WINTRUST

NEWS RELEASE

Wintrust Financial Corporation to Present at RBC Capital Markets Financial Institutions Conference

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LAKE FOREST, Ill., Sept. 27 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Wintrust Financial Corporation ("Wintrust") (Nasdaq: WTFC) will present at the RBC Capital Markets Financial Institutions Conference to be held at Martha's Vineyard on September 28 - September 29, 2004. Wintrust's presentation is scheduled to begin at 11:30 AM, Eastern Time, on September 29, 2004.

Attendance at the RBC Capital Markets conference is by invitation only. This event will be an audio only webcast and may be accessed live at **http://www.wallstreetwebcasting.com/webcast/dr24/wtfc** or through Wintrust's website: **http://www.wintrust.com** . Listeners should go to the website at least fifteen minutes before the presentation to download and install any necessary audio software. For those unable to attend the live broadcast, a replay will be available for 30 days after the conference. Access to the webcast is free.

Wintrust is a $5.3 billion asset financial holding company whose common stock is traded on the Nasdaq Stock Market (Nasdaq: WTFC). Its ten suburban Chicago community bank subsidiaries, each of which was founded as a de novo bank since December 1991, are located primarily in suburban Chicago markets. Additionally, the Company operates various non-bank subsidiaries including one of the largest commercial insurance premium finance companies operating in the United States, a company providing short-term accounts receivable financing and value-added out-sourced administrative services to the temporary staffing services industry, a company engaging primarily in the origination and purchase of residential mortgages for sale into the secondary market throughout the United States, and companies providing wealth management services including broker-dealer, money management services, advisory services, and trust and estate services.

Currently, Wintrust operates a total of 43 banking offices and is in the process of constructing several additional

branch facilities. Wintrust also has two bank acquisition transactions pending closing. All of the Company's banking subsidiaries are locally managed with large local boards of directors.

SOURCE Wintrust Financial Corporation
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(WTFC)

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