

OCEAN BANK

OCEAN BANK EXPANDS WEALTH MANAGEMENT DIVISION

MIAMI, Fla. — March 31, 2008 — Ocean Bank has added five new executives to expand its wealth management division and accelerate growth in domestic and international personal banking markets. Justo Fanjul was named senior vice president of Ocean Bank's Brickell Avenue Wealth Management office, and four others were appointed to serve as vice presidents and personal banking officers: Maria Florencia Calcena, Gisela Cros, Lina Mendoza and Bengt M. Seiplax.

The group will be responsible for managing client portfolios, overseeing product development and service delivery initiatives and expanding and directing operations at the Brickell office.

“We're thrilled to welcome this experienced team to our wealth management division,” said Alfonso Macedo, Ocean Bank's President and CEO. “Their combined leadership and vision will be a valuable asset to our company's growth.”

Fanjul, who has more than 30 years of banking experience, has directed banks through global market expansion and acquisitions, supervised international relationships and accounts, and spearheaded strategy development and marketing initiatives. He has held senior management roles for prominent financial institutions, including Chase, Barclay's, Fleet Boston and most recently, BNP Paribas in Nassau, Bahamas.

Calcena previously worked as relationship manager for BBVA Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria. There she was responsible for building and managing investment portfolios for accounts in Mexico. Calcena also served as administrative and paralegal support to Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. and the Immigration Law Offices of Robert Sheldon, both based in Miami-Dade County.

Cros has more than 20 years of experience in the banking industry. She served as premier relationship manager for HSBC Bank USA, where she was responsible for managing and expanding investment portfolios for more than 400 customers in Argentina. Cros also served as assistant branch manager for HSBC Bank USA's Miami Beach branch; branch manager for BankUnited, FSB's Coral Gables and South Miami branches; and branch manager for Jefferson Bank of Florida's Giller branch. Cros holds registrations in NASD Series 7 and 63 as well as licenses in Health, Life and Variable Annuity.

Mendoza brings vast experience in private and international wealth management. Before joining Ocean Bank, Mendoza was the director of Private Wealth Management for American Express Bank International. In this capacity, Mendoza served as director of private wealth management and relationship manager for offshore clients in Brazil and Mexico. Mendoza has served in supervisory positions of private wealth management for Deutsche Bank PBI and Citibank International. She holds NASD Series 7 and 63 security registrations. Formerly an international premier relationship manager with HSBC Bank USA, Seiplax has experience selling insurance and investment products to clientele in the United States and Argentina. With more than 10 years experience in the banking industry, he also has served in various capacities for Citibank, including service officer, client financial analyst and teller. Seiplax holds NASD Series 7 and 66 registrations in addition to licenses in Life, Health and Annuities.

Ocean Bank is the largest independent commercial bank chartered and headquartered in Florida, with \$5.8 billion in assets. Chartered in 1982, Ocean Bank operates a network of 21 branches throughout Miami-Dade and Broward counties. The community bank has received numerous awards and accolades from the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, The Beacon Council and the Florida Department of Education, among others, for its support of our South Florida communities. For more information, log on to www.oceanbank.com.

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