



PRESS RELEASE

FOR INFORMATION

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**ATLANTIC CAPITAL BANK PRESIDENT & CEO ADDRESSES
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE REGARDING DODD-FRANK WALL
STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT**

-Douglas Williams urges legislators to pass Small Business Credit Availability Act-

(ATLANTA, Ga. – Oct. 18, 2011) – Atlantic Capital Bancshares, Inc. and its subsidiary, Atlantic Capital Bank, announced today that its President and Chief Executive Officer, Douglas L. Williams, recently testified to the U.S. House of Representatives Agriculture Committee regarding the potential negative impact of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act on community banks. Williams' concern about the Dodd-Frank Act focuses on its regulation of derivatives. During the Oct. 12 public hearing, Williams cited two specific elements of the legislation – its definitions of a swap dealer and a financial entity – that could limit the ability of community banks, such as Atlantic Capital, from providing optimal service to their clients and remaining competitive against national banks.

“At Atlantic Capital, we use interest-rate swaps to manage risk so that we can offer our clients, which are mainly small- to medium-size businesses, the best interest rates possible,” said Williams. “The regulations in the Dodd-Frank Act aim to minimize systemic risk in the derivatives market, which is an issue for the nation’s largest financial institutions, not community banks. Unfortunately, under the new regulations, many smaller banks may not be able to conduct interest-rate swaps due to the costs that accompany regulatory compliance for swap dealers and trading requirements for financial entities. Instead, they would be forced to offer higher interest rates, potentially driving customers to the larger national banks that were the impetus for this legislation in the first place.”

In his testimony, Williams urged the Committee to pass the Small Business Credit Availability Act, which clarifies the definition of a swap dealer and provides exemptions from the financial entity definition. The proposed bill states that banks offering swaps in connection with an extension of credit would not fall under the swap dealer classification. It also excludes banks

with total assets of less than \$30 billion or swaps exposure of \$1 billion or less from being considered financial entities.

“The Dodd-Frank Act subjects small banks that execute nominal interest-rate swaps on behalf of their clients to the same derivatives regulations as larger institutions that engage in credit default swaps and derivatives speculation,” said Williams. “In doing so, the legislation basically punishes community banks for managing risk by making them choose between foregoing swaps or taking on financial burdens that would likely have to be passed onto the end customer. Either way, major national banks, which often view derivatives as a potential profit center, will benefit because it will be more difficult for smaller entities to compete with them. I hope that Congress will recognize the disparity in the legislation and pass the Small Business Credit Availability Act to ensure the fair treatment of community banks and the businesses they serve.”

For more information, visit www.atlanticcapitalbank.com.

About Atlantic Capital Bancshares, Inc.

Founded in 2006, Atlantic Capital Bancshares, Inc. is the parent company of Atlanta-based Atlantic Capital Bank. A privately-held institution, Atlantic Capital Bank was established in May 2007 and has assets of \$869 million as of September 30, 2011. The Bank is designed to serve the diverse financial needs of growing middle market companies, commercial real estate developers and affluent individuals and families. For more information, visit www.atlanticcapitalbank.com.

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