



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Joe Helmer Appointed to Summit State Bank's Board of Directors

Santa Rosa, CA – (April 26, 2011) – Summit State Bank (NASDAQ: SSBI) appointed Joe Helmer to its Board of Directors. Mr. Helmer joined the Board March 28, 2011.

“We welcome Mr. Helmer as a Director. His extensive financial expertise will be a valuable contribution to our Board,” states John Lewis, Summit State Bank’s Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Helmer, a CFA charterholder, is the president of Caldwell Securities, Incorporated, a securities broker-dealer and investment adviser headquartered in Sausalito. He currently serves on the FINRA District 1 Committee with a term expiring in 2013. He has previously served on the Ethics and Business Conduct Committee, Floor Trading Committee, and Technology Committee as a member of the Pacific Exchange.

Mr. Helmer is an active member of The Guardsmen, a San Francisco based charitable organization, and serves on the Board of the Kentfield Schools Foundation. Mr. Helmer is also a member of the CFA Institute and the CFA Society of San Francisco. He is married with two children and enjoys cycling, skiing, and fly fishing.

Summit State Bank has total assets of \$348 million and total equity of \$55 million at December 31, 2010. Headquartered in Sonoma County, the Bank provides diverse financial products and services throughout Sonoma, Napa, San Francisco, and Marin Counties. Summit State Bank received the Gold Medal award for Best Business Bank from the Northbay Biz Magazine and has also been recognized as one of the North Bay’s Best Places to Work by the North Bay Business Journal. Summit State Bank’s stock is traded on the Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol SSBI. Further information can be found at www.SummitStateBank.com.

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