



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

F&M Contact

Jerry Harpstrite
(562) 437-0011
Jerry.Harpstrite@fmb.com

Media Contact

Robyn Williams, HKA, Inc
(714) 426-0444
robyn@hkamarcom.com

Investor Contact

Evan Pondel/Angie Yang
PondelWilkinson Inc.
(310) 279-5980
investor@pondel.com

The Walkers of Farmers & Merchants Bank are Semi-Finalists in the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards

Long Beach, Calif., April 30, 2008 – Farmers & Merchants Bank (www.fmb.com), independently rated as the strongest bank in California, announced Kenneth, Daniel and Henry Walker as collectively selected semi-finalists in the 2008 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year (EOY) Awards in Orange County. Each year, the EOY program recognizes and applauds entrepreneurial leaders and visionaries who contribute to the strength of their communities and the economy.

Kenneth, Daniel and Henry Walker share this nomination as a family management team of 21 years and collaboratively are responsible for the recent and current growth of Farmers & Merchants Bank. “I am proud that all three of us share a fierce loyalty to the Walker legacy and are committed to growing the institution our family has built and nurtured over the past century,” said Kenneth Walker, who previously served as CEO and now President of the Long Beach Main Branch, celebrating his 60th year with the Bank. As one of the safest banks in the country, F&M continues to flourish through both strong and weak economic conditions.

Today, 22 branches are in place, including 12 in Orange County, and more are on the drawing board. Daniel Walker, Chairman of the Board, noted, “For many years our achievements were known only in the Long Beach region. It is gratifying that our Bank

remains a vital economic resource in Long Beach and now also provides a significant, and expanding, level of service throughout Orange County.”

Henry Walker, CEO and Chief Credit Officer, credits their strong alliance as the reason for expanding the bank’s presence throughout the region. “I am honored to be chosen along with my father and brother for this notable achievement.”

The Bank’s Return-on-Assets ratio is one of the highest in California and typically exceeds the nation’s largest banks. The Walkers continue to have an optimistic yet conservative approach to expanding the Bank to continuous new levels of achievement.

About Farmers & Merchants Bank:

C.J. Walker founded Farmers & Merchants Bank in Long Beach in 1907. Celebrating over 100 years of community service and strength, the bank currently has a staff of nearly 600 employees throughout Southern California. In addition to being a full service bank, F&M specializes in commercial and small business banking along with various business loan programs. Farmer & Merchants continues to be one of the strongest banks in the country as measured by a variety of industry standards. For more information about F&M, please call the media contacts listed above or visit the website, www.fmb.com.