WINTRUST

NEWS RELEASE

Wintrust Financial Corporation to Present at the West Coast 2005 Super-Community Bank Conference

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LAKE FOREST, Ill., Sept. 2 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Wintrust Financial Corporation ("Wintrust") (Nasdaq: WTFC) will present at the West Coast 2005 Super-Community Bank Conference to be held in San Francisco on September 8th and 9th, 2005. Nineteen presenting banks sponsor the West Coast 2005 Super- Community Bank Conference. The presenting banks are small and mid-cap banks. Wintrust's presentation is scheduled to begin at 6:20 PM, Eastern Time, on September 8, 2005.

This event will be webcast and may be accessed at Wintrust's website at **http://www.wintrust.com** or at **http://www.super-communitybanking.com/westcoast/webcast.htm** . 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. There is no charge to access the event.

Wintrust is a financial holding company with assets of approximately $7.8 billion whose common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Stock Market (Nasdaq: WTFC). Wintrust operates 13 community bank subsidiaries that are located in the greater Chicago and Milwaukee market areas. Additionally, Wintrust 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, companies 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. All of the Company's banking subsidiaries are locally managed with large local boards of directors. Wintrust Financial Corporation has been one of the fastest growing bank groups in Illinois.

SOURCE Wintrust Financial Corporation
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(WTFC)

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