

For Immediate Release

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Illini Bank Partners with Nationwide Exchange Services to Offer 1031 Tax-Deferred Exchange Products.

Springfield, IL, July 25, 2006 – Illini Bank, headquartered in Springfield, and Nationwide Exchange Services (NES) jointly announced today that they have reached a strategic alliance in the handling of Illini Bank's tax-deferred 1031 exchange business.

NES is a Qualified Intermediary providing an industry-leading suite of 1031 tax-deferred exchange products for individual investors through major US corporations. With sophisticated business processes and controls that meet the requirements of the banking industry, NES provides Illini Bank an extensive set of tax-deferred 1031 exchange products at the highest level of customer service with minimal start-up costs and with full regulatory compliance. Illini Bank will also have access to a variety of marketing resources provided by NES.

"We are delighted to enter into a partnership with Illini Bank. Illini Bank can now offer out a suite of pioneering 1031 tax-deferred exchange products to their customers that will help them defer capital gains taxes, while delivering a direct benefit to the bank in the form of core deposits and added revenue. With the 1031 market segment reportedly representing billions in deposits held nationally, this is a large and exciting opportunity that spans individual investors, wealth management customers, corporate clientele, agricultural and commercial real estate," Michael Halloran, President of Nationwide Exchange Services, said. "In a highly competitive banking environment, 1031 exchanges represent an excellent means for Illini Bank to grow core deposits with no infrastructure or compliance burden."

"As part of a new alliance with Nationwide Exchange Services, Illini Bank will immediately be offering 1031 exchange products. This will allow us to offer our customers an expanded set of tax-deferred 1031 exchange products such as reverse and built-to-suit exchanges at the highest level of customer service while delivering the industry's most competitive cost structure," said Gaylon Martin, President of Illini Bank.

“In addition to the broadest set of exchange products, NES offers Illini Bank improved flexibility, the 1031 industry’s most competitive fee structure, 24/7 account visibility and full regulatory compliance set forth by the OCC (Office of the Comptroller of the Currency) and BSA (Banking Secrecy Act),” stated Scott Nathanson, Senior Vice President, Central US Operations at Nationwide Exchange Services. “Additionally, by virtue of our recently awarded SAS 70 Type II certification, NES is uniquely qualified to serve the needs of companies that must comply with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. Together with Illini Bank, customers can be sure that finances will always be safe and secure—and always available when needed.”

About Illini Bank

Illini Bank is a subsidiary of Illini Corporation, which has \$260 million in assets. The corporation operates 14 banking centers located throughout the central Illinois area that provide a full range of financial services to both individuals and businesses. Illini Bank is a member of the FDIC and is an Equal Housing Lender.

About Nationwide Exchange Services

Nationwide Exchange Services (NES – www.nationwide1031.com) is a leading Qualified Intermediary for 1031 tax-deferred exchanges. Since 1990, NES has conducted tens of thousands of successful 1031 exchange transactions across the nation. Today, NES applies advanced technologies to proven business processes to create new standards of customer-driven products and services for tax-deferred 1031 exchanges. NES has been awarded an SAS 70 Type II certification after an extensive audit of its processes and controls and, as a result, is uniquely qualified to serve the needs of companies that must comply with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.