WINTRUST

NEWS RELEASE

Certain Wintrust Executives Adopt 10b5-1 Plans

2007-11-09

LAKE FOREST, Ill., Nov. 9 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Wintrust Financial Corporation ("Wintrust") (Nasdaq: WTFC) today announced that Edward J. Wehmer, its President and Chief Executive Officer, David A. Dykstra, its Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, and Richard B. Murphy, its Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer, each have adopted a prearranged trading plan in accordance with guidelines specified by Rule 10b5-1 under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as well as Wintrust's policies with respect to insider sales.

Rule 10b5-1 allows officers and directors to adopt written, prearranged stock trading plans when they do not have material, non-public information. Once established, the officers do not retain or exercise any discretion over sales of stock under the plan and the pre-planned trades can be executed at later dates as set forth in the plan, without regard to any subsequent material non-public information that the director or officer may receive.

The purpose of the plans adopted by the executives is to provide the executives with the ability to exercise certain expiring stock options and sell the underlying common stock, and to sell restricted stock which vests periodically, in an orderly manner and avoid concerns about the timing of those transactions. Appropriate filings reporting the sales will be made with the Securities and Exchange Commission when the sales are completed under the trading plan.

Under his trading plan, Mr. Wehmer may sell up to 15,000 shares of Wintrust common stock upon exercise of expiring stock options and up to 10,000 shares upon the vesting of restricted stock, representing approximately five percent of his holdings of Wintrust common stock. Mr. Murphy's trading plan authorizes the sale of up to 13,500 shares of Wintrust common stock upon exercise of expiring stock options and a sufficient number of the 2,215 restricted shares subject to his plan to pay transaction costs and tax withholding obligations upon the vesting of such restricted shares. Mr. Dykstra's trading plan covers up to 27,000 shares of Wintrust common stock upon the exercise of expiring stock options and 7,000 shares upon the vesting of restricted stock, and authorizes the sale of a

sufficient number of such shares to pay transaction costs, withholding taxes and the exercise price applicable to the options.

About Wintrust Financial Corporation

Wintrust is a financial holding company with assets of approximately $9 billion whose common stock is traded on the Nasdaq Stock Market. Wintrust operates fifteen community banks that provide a full complement of commercial and consumer loan and deposit products and services through over 75 banking facilities in the Chicago and Milwaukee metropolitan areas. Wintrust also provides brokerage, trust and investment services to customers primarily in the Midwest, as well as customers of the banks, and provides services in mortgage banking and several specialty-lending niches.

SOURCE Wintrust Financial Corporation

Contact: Edward J. Wehmer, President & Chief Executive Officer, or David A. Dykstra, Senior Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, both of Wintrust Financial Corporation, +1-847-615-4096