



PRESS RELEASE

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American National Bank Receives Special Recognition of its Strong Financial Condition

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO – Based on recent financial data, American National Bank has received the highest rating as a Blue Ribbon Bank from VERIBANC, Inc., an independent bank rating firm. This Blue Ribbon Bank designation reflects that the bank is financially sound and safe.

For a bank to qualify for the Blue Ribbon status, it must receive VERIBANC's highest Green, Three Stars rating, including and evaluation of all six factors Federal regulators utilize in determining the government's "CAMELS" ratings – Capital strength, Asset quality, Management, Earnings, Liquidity, and Sensitivity to market risk. In addition, it must satisfy additional safety related criteria.

This Blue Ribbon Award is reserved for those highly rated financial institutions that demonstrate exceptional attention to safety, soundness and financial strength, and is the oldest national accolade presented to banks by private sector analysts.

“It’s always good to be recognized by outside financial analysts,” says Dennis Nathan, bank President and CEO. “We believe this designation reinforces our commitment to our customers and shareholders in maintaining our financial strength.”

American National Bank is a member of the Sturm Financial Group, Inc. Sturm Financial Group consists of 39 community banks located in Colorado, Wyoming Kansas and Missouri and maintains financial strength embodied in approximately \$2.1 billion in assets. The Banking Centers proudly offer personalized, quality service to their customers, with local staff and responsive, local decision-making. American National Bank offers a wide array of financial services for personal and business needs such as Checking and Savings Accounts, *BankAtEase* Internet Banking, e-Services, Cash Management Services, Wealth Management and Commercial, Consumer, SBA, and Mortgage Loans.

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