in millions)

ABOUT MERCANTIL COMMERCEBANK:

Mercantil Commercebank N.A. is one of the largest banks in South Florida serving its community for over 35 years. Mercantil Servicios Financieros (MSF), a Venezuelan company, beneficially owns the Bank through U.S. bank holding companies. MSF is the largest provider of financial services in Venezuela with more than 90 years of experience. Mercantil Commercebank has assets of \$8.2 billion. The Bank is headquartered in Coral Gables, Florida and has 23 Banking Centers - 16 located in South Florida; six in Houston, Texas; and one in Manhattan, New York. The Bank offers a wide variety of domestic, international, personal and commercial banking services, including investment, trust, and estate planning through its subsidiaries, Mercantil Commercebank Investment Services, Inc. and Mercantil Commercebank Trust Company, N.A. For more information, please visit www.mercantilib.com.

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