

**N E W S R E L E A S E**

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**THE WASHINGTON SAVINGS BANK, F.S.B.**

**RATED 9<sup>TH</sup> BEST PERFORMING COMMUNITY BANK IN NATION**

**BOWIE, MD** – July 18, 2005 - **THE WASHINGTON SAVINGS BANK, F.S.B.** (Amex symbol: "WSB"), A federally-chartered, federally-insured savings bank, with principal executive offices in Bowie, Maryland, today announced it was rated as the nation's 9th best performing community bank by U.S. Banker magazine, based on its three-year average return on equity of 18.8%. The ranking appeared in the magazine's July issue and its prestigious annual list of the 200 top publicly traded community banks and bank holding companies with less than \$1 billion in assets at the end of 2004.

"We are very pleased to have been recognized for our performance and to have been included on this very select list," said William J. Harnett, Chairman.