



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tom Duryea  
President and CEO  
Summit State Bank  
PO Box 6188  
Santa Rosa, CA 95406  
(707) 568-4920  
[tduryea@summitstatebank.com](mailto:tduryea@summitstatebank.com)

### **Summit State Bank Remains Top Rated Bank in Sonoma County, Latest Rating Confirms**

**Santa Rosa, CA** – (September 15, 2009) – Summit State Bank (NASDAQ: SSBI) received the 5-Star Superior rating from Bauer Financial for the sixth consecutive quarter. No other Sonoma County-based bank achieved this highest rating for safety and soundness. The 5-Star Superior rating places Summit State Bank in the top tier of all banks nationwide.

“Continuing to be the top rated Sonoma County-based bank, especially during these challenging economic times, is an exciting accomplishment we take very seriously. Receiving the 5-Star Superior rating reflects our commitment to our customers to offer the highest level of safety and soundness with their deposits. This success is attributed to the quality of our dedicated and hardworking staff and the quality of our customers,” announced Tom Duryea, Summit State Bank President and CEO.

Since its beginning in 1983, Bauer Financial has become the nation’s most highly regarded financial institution rating organization. Under its rating system, 5-Star Superior denotes the absolute highest level of banking performance and is the firm’s highest rating. Bauer Financial awards their Superior rating to financial institutions that consistently prove to be the highest performing banks. Visit [www.SummitStateBank.com](http://www.SummitStateBank.com) or [www.BauerFinancial.com](http://www.BauerFinancial.com) to learn more about the Bauer Financial rating system.

Summit State Bank has total assets of \$356 million and total equity of \$56 million at June 30, 2009. Headquartered in Sonoma County, the Bank provides diverse financial products and services throughout Sonoma, Napa, San Francisco, and Marin Counties. Summit State Bank has received Bauer Financial’s highest bank rating of 5-Star Superior, and its stock is traded on the Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol SSBI. Further information can be found at [www.SummitStateBank.com](http://www.SummitStateBank.com).

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