German American Bancorp, Inc.

NEWS RELEASE

GABC Chairman & CEO Participates in White House Meeting on the Economic Recovery

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JASPER, Ind., Dec. 22, 2009 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Earlier today, Mark A. Schroeder, Chairman & CEO of German American Bancorp, Inc. (Nasdaq:GABC) participated in meeting on the economic recovery at the White House with President Obama, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, and 11 other community banking leaders from throughout the country. Schroeder was selected as a participant by the Administration to provide insight into the challenges facing community banks in the current economic environment, particularly how community banks can increase small-business lending to help boost employment among small businesses.

Commenting on the meeting, Schroeder, who also serves as the state director for Indiana on the Board of the Independent Community Bankers of America, the national trade association for community banks, stated, "It was certainly an honor for our Company that the Administration invited me, as the Company's CEO, to participate in this meeting with the President. I sincerely thank the President for his interest in community banking and our ability, as a group, to be a positive factor in the economic recovery. Clearly, the Administration understands that small business will be the driver of future employment gains as our country continues on the path of economic recovery, and that community banks, like German American, provide the financing for many of the nation's small businesses."

Schroeder continued, "German American has been one of the leading banks in Indiana and the Midwest in utilizing the Small Business Administration (SBA) program authorized under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 that provides incentives for small business borrowers. At German American, we have always at our heart been a strong small business lender as evidenced by the fact that 60% of our loan portfolio is comprised of loans to small business clients with another 17% comprised of loans to our agricultural clients, who are truly small businesses in their own right. We are extremely honored and humbled to have been recognized by the President and the Administration as one of the leading community banks in the country with a small business lending focus."

Other Administration Officials attending the meeting included Chair of the Counsel of Economic Advisors Christina Romer, and Director of the White House's National Economic Council Larry Summers.

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