WINTRUST

NEWS RELEASE

Wintrust Financial Corporation Will Be Presenting at the FTN Midwest Securities Small and Mid-Cap Bank Conference on September 15, 2006

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LAKE FOREST, Ill., Sept. 12 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Wintrust Financial Corporation ("Wintrust") (Nasdaq: WTFC) today announced that Company management is scheduled to deliver a presentation at the FTN Midwest Securities Small and Mid-Cap Bank Conference in New York, on Friday, September 15, 2006 at 12:45 p.m. Eastern Time.

A live webcast of the presentation will be available at the following address: **http://www.ftnmidwest.com** . The webcast may be accessed by clicking on the conference icon on the bottom of the home page. The presentation will be archived for 60 days.

Investors may also access the webcast of the presentation at the Company's website at **http://www.wintrust.com** during the conference and for 60 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.

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 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 70 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

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