

# Hilltop Holdings and PlainsCapital Bank Awarded Investment Grade Ratings from Kroll Bond Rating Agency

10/16/2017

DALLAS--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Hilltop Holdings Inc. (NYSE: HTH), a Dallas-based financial holding company, today announced that the company and its subsidiary PlainsCapital Bank (the "Bank") received investment grade ratings with a stable outlook from Kroll Bond Rating Agency ("KBRA").

KBRA assigned Hilltop a senior unsecured debt rating of A-, making it the highest-rated bank holding company with over \$5 billion in assets in the agency's universe of rated Texas-based banks to date. Hilltop also was assigned a subordinated debt rating of BBB+ and a short-term debt rating of K2. In addition, KBRA assigned the Bank deposit and senior unsecured debt ratings of A, a subordinated debt rating of A-, and short-term deposit and debt ratings of K1. The outlook on all long-term ratings was noted as stable.

KBRA said the ratings are supported by Hilltop's comparatively strong earnings performance, highly diversified revenue mix, strong capital position, diversified funding mix, and favorable asset quality metrics and loss history. The agency also noted the considerable acquisition experience of Hilltop's management team.

"We're very pleased to receive this recognition from KBRA, which reflects the strength and stability of our franchise," said Jeremy B. Ford, president and co-CEO of Hilltop. "As Hilltop continues to seek to build the premier financial services holding company based in Texas, these investment grade ratings are important indicators of our progress."

The rating agency also cited the strength of Hilltop's four operating businesses, including: the strong positioning of the Bank; the robust and low-risk mortgage flow business and sufficient scale of PrimeLending; the well-positioned broker-dealer franchise, HilltopSecurities; and, the strongly-capitalized niche insurance company, National Lloyds.

"In assigning these most recent ratings, KBRA highlights the complementary nature of our subsidiaries and the mix of revenue streams that support Hilltop's ongoing forward momentum," said Alan B. White, vice-chairman and co-CEO of Hilltop.

A copy of the full report is available from **Kroll Bond Rating Agency's website**.

The KBRA report marks the second set of investment grade ratings received by Hilltop and the Bank this year, following the ratings affirmed by **Fitch Ratings** in January 2017.

## About Hilltop Holdings Inc.

Hilltop Holdings is a Dallas-based financial holding company. Its primary line of business is to provide business and consumer banking services from offices located throughout Texas through PlainsCapital Bank. PlainsCapital Bank's wholly owned subsidiary, PrimeLending, provides residential mortgage lending throughout the United States. Hilltop Holdings' broker-dealer subsidiaries, Hilltop Securities Inc. and Hilltop Securities Independent Network Inc., provide a full complement of securities brokerage, institutional and investment banking services in addition to clearing services and retail financial advisory. Through Hilltop Holdings' other wholly owned subsidiary, National Lloyds Corporation, it provides property and casualty insurance through two insurance companies, National Lloyds Insurance Company and American Summit Insurance Company. At September 30, 2017, Hilltop employed approximately 5,500 people and operated approximately 475 locations in 44 states. Hilltop Holdings' common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "HTH." Find more information at **Hilltop-Holdings.com**, **PlainsCapital.com**, **PrimeLending.com**, **NationalLloydsInsurance.com** and **HilltopSecurities.com**.

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements anticipated in such statements. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made and, except as required by law, we do not assume any duty to update forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements concerning such things as our plans, objectives, strategies, expectations and intentions and other statements that are not statements of historical fact, and may be identified by words such as "anticipates," "believes," "could," "estimates," "expects," "forecasts," "goal," "intends," "may," "might," "plan," "probable," "projects," "seeks," "should," "target," "view" or "would" or the negative of these words and phrases or similar words or phrases. For a discussion of certain factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements,

please see the risk factors discussed in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and other reports that are filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. All forward-looking statements are qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement.

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