WINTRUST

NEWS RELEASE

Wintrust Financial Corporation Will Be Presenting at Friedman, Billings, Ramsey's 10th Annual Investor Conference on December 3, 2003

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LAKE FOREST, Ill., Nov. 28 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Wintrust Financial Corporation ("Wintrust") (Nasdaq: WTFC) today announced that Company management will make a presentation to analysts and portfolio managers at the Friedman, Billings, Ramsey 10th Annual Investor Conference to be held in New York on December 3, 2003. Wintrust's presentation is scheduled to begin at 10:50 AM, Eastern time. Over 140 companies will be presenting at the Conference on December 2, 2003 and December 3, 2003. Investors may access an Internet webcast of the presentation at Company's website at **http://www.wintrust.com** during the conference and for 30 days following the conference. The webcast may be accessed by clicking on the "Presentations" link located on the "Presentations and Conference Calls" page on the Company's website. The conference presentations may also be viewed with the conference schedule at the following website **http://www.wallstreetwebcasting.com/webcast/fbr3** /.

Listeners should go to the website at least fifteen minutes before the event to download and install any necessary audio software. There is no charge to access the event.

Wintrust is a $4.3 billion financial holding company whose common stock is traded on the Nasdaq Stock Market. Wintrust operates eight community banks that provide a full complement of commercial and consumer loan and deposit products and services through 34 banking facilities in the Chicago metropolitan area. 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 several specialty-lending niches.

SOURCE Wintrust Financial Corporation

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/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/
/Web site: http://www.wintrust.com /
/Video: http://www.wallstreetwebcasting.com/webcast/fbr3 /
(WTFC)

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